

Let's make a date to Dance in the Dairy State; Butter Not Miss It!

Convention 48 is going to be in Madison, Wisconsin, in 2024. This will be the first time our dancing family has been to Wisconsin for a convention. Although we cannot guarantee the weather, we heard that Madison can be sunny and in the 80's during our event happenings on July 9-13, 2024.

As usual, we will have three halls that will encompass phase 3 through 6 dancing on our signature floating wood floors. We will have a number of excellent instructors and cuers who will show you new dances, entertain you with showcases, and help you with styling and technique. Of course, one of the best parts of the convention will be reuniting with old friends and meeting new friends in our dance community without those other pesky life events getting in the way. We also treat our first-time attendees right by doing our best to welcome them into our dance family, with each attendee having a mentor available to help them with the full experience of the convention. Please make every effort to invite someone who has not experienced this wonderful convention to attend.

In addition to our event, what does Madison have to offer for recreational activities? There are many activities available in the Madison area for those coming in early or staying late. You can schedule a tour of a dairy farm, make a trip to the farmers' market, go to an art fair, or attend an outdoor summer concert. In addition, for the biking enthusiast, there are 200 miles of bike trails and a county fair which kicks off just after our convention. You can find out about these events and more here: <https://www.visitmadison.com/plan/visitors-guide/>

We will be staying at the Madison Marriott West. The hotel has an atrium boasting a five-story waterfall. We've negotiated an excellent rate for your stay, even cheaper than the last few conventions. The three ballrooms in the hotel are next to each other, which makes it easy to go from one to the other for your dancing pleasure.

If you are flying into Dane County Regional Airport (MSN), the hotel staff will come and get you if you choose. You can also travel by Amtrak to Columbus, and then Amtrak will shuttle you to town. RVers will have several options for RV parks, so you can stay within a short distance of the convention center.

The people of Madison must like to eat because there are over 15 places to eat within walking distance (.5 miles) of the hotel, most at the Greenway Center, and another 15 within two miles of the hotel. The selection is quite varied from coffee and sandwiches to sit down dining. If you forgot to pack something, the Greenway Center has several stores available to get what you need.

What's not to like? Coming to the ICBDA convention in Madison will, in all likelihood, make you a better person. It is an excellent bucket list item if you are into that kind of thing. It can be a memory that you will fondly remember for the rest of your life. ***Butter Not Miss It!***

Tami Helms and Tim Keek

General Chaircouple
ICBDA Convention #48

Marlyn & Michele Batcheller

Assistant Chaircouple
ICBDA Convention #48