

146th IFDA Annual Convention and Premier Midwest Expo

Prairie Meadows Convention Center | Altoona, IA | April 13-16, 2026

Monday, April 13

Top Golf | Vendor Appreciation

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Tuesday, April 14

Welcome and Pre-Convention

Skinner Ballroom | Leili McMurrough, Worsham | The Future of Funeral Service Depends on Retention: Education and the Next Generation of Directors

8:00 AM – 8:50 AM

Opening Ceremonies and Keynote

Skinner Ballroom | Bob Pacanovsky | The 5 Essential Laws of Hospitality

9:00 AM – 10:50 AM

Break

10:50 AM – 11:00 AM

Annual Meeting | Skinner Ballroom

11:00 AM – 11:45 AM

Lunch | Meadows Commons

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Exhibit Hall Open | Bishop Ballroom

12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

2 Concurrent Sessions

Skinner A & C | Mike Triplett, Iowa Laws & Rules | Brianne Niedermyer, Homesteaders

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Cocktail Reception | Meadows Commons

5:30 PM – 6:45 PM

Service of Remembrance | Bishop Stage

6:00 PM – 6:45 PM

Banquet | Skinner Ballroom

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Cocktails, Entertainment, & Networking

Decoy | Meadows Commons

9:00 PM – 11:00 PM



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Wednesday, April 15

2 Concurrent Sessions

Skinner A & C | Pastor Bill Warhover | Spiritual Work- Spiritual People
Bob Pacanovsky | The Big 4 to Creating More Storytellers

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Exhibit Hall Open | Bishop Ballroom

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Lunch | Meadows Commons

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

2 Concurrent Sessions

Skinner A & C | Michelle Johnston | Advanced Reconstructive Surgery Techniques
Nathan McCullough | Thinking Differently About Cremation

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Students, Interns, & Newly Licensed Session & Reception | Presidential Room

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

2 Concurrent Sessions

Skinner A & C | David Holm | What's Next For Preneed? These New Breakthroughs Are
Leading The Way

Will Bischoff | First Steps to Selling or Buying a Funeral Home

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

2 Concurrent Sessions

Skinner A & C | Attorney Paul Thune | Using Mediation Skills with Families
Jeff Just | Cyber and Data Security

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Skinner C | Roxanne Petersen | Mental Health Through the Lives of Lived Experience

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Thursday, April 16

Continuing Education

Skinner C | Michelle Johnston | Overcoming Jaundice and Edema

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Skinner C | Glenda Stansbury | "What does Gathering Look Like for You"

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Skinner C | Jon Miller, Trilix & Danielle Knapp, IFDA CEO | AI Hands-On Workshop

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

