



Welcome from the Louisiana 4-H State Office

On behalf of the Louisiana 4-H State Office, welcome to the 2026 LAE4-HYDP Annual Convention in Baton Rouge. This year's theme, Stirring the Pot: Louisiana Spice & Everything Nice, celebrates the unique talents, ideas, and experiences that each of you brings to Louisiana 4-H. Just as the best Louisiana recipes are created by blending different ingredients together, the success of our organization comes from collaboration, creativity, dedication, and passion. Throughout this convention, we encourage you to share ideas, discover new approaches, strengthen professional connections, and gain inspiration that can be carried back to your parish and communities. Thank you for your commitment to preparing Louisiana youth to be Beyond Ready. Welcome to Baton Rouge, and let's get stirring!

Convention Information



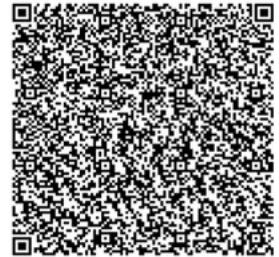
Hotel: Capitol Hilton, Baton Rouge.

- Valet parking \$15 day/\$17 overnight.
- Board Dinner & Bingo at Nelson Memorial.
- Social & Silent Auction at The Loft at Cecilia, 421 N. 3rd Street.

Parking on LSU Campus

You **must** register your vehicle to park on campus for Super Sessions, the Board Meeting, and tours. Register your vehicle through the QR code or on www.offstreet.io/location/02B0SFTL to park in the following areas:

- Knapp Hall Front Lot
- Areas around Nelson Memorial
- Parker Coliseum Lot



Parking on campus without registering may result in a ticket!

Convention Schedule

Tuesday, August 18

9:00AM - 4:00 PM Super Sessions

- Mental Health First Aid, *Nelson Memorial (LSU)*
- VEX Robotics Training, *Patrick F. Taylor (LSU)*

2:30 - 3:30 PM - Convention Registration, *Capitol Hilton Foyer*

4:15 PM -LAE4-HYDP Board Meeting, *Nelson Memorial*

6:30 PM -LAE4-HYDP Board Dinner, *Nelson Memorial*

Wednesday, August 19

9:00 - 11:15 AM - Convention Registration, *Capitol Hilton Foyer*

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Opening Session, *Riverview A*

2:00 - 4:30 PM - Tours

6:30 - 10:00 PM - Dinner/Silent & Live Auction, *The Loft at Cecelia (2nd floor-421 N. 3rd Street)*

Thursday, August 20

7:00 - 8:00 AM - Convention Registration, *Capitol Hilton Foyer*

7:30 - 8:00 AM - Breakfast, *Riverview A*

8:00 - 9:00 AM - General Session, *Riverview A*

9:05 - 10:05 AM - Educational Sessions (*Riverview A, Paramount, University, Louisiana Room*)

10:05 - 11:30 AM - Exhibits & Networking, *Riverview B*

11:30 AM - 12:45 PM - Awards Luncheon, *Riverview A*

1:00 - 3:15 PM - Educational Sessions (*Riverview A, Paramount, University, Louisiana Room*)

3:20 - 4:20 PM - Round Table Presentations, *Riverview A*

6:00 - 6:45 PM - President's Parle, *Mezzanine Suite*

7:00 - 10:00 PM - Award Banquet, *Heidelberg Room*

Friday, August 21

8:00 AM - Breakfast, *Riverview A*

8:30 AM - Closing Session, *Riverview A*

Conference Tours

Wednesday, August 19, 2:00PM-4:30PM



Tour Information for Registered Participants

Thank you for registering for a conference tour! Please review the information below before your tour.

General Reminders

- Bring a water bottle and any personal items needed during the tour.
- Wear comfortable shoes unless otherwise noted.
- Please arrive at your tour's designated meeting location by the scheduled meeting time.
- Tours will operate rain or shine.
- If you have questions the day of the tour, please contact the listed tour POC.

Louisiana Farm Bureau

Visit Louisiana Farm Bureau Headquarters to tour the building, see the Federation Board Room and the TWILA Studio, This Week In Louisiana Agriculture.

Tour POC: Brittany Babineaux

Meeting Time: 1:50 PM

Meeting Location: Hilton Hotel Lobby

Dress Code: Business Casual

Transportation: Transportation provided.

Parking Information: Parking available at Farm Bureau offices.

Location: 7000 Commerce Circle

Distance from Conference Hotel:

6 miles | Approximately 20 minutes

FOODii - LSU AgCenter Food Innovation Institute

See the institute where entrepreneurs can start a food business, process foods, receive technical and marketing assistance, and benefit from expert advice and research on food safety and sustainability.

Tour POC: Ashley Powell

Meeting Time: 1:50

Meeting Location: Animal And Food Science Laboratory

Please use the entrance located behind the new LSU OLOL Interdisciplinary Science Building and Tureaud Hall (off of S. Stadium Drive)

Dress Code: Casual / Closed-toe shoes required.

Transportation: Transportation provided.

Parking Information: Must register your vehicle for if you choose to drive yourself.

Distance from Conference Hotel:

3.1 Miles | Approximately 15 minutes

LSU Center for River Studies

Home to one of the world's largest movable bed physical models - the Lower Mississippi River Physical Model. The river model is 10,000 square feet and based on the topography and bathymetry of the Mississippi River Delta across southeast LA.

Tour POC: Adriane Bercegeay

Meeting Time: 2:00 PM

Meeting Location: Center for River Studies

Dress Code: Business Casual

Transportation: Personal vehicle required.

Parking Information: Street parking is available on Terrace Ave or Aztec Street.

Location: 100 Terrace Ave.

Distance from Conference Hotel:

1.4 miles | Approximately 6 minutes

LSU Dairy Store

Step inside the LSU AgCenter Dairy Store and discover a tradition that dates back more than a century. Learn how fresh milk is transformed into products like cheese and ice cream.

Tour POC: Lauren Faust

Meeting Time: 1:50

Meeting Location: LSU Dairy Store 118 S Campus Drive

Dress Code: Casual / Closed-toe shoes required.

Transportation: Transportation provided.

Parking Information: Must register your vehicle if you choose to drive yourself.

Distance from Conference Hotel:

3.1 Miles | Approximately 15 minutes

Educational Sessions

Thursday, August 20



Educational Session 1 (9:00–10:00 AM)

4-H Agent: An Experience Engineer

Presenters: Esther Boe, Lanette Hebert, Ashley Powell, Kimberly Williams

Location: Riverview A

Explore how 4-H agents can design engaging, immersive programs grounded in learning science. Participants learn strategies to capture attention, foster interaction, and create meaningful experiences that inspire behavior change. Emphasis is placed on experiential techniques, storytelling, and effective evaluation methods that transform traditional programs into memorable, high-impact Extension experiences.

Finding Your Spark Online: Using Social Media to Ignite Parish Impact

Presenters: Justin Bender

Location: Paramount Room

Discover how strategic social media can strengthen Extension programming, increase community engagement, and showcase parish impact. This workshop explores content creation, audience targeting, analytics, Meta Business Suite, AI-assisted tools, and communication strategies that help Extension professionals create purposeful, engaging, and results-driven online content aligned with their program goals.

Getting to Know 4-H Night!

Presenters: Suzanne Troxclair

Location: University Room

Participants will discover an engaging and spirit-building 4-H recruitment opportunity that can be used to kick off the new program year while empowering both youth and adult volunteers in the process. Attendees will leave armed with the tools to implement a family-oriented event in their own parishes that will keep families coming year after year!

Creating Greater Impact with Local Resources

Presenters: Claire Zak and Leah Carter

Location: Louisiana Room

Creating Greater Impact with Local Resources equips participants to work smarter, not harder. Attendees will use AI and Outlook applications to produce effective emails, newsletters, surveys, and graphics while identifying strategies to leverage internal assets and partner with the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Educational Sessions

Thursday, August 20



Educational Session 2 (1:00–2:00 PM)

Weathering the Storm with Youth in the Lead

Presenters: Claire Scott

Location: Riverview A

Conference participants will actively engage in hands-on lessons from the Youth Community Resilience Initiative, a new standards-aligned curriculum integrating leadership, teamwork, STEM, and service-learning. Attendees collaborate, problem-solve, and explore practical strategies to teach youth resilience through interactive, real-world learning experiences. Participants will reflect on implementation and adapt activities for their programs.

Reading Between the Clovers

Presenters: Laynie Smith, Carly Dufresne, Katlin Gordon

Location: Paramount Room

Designed for newer 4-H agents, this session explores the fine print of the job and how to professionally market programs, communicate with stakeholders and the public, and avoid common pitfalls. Participants will receive practical handouts, including state event descriptions, packing lists, and ready to use resources for day-to-day success in all programming efforts.

Bayou Bio Innovators

Presenters: Dr. Adam O'Malley

Location: University Room

This session equips Louisiana 4-H Extension agents with strategies to demystify biotechnology for themselves and their youth audiences. Participants will explore biotech career pathways, engage in hands-on activities with take-home guides, and learn to deliver high-quality, scalable STEM experiences across all ages and parish resource levels.

Storytelling That Sticks

Presenters: Yolanda Stephen

Location: Louisiana Room

Discover creative strategies to help youth confidently share their Beyond Ready story with authenticity and impact. This interactive session equips adults with engaging tools to coach storytelling, highlight real-world skills, and amplify youth voice. Learn how to turn experiences into powerful narratives that inspire, connect, and showcase readiness for future opportunities.

Educational Sessions

Thursday, August 20



Educational Session 3 (2:15–3:15 PM)

Journey Through the Environment

Presenters: Kim Deville and Madison Latour

Location: Riverview A

Monthly educational program for 4-H Clubs that takes participants through several scientific processes while reviewing science standards. Monthly educational program for 4-H Clubs that takes them through several scientific processes in a quick and fun way of reviewing several science standards that span several grade levels.

Simplify, Support, Share: Building a Parish Social Media Toolkit for 4-H Success

Presenters: Megan Sarver, Hannah Devall, Alyson Tarifa, Raquel Ayles

Location: Paramount Room

Learn how Louisiana 4-H is simplifying parish social media through a monthly toolkit, content calendar, and training resources. This session will highlight strategies to improve consistency, save time, and increase engagement using ready-to-use templates, scheduling tools, and practical best practices.

Keeping C.O.O.L. to Stay Healthy

Presenters: Dr. Rachel Ouellette, Scott Sevin, Ashley Powell

Location: University Room

This workshop explores how 4-H agents can help youth regulate their emotions in healthy ways, particularly when experiencing stress. Participants will explore strategies for preventing disruptive behaviors and crisis situations before they occur, including using the C.O.O.L. sequence, a trauma-sensitive crisis prevention and de-escalation model.

Clover by 4-H

Presenters: Brittany Babineaux, Esther Boe, National 4-H

Location: Louisiana Room

Explore the mission, values, and impact of 4-H through the Clover platform, highlighting youth development, leadership, and experiential learning. Participants gain insight into how 4-H fosters life skills, community engagement, and workforce readiness while empowering young people to reach their full potential through inclusive, research-based programming and opportunities.

Roundtable Presentations

Thursday, August 20, 3:15PM-4:15PM



From Seed to Stewardship

Presenters: Adriane Bercegeay & Catherine Fox

Location: Riverview A

The Louisiana 4-H Youth Wetlands Program shares a flexible, place-based field trip model developed through partnerships with public lands. This approach provides accessible, Beyond Ready, experiential learning that reinforces classroom or club instruction, connects students to local landscapes, and supports environmental science learning through authentic local phenomena.

Life Skills, Online Wins

Presenters: Kayla McGuire

Location: Riverview A

LifeSmarts is a free, online competition for students in grades 6-9 that teaches real-life skills like consumer knowledge, money management, health, technology, and civic responsibility. Youth compete virtually on their own schedule using ready-to-use lessons and study tools, with minimal time commitment for leaders and agents.

Stirring Up Strong Community Partnerships

Presenters: Laynie Smith & Carly Dufresne

Location: Riverview A

This quick session explores practical ways to stir up meaningful community engagement for 4-H programming. Agents will learn how to mix partnerships, communication, and local presence to strengthen visibility, build trust, and expand impact. Participants leave with simple strategies that add flavor to outreach efforts and create lasting community connections.

CoPilot in a Click

Presenters: Dr. Adam O'Malley

Location: Riverview A

Discover how Microsoft Copilot can streamline community-responsive needs assessments. This lightning session showcases rapid strategies for designing instruments, analyzing data, and translating findings into actionable programs helping Louisiana 4-H agents move efficiently from community input to high-impact, data-informed decisions.

Spot the Branding Mistake! Common 4-H Design Errors and Easy Fixes

Presenters: Olivia Picard & Candace Derbes

Location: Riverview A

Learn how to identify and fix common 4-H branding mistakes in social media graphics, flyers, newsletters, and digital content. This session will share quick, practical tips for creating more professional, consistent materials while following National 4-H branding guidelines using tools like Canva and Adobe Express.



Dress Code

Board Supper - Casual

Opening Luncheon - Business Professional

Tours - Casual

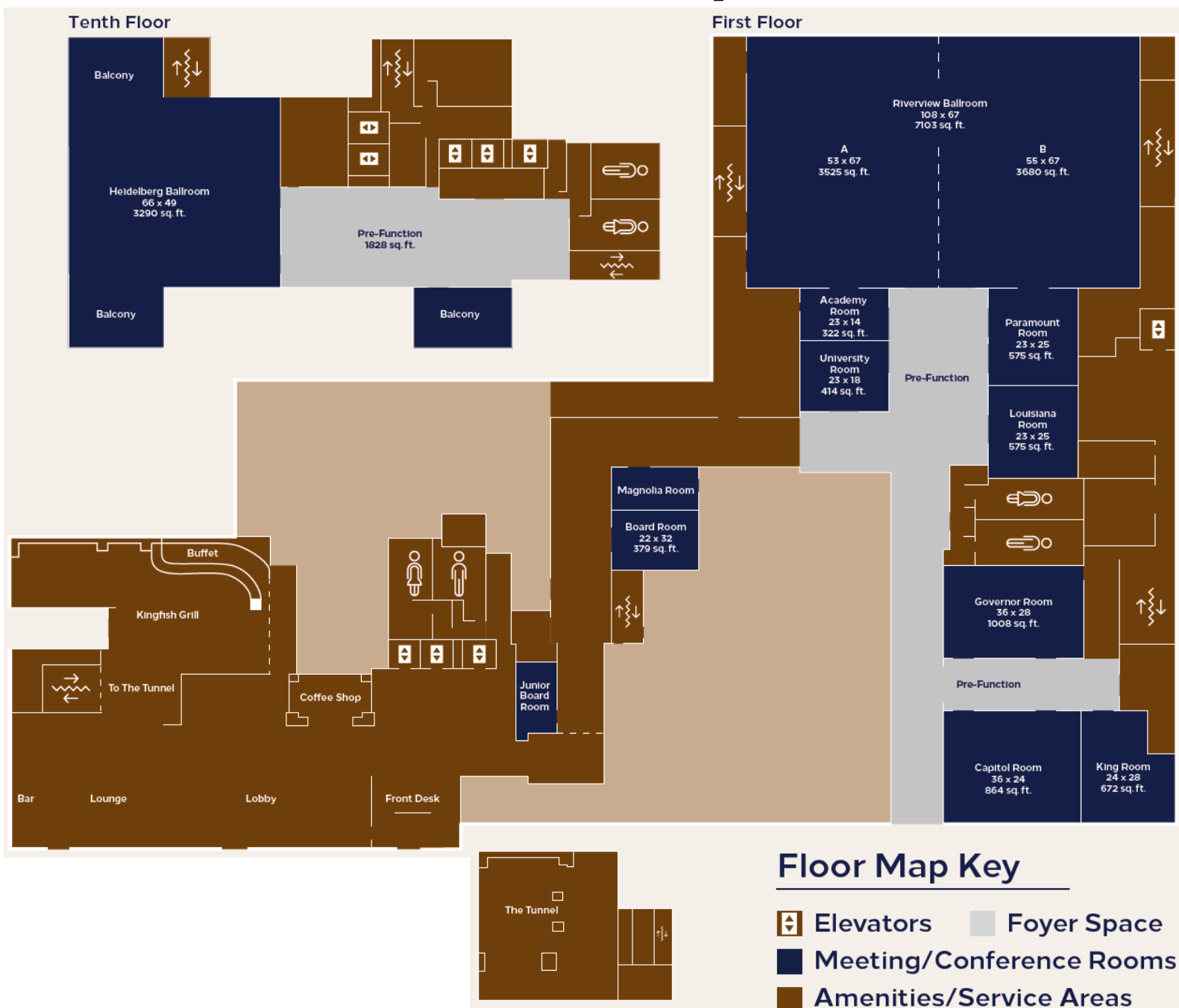
Wednesday Night Social - Casual

Thursday-Workshops & Luncheon - Business Professional

Banquet - Dressy/Cocktail

Friday - Business Casual

Hotel Map





Thank You to Our Exhibitors

Seeds to Success: Louisiana Farm to School Program

Hat bar women's and children's clothing

Ask Mary Beth Anything

Rixstine Recognition

See Tracks? Think Train!

Fast Food Farm

Thank You to Our Sponsors

