

UPCOMING CONVENTION AND SPORTS EVENTS

January 2019

Ohio Fair Managers Association | Jan. 3-6 ***Annual Convention***

At the 94th annual convention, fair directors, officers, staff and service providers will discuss operations and schedules for the upcoming fair season. In addition, the Ohio Fairs Queen will be crowned.

- Attendance:** 4,000
- Meals:** Some attendees are on their own for meals.
- Exhibits:** Not open to the public.
- Location:** Hyatt Regency, Drury Inn and Crowne Plaza
- Website:** www.ohiofairs.org
- Group Contact:** Howard Call, ohiofairs@att.net
- Experience Columbus Contact:** Sharon Levine, slevine@experiencecolumbus.com

OHAYOCON | Jan. 11-13

This Annual Convention is a three-day event focused on the art, culture and community surrounding Japanese Animation. Attendees enjoy panels, workshops, screenings, special live events, concerts and community groups. Ohayocon has been in Columbus for 13 years.

- Attendance:** 20,000
- Meals:** Attendees are on their own for meals.
- Event:** The convention events and dealer booths are open to the public with a badge.
- Location:** Greater Columbus Convention Center, downtown hotels
- Website:** www.ohayocon.org
- Facebook:** www.facebook.com/Ohayocon
- Twitter:** [@ohayocon](https://twitter.com/ohayocon)
- Experience Columbus Contact:** Diane Share, dshare@experiencecolumbus.com



Ohio Restaurant Association | Jan. 13-14

Mid-America Restaurant Expo

The Mid-America Restaurant Expo is a premier restaurant event that connects exhibitors and buyers from all aspects of the foodservice industry in a forward-thinking, high-energy environment. It is a place to see new and innovative products and engage with industry leaders from the Midwest.

- Attendance:** 4,000
- Meals:** Attendees are on their own for meals.
- Exhibits:** More than 225 companies with 1,000 booth personnel. Not open to the public.
- Location:** Greater Columbus Convention Center, downtown hotels
- Website:** www.midamericarestaurantexpo.com
- Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/MidAmResExpo/>
- Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/midamresexpo>
- Group Contact:** Tom Clemens, tclemens@ohiorestaurant.org
- Experience Columbus Contact:** Diane Share, dshare@experiencecolumbus.com

Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association | Jan. 17-19

State Clinic

The annual OHSBCA State Clinic sessions run Thursday afternoon through Saturday at noon.

- Attendance:** 1,400
- Meals:** Lunch banquet will be held on Friday. Attendees are on their own for all other meals.
- Exhibits:** Not open to the public.
- Location:** Hyatt Regency
- Website:** www.ohsbca.org
- Experience Columbus Contact:** Diane Share, dshare@experiencecolumbus.com
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Ohio Township Association | Jan. 30-Feb. 2 ***Winter Conference***

Elected officials and township trustees from across the state return to the Greater Columbus Convention Center for continuing education, networking and the opportunity to learn about new products.

- Attendance:** 2,500
- Meals:** The entire group is on their own for all meals on Wednesday and Thursday and dinner on Friday. Approximately half of the attendees will go to the luncheon on Friday. The conference ends at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday.
- Exhibits:** 100 vendors. Not open to the public.
- Location:** Greater Columbus Convention Center, Crowne Plaza, Drury Inn & Suites, Hampton Inn & Suites, Hilton Columbus, Hyatt Regency, Red Roof Inn, Courtyard by Marriott
- Website:** www.ohiotownships.org
- Group Contact:** Michael Zaky, zaky@ohiotownships.org
- Experience Columbus Contact:** Bill Behrens, bbehrens@experiencecolumbus.com

The **Experience Columbus Visitor Centers** in the Arena District and at the Greater Columbus Convention Center are here to help your customers find their way around the city. Arena District hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-5 pm, Saturday, 10am-4pm and Sunday 12pm- 5pm. The Visitor Center is located on the corner of Nationwide Blvd. and Neil Ave. at 277 W. Nationwide Blvd., 43215. Phone: 614-221-6623. The Convention Center Visitor Center hours are Monday-Friday, 9am- 5pm, Saturday 10am- 4pm, and Sunday 12pm-5pm.

The Convention and Sports Alert is published monthly to assist area restaurants, hotels and other facilities in anticipating their staffing and supply needs. To add, change or delete an email recipient, please contact Bill Behrens at BBehrens@ExperienceColumbus.com.
