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## NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION 2012 ADVENTIST TEACHER'S CONVENTION NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE – August 5-8, 2012

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Update June, 2012

Dear Central California Conference Educators:

In just a couple of months more than 6,000 Adventist educators from all across the North American Division will be joining together in a community effort to support and challenge each other through their spiritual, professional, and social experiences during the Nashville Convention.

- Educators will be able to enjoy a spiritually enriching atmosphere while attending the worship services every morning and participating in the breakout sessions from well-known speakers.
- Educators will also be able to enjoy the rich opportunities for professional growth as they attend the many breakout sessions and daily meetings, as well as visit the exhibit hall and bookstore.
- Educators will have many opportunities for social networking as they attend the planned events such as the North American Division Buffet and the Central California Conference Special Event.
- Educators in the Central California Conference are required to attend the Convention.

This letter will outline some important information you need to know prior to attending the North American Division 2012 Adventist Teacher's Convention in Nashville and give you a little taste of what to expect.

➤ **Where will the Convention be held?**

The venue for the convention is the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center located at 2802 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214. The telephone number for the hotel is 615.889.1000. Website: [gaylordopryland.com](http://gaylordopryland.com). The hotel provides free internet and free water in the sleeping rooms.

➤ **What is the theme for the Convention?**

"Moving Hearts and Minds Upward" has been chosen as the theme for the convention.

➤ **How do I register for the Convention?**

The Central California Conference Office of Education has taken care of your Convention registration.

➤ **What are the accommodations and room reservation procedures?**

The main hotel accommodating educators will be the Gaylord Opryland Hotel. All CCC educators must stay at this hotel. Everyone staying at the Opryland will need to check in individually when you arrive at the hotel to get your room number and key.

➤ **Will I need a credit card?**

Yes. The hotels require a major credit card to bill any incidental expenses such as room services, etc. **Please note: A debit card will not be accepted at hotel registration.**

➤ **How will I know who I will be rooming with?**

You will find out who your assigned roommate will be at some time prior to leaving to Nashville. For the most part your roommate will be from your school. Families and spouses will be able to stay in the same room.

➤ **Am I required to follow a certain dress code while attending the Convention?**

Yes. We are asking that you wear business casual to all of the meetings. This includes the NAD Buffet and program on Monday evening.

➤ **How can I get to Nashville?**

Please work through your principal for all travel arrangements. Your administrator will have details on travel, whether by airline or driving yourself.

➤ **Will there be shuttle service from the airport to the hotel?**

The NAD is providing a free shuttle service from the Nashville airport to the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and back to the airport Wednesday afternoon following the convention. After getting your luggage, look for our student ambassadors with the NAD logo tee shirts and they will help you get your luggage on the right bus to the hotel.

➤ **What procedures do I follow if I am driving my own car?**

You must go directly to your hotel and check in. There is a daily parking fee of \$14.40 (per day) at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel.

➤ **Will there be an on-site registration booth for my conference?**

Yes. The Central California Conference will have a booth where you must register and check in. You will receive a bag, convention program and schedule, meal tickets, etc. The booth will be located in the Convention Center and easily identified.

➤ **When is the first meeting?**

The first meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday evening, August 5. Please be on time so you will not miss the keynote speaker for the opening session, which will be Dr. Carlton Byrd, senior pastor of the Oakwood University Seventh-day Adventist Church.

➤ **Will I have to make my own meal arrangements?**

The Central California Conference Office of Education will provide meals and per diem as follows:

The NAD has made arrangements for breakfast and lunch to be purchased at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel. All meals will be served buffet style and are vegetarian (with vegan options) and will require meal tickets to be purchased in advance.

Meals served will be as follows:

- Monday – breakfast, lunch, and the reception (supper)
- Reception – Must be registered (spouses and children must be registered to attend). Business casual dress. Buffet style, and then move back to the auditorium for the program.
- Tuesday – breakfast, lunch (supper on the Music City Queen River Boat)
- Wednesday – breakfast only (no sack lunches)

In lieu of per diem for Monday and Tuesday, we are purchasing meal tickets for all convention attendees (including family members, if requested and paid for) for three breakfasts (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) and two lunches (Monday and Tuesday). The Monday evening NAD Buffet and the Tuesday evening CCC Special Event (Music City Queen riverboat excursion and dinner) are also paid for by the Conference. Meal tickets for family members will be purchased according to your personal requests, which you have indicated and paid for. Special event tickets for family members must have already been purchased at the time of this letter.

You will receive a combined per diem for Sunday and Wednesday in the amount of \$62, which will be included in your July 30 paycheck.

➤ **What do I need to know about the North American Division Buffet and Entertainment?**

The meal will be a delicious buffet on Monday, August 6, followed by an evening of special entertainment and awards. The dress for this special occasion will be business casual.

➤ **What do I need to know about the Central California Conference Office of Education Special Event?**

On Tuesday evening, August 7, the CCC Office of Education will be hosting a special event for all educators of the CCC. We are requiring attendance at this event, which will include an opportunity for you to gather with your fellow CCC colleagues. Charter buses will pick us up at the hotel at 5:30 p.m. to take us to the Music City Queen River Boat where we will all enjoy a very special buffet dinner and get together as we cruise down the Cumberland River. Following the three-hour cruise, the buses will return us to the hotel at approximately 10:30 p.m.

➤ **Many have asked if the mall next to the hotel is open – YES, it is!** Below is a list of stores currently open at Opry Mills Mall. For more information and updates see:  
<http://www.simon.com/mall/?id+1259>

Opry Mills is the largest outlet, value retail, dining and entertainment destination in Tennessee, and features retailers like Saks Fifth Avenue Off 5<sup>th</sup>, Ann Taylor Factory Store, J. Crew Factory (including crewcuts for kids), Tommy Hilfiger Company Store, Nike Factory Store, The Aquarium Restaurant, Brooks Brothers Factory Store, Banana Republic Factory Store, and Rainforest Café.

In addition, a host of new and exciting brands have joined us at the new Opry Mills, including Tommy Bahama, Polo Ralph Lauren, Under Armour, Coach, Vera Bradley, Michael Kors, White House Black Market, Coach Men's, Cole Haan, LEGO, Talbots, Chico's, Disney Store, and Calvin Klein!

➤ **Will I need to register for the breakout sessions?**

You will not have to register for any of the breakout sessions you choose to attend.

➤ **What else do I need to know about the breakout sessions?**

There will be more than 450 scheduled breakout sessions throughout the convention. Some of the areas of interest include pre-school, elementary, secondary, administration, small schools, technology, and more. Most of the sessions will be held in rooms adequately large enough to accommodate everyone who wishes to attend. There will also be a few mega-sessions featuring Carlton Byrd, Dwight Nelson, Alan November, Todd Whitaker, NAD President Dan Jackson and

Christian humorist Ken Davis. You will be able to obtain a complete listing of the breakout sessions on the NAD website at [www.nadeducation.org](http://www.nadeducation.org) as the schedule is developed.

➤ **Will there be an exhibit hall and a bookstore?**

Yes, there will be an exhibit hall as part of the Convention, including education product vendors, technology, fund raising ideas, teaching materials, fun stuff and much more.

Exhibit hall hours:

Sunday, August 5 – 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Monday, August 6 – 10:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 7 – 12:00 noon – 8:00 p.m.

➤ **Can I get certification credit for attending the Convention?**

Academic and non-academic (PAC) credit will be available. One Professional Activity Credit (one non-academic hour) is available to all attendees, with 20 hours maximum.

Further information on academic credit available through La Sierra University will be sent to you at a later time. PLEASE NOTE: The \$95 fee for obtaining academic credit is NOT covered by the summer school tuition assistance program.

For further questions and information regarding the NAD Convention please check the following:

- The North American Division website at [www.nadeducation.org](http://www.nadeducation.org)
- The Central California Conference website at [cccedu.adventistfaith.org](http://cccedu.adventistfaith.org)

We hope this letter is helpful to you in preparing for the grand North American Division 2012 Adventist Teachers' Convention in Nashville!

God bless you,

*Ken Bullington*

Ken Bullington  
Associate Superintendent of Education

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