

# CONNECTIONS



## FEATURING

- Southwest Showcase Recap
- Anniversaries
- Join Our NCAA Bracket Pool

## SOUTHWEST SHOWCASE 2023: A TIME FOR RECONNECTING!

The Annual Southwest Showcase wrapped in January, and it was such a treat seeing so many of you at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center! This year's event featured nine unique breakout sessions, two inspiring keynotes, nearly 200 meeting planners, and over 80 exhibiting companies!

In addition, IAEE-CTC's own Dana Kirkhart, CEM, Director of Client Solutions for Freeman, was honored as Industry Professional of the Year and Destination El Paso with the El Paso Downtown & Convention Center Renaissance was recognized as the 2023 Most Exciting Meeting Destination Change.

Southwest Showcase would not be possible without the generosity of our Sponsors: Amarillo Convention & Visitors Bureau, American Tradeshow Services, Beaumont Convention & Visitors Bureau, Discover San Angelo, Freeman, HubDM, Kalahari Resorts & Conventions, McCarthy Print, PRA Business Events, Personify A2z Events, Superior Expo Services, Visit College Station, Visit Corpus Christi, Visit Dallas, Visit Fort Worth, Visit Galveston, Visit Irving, and Visit Lubbock.

Special thanks to the Southwest Showcase Board & Steering Committee Board Members.



**IAEE** International Association of Exhibitors and Event\*  
Exhibitors and Events \*Real Business\*  
CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER [www.iaee.com](http://www.iaee.com)

**03  
30  
23**

**BEHIND-THE-SCENES  
TOUR OF  
THE NCAA MEN'S  
FINAL FOUR  
FAN FEST**

Sponsored By:

**HoustonFIRST**

**Shepard**

**GEORGE R. BROWN  
CONVENTION CENTER**  
1001 AVENIDA DE LAS AMERICAS, HOUSTON, TX  
77010

**Scan the QR Code to Register**

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

### 1- YEAR

Debra Cukjati-Linebery  
Eliza Selig  
Monika Morrow  
Trey Payne  
Braley San-Miguel

### 5-YEARS

Aaron Hernandez  
Kathy Swanson  
Steven Stout  
Stacey Carroll  
Michelle Moon  
Jeff Moore

### 10-YEARS

Dane Piper

### 15-YEARS

Mary Castetter  
Angelica Stehling  
Lorraine Urey  
Sandra Bench  
Auntrell Grover

### 20-YEARS

Amy Graham

### 25-YEARS

Mary Kay Hackley  
Amy Prenger

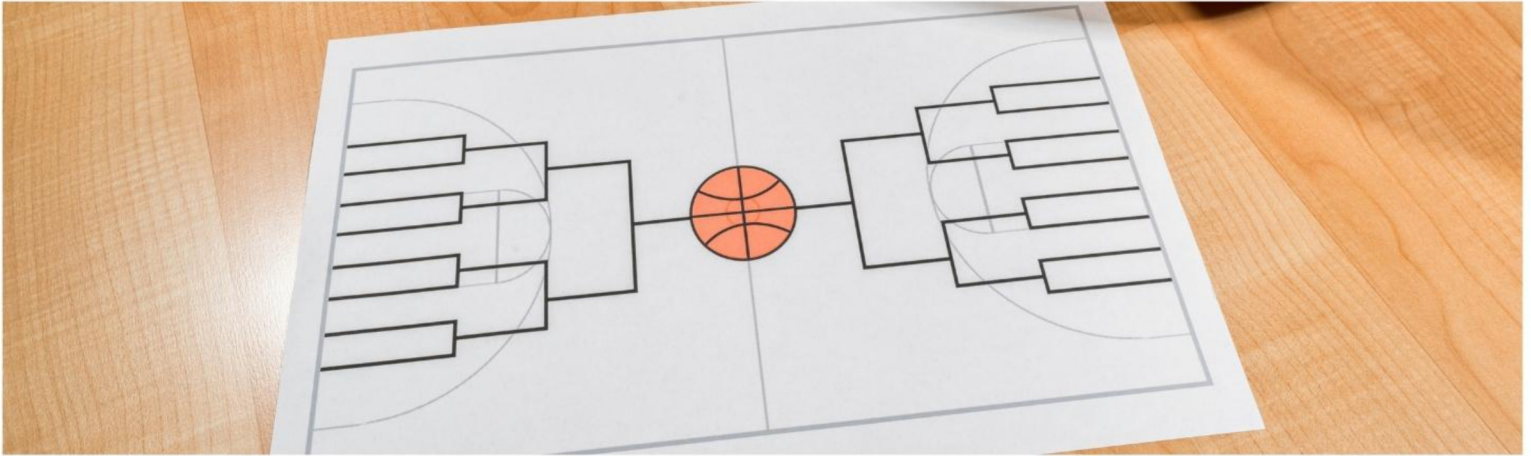
**Texas Humane Heroes** is this year's chapter charity; visit [IAEECTC.com](http://IAEECTC.com) for more information on how to donate.





# YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN IAEE'S CTC MARCH MADNESS VIRTUAL BRACKET POOL!

*Come join the fun with a friendly competition March Madness style!*



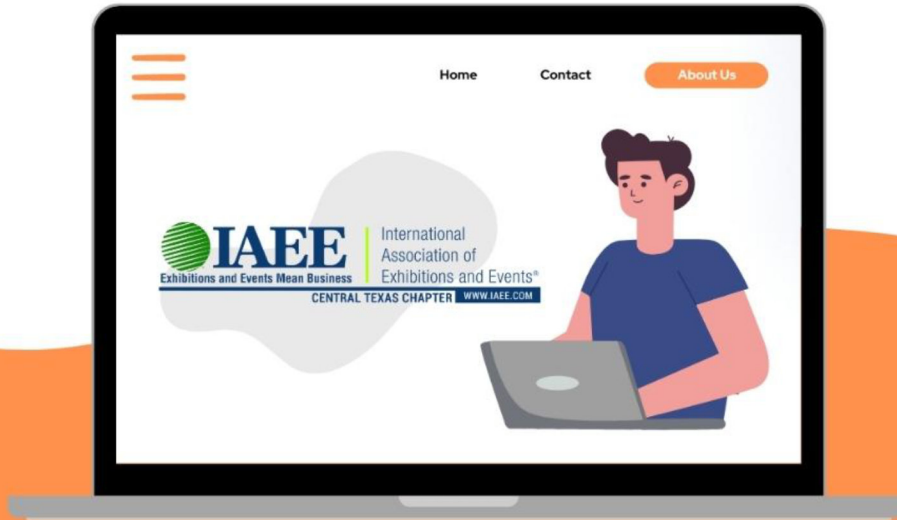
## How to participate:

1. Create Your Bracket Team: Follow this link to create your bracket team. You won't be able to select teams until March 12 at 6:00 PM ET.
2. Select Your Teams: On March 12 at 6:00 PM, teams can be selected. You will have 4-days to make your selections.
3. Bracket Submission Deadline: Be sure to submit your bracket for the competition by March 16 at 12:15 PM ET.
4. First Round Games Begin: On March 16 and March 17, the tournament's first round begins!

## IAEE CTC March Madness Pool Rules

- Members pick all 63 games of the NCAA Tournament.
- The pick deadline is March 16, 2023, at 12:15 PM ET.
- Each participant is limited to 2 entries in the contest.
- Points are awarded for each correct pick.
- Points values increase as the tournament progresses, as follows:
  - First Four = Play-in games are not included or scored
  - First Round = 1 point
  - Second Round = 2 points
  - Sweet 16 = 4 points
  - Elite 8 = 8 points
  - Final Four = 16 points
  - Championship = 32 points
- The pool does not use a seed point bonus. Correct picks will be awarded the points assigned for each round.
- The tiebreaker is the combined number of points scored in the Championship game. Each member must enter a tie-break value when they make their picks.
- The winner is the entry with the most points at the end of the NCAA Tournament.

IAEE's CTC March Madness Virtual Bracket Pool Winner will receive a complimentary registration to IAEE's CTC Summer Social!



## Our Website Has a New Look!

If you haven't already seen it, check out the Central Texas Chapter's new website at [www.iaeectc.com](http://www.iaeectc.com)

## Coffee Convos

Join us every first Wednesday of the month as we come together virtually to share information about trends we see in the events industry. If you want to expand your network and have a few laughs in the process, you will enjoy this terrific networking event.

### 2023 Upcoming Topics

**April 5**-The Future of Tech in Industry 2.0

**May 3**-CEM Journey

**June 7**-Social Media Marketing

**July 5**-Social Responsibility

