



Update regarding the 2020 IC Convention:

From 2019-2020 IC President Terri Olson

Dear ESA Members --

The burning question, in light of COVID-19, is “are we going to have an IC Convention this year?”

The IC Executive Board, working closely with the IC Convention Chairs, Hotel Contracts Chair, ESA Foundation, and ESA Headquarters all agree that the health and safety of our membership is our top concern. Unfortunately, the convention hotel is simply unable to guarantee the safety of our ESA members at this time. In light of this, the International Council Executive Board has voted to **cancel the 2020 IC Convention in Grapevine, Texas**. *However, we think we have come up with a great alternative!*

- **This year your favorite parts of IC Convention are coming to YOU!** Watch for more information in the next few weeks on how to join us through the power of technology!
- There will be NO registration fee for the virtual convention, meaning *all* members have the option join us, including those who have never been to a convention before!
- For those of you who have already registered for convention, full refunds will be issued. Refunds will also be issued for the IC Council Trivia event. Please allow a few weeks for all refunds to be processed. If you have rooms booked under the ESA room block, the hotel will cancel all rooms. If you shared your email address with the hotel you will receive a confirmation email of the cancellation.
- For those of you registered for the IC Challenge, the event will be virtual! ESA Headquarters is still accepting registrations for this event. Because 100% of the registration fee is a donation to St. Jude, refunds will not be offered as HQ is unable to process refunds for donations. More information to come from Headquarters for this event – you won’t want to miss it!
- We’re still headed to Grapevine... in 2023! We send our heartfelt thanks to our Texas members, and it is with great enthusiasm that we accept their gracious offer to host IC Convention in 2023. Same city, same hotel, different year, how wonderful!

International Council Convention is a time when we all look forward to seeing long-time friends and meeting new friends. It's a time when we can celebrate all of the wonderful things we have accomplished during the year and look forward to what's to come! I know it is a sad time for all who were planning to attend, but we do have some good news. I see it as the "when life gives you lemons" opportunity.

I sincerely hope that you understand our delay in bringing you the news. We will miss seeing you all in Texas this year, but your health and safety is our utmost concern.

Please continue to stay safe!

With warmest grand ESA hugs,

Terri Olson

2019-2020 International Council President

ESA – All Heart
