

NFDA

NATIONAL FUNERAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

Hospice professionals

Join us in Austin

You are cordially invited to be a guest of the National Funeral Directors Association at its International Convention & Expo on Wednesday, October 23, 2013, at the Austin Convention Center in Austin, Texas. As a guest, you will have complimentary access to select educational sessions and the world's largest funeral service exhibition.

#### Schedule for October 23

Registration: 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

NFDA Central: 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Purchase books, brochures and other tools and resources on grief, funeral planning and more! Materials are available for children, teens and adults; bilingual resources also available.

#### Educational Workshops: 8-9 a.m.

• Battling Burnout: Management Techniques for Caregivers\*
Presenter: John D. Canine, Ph.D., Maximum Living Consultants Inc., Clarkston, Michigan

Burnout is a debilitating psychological condition brought on by unrelieved work stress that can result in depleted energy, lowered resistance to illness, job dissatisfaction, pessimism, increased absenteeism and inefficiency at work. Learn what burnout is, how to recognize it and ways to manage and overcome its effects.

• Transforming Loss: An Intimate Look Into the Process of Grief and Healing\* Presenter: Judith R. Burdick, M.A., L.L.P., Bloomfield, Michigan

The documentary film *Transforming Loss* follows six families through the grief process and examines their journey of love, faith and perseverance. Feel their heart-wrenching losses and cheer their transformations.



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#### NFDA Expo, 9 a.m.-Noon

Visit the world's largest funeral service expo and learn about the newest products, services and innovations that funeral directors use to create personal and meaningful funerals and memorial services for the families they serve.

#### Special features:

- Learn about funeral customs from around the world in the International Pavilion.
- Visit the **Cultural Display** to learn about *El Día de los Muertos*, or Day of the Dead, a Mexican holiday when family and friends gather to pray for and remember loved ones who have died.
- View the winning designs from the first-ever international **Design for Death competition**, in which
  designers, architects, artists and others were challenged to re-imagine the way families might
  remember their dead.

## General Session and Keynote Presentation: *Building a Better You\** Noon-1:30 p.m.

Presenter: Bryan Dodge, Dodge Development Inc., Dallas, Texas

Bryan Dodge will open your mind and heart to help you focus on the most essential aspects of life so that you can reach your full potential – with your family and your career. Learn how to have the best year of your life, create consistent upward growth and get energized! Dodge's life-changing humorous stories will inspire and encourage you. The best part of his message? It's memorable and fun!

## Special Engagement: Why Funerals Matter\* 2-3:30 p.m.

Presenters: Dr. Thomas G. Long, Bandy Professor of Preaching at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

Thomas Lynch, writer and funeral director, Milford, Michigan

Dr. Thomas Long and Thomas Lynch understand the value of funeral rituals and clearly articulate the elements that are necessary for a good funeral. This is a rare opportunity for hospice professionals and funeral directors to hear ideas and strategies for growing a sense of community and cooperation among caregiving professionals who support and care for the dying, the dead and the bereaved.

#### Boot Scootin' Bash, 5-7 p.m.

(optional; ticket required)

Join in the fun at this "Denim and Diamonds"-themed event where party-goers will be decked out in jeans and cowboy hats or sparkling, Western-inspired cocktail attire. The affair will feature hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, entertainment and lots of fun. The Boot Scootin' Bash benefits Comfort Zone Camp (www. comfortzonecamp.org), an organization that helps children as they start their grief journey following the death of a parent, sibling or primary caregiver. \$60 per person.

<sup>\*</sup>Continuing education credits are not available for educational sessions.