

NFA2018



University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

Every summer since 1983, Oshkosh has welcomed plane enthusiasts from around the world to the Experimental Aircraft Association AirVenture Convention and Fly-In. Quiet Wittman Airport is turned into the world's busiest for a few days as over 500,000 pilots share their passion for flying and visitors watch in awe as thousands of aircraft take flight.

In April of 2018, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh along with the City of Oshkosh hope to welcome hundreds of talented college speakers. At UWO you will have the chance to share your passions, your loves and your hopes.

At Oshkosh,

Your voice will soar!



Members of the National Forensics Association,

It is with great pleasure that I submit this bid to host the 2018 National Forensic Association National Championship Tournament.

In 1996 I got my first nationals experience when NFA was held at Western Illinois University. As a inexperienced sophomore, I credit that first nationals with reinforcing my love of forensics and opening my eyes to what great forensics can look like. I returned to my own campus energized and motivated to return to nationals. Two years later, I finished my collegiate career back in Macomb with an unforgettable experience as my team had one of its highest placings in school history. NFA was an essential part of my college forensics experience.

I understand that there may be reservations about hosting NFA at UW-Oshkosh. This would be the second consecutive year in Wisconsin. As someone who loves to explore new parts of this country, I appreciate this concern. I would also guess that there are reservations about handing over a huge event like NFA to a relatively new coach on a campus that hasn't (yet) hosted a collegiate tournament. Know that, if selected, I will work tirelessly to make NFA 2018 the best possible experience for everyone. I am surrounded by supportive, knowledgeable and energetic people who are with me 100%. I also am looking for more reasons to support my caffeine addiction. Hosting NFA would be a great addition!

As I have explored hosting at UW-Oshkosh, every email and conversation I have had has been positive, enthusiastic and reaffirming that not only *can* UWO host this event, but we *want* to host. My administration replied with a vote of confidence within an hour of reaching out to them. I am confident that you will be greeted by helpful, happy and very excited hosts.

Over the last couple of weeks, I've asked myself why on earth I would want to take this task on. Karen Morris has outlined a lot of great reasons, but for me it has come down to this: It's the right thing to do. I am fortunate to be on a campus that is supportive of me and my program. I have the facilities and the desire to host this event. I believe that when you are fortunate enough to be able to do something for others, you had better take advantage of that opportunity. I love forensics and I can think of no better way to show my love than to welcome you to Oshkosh.

The Titans can't wait to see you!



Elliott Fischer
Director of Forensics
Instructor, Department of Communication
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

COMPETITION SPACES

General Access Classroom Availability (based on Spring Semester 2017)

Timeslot	Rooms Available		Timeslot	Rooms Available
THURSDAY			FRIDAY	
8:00-9:30	30+		8:00-9:00	30+
9:40-11:10	21		9:10-10:10	21
11:30-1:00	33		10:20-11:20	35
1:20-2:50	33		11:30-12:30	35
3:00-4:30	45		12:40-1:40	54
4:40-10:00	72+		1:50-2:50	54
			3:00-4:00	70
			4:00-10:00	90+
SATURDAY/SUNDAY				
All Day	90+			

Extemp Prep

A variety of spaces should be available including large lecture halls or ballroom space. Reliable guest WiFi is available in all campus buildings and the possibility may exist for more secure login based WiFi access.

Reeve Union

11 total rooms available in Reeve Union for competition and tournament management use.

Gruenhagen Conference Center

6 additional meeting rooms available

Extra Classroom Possibilities

All academic departments on campus “own” classrooms that only they use. These estimated 20 additional classrooms could be available during the tournament.

Alumni Welcome & Conference Center

Pay-to-use facility on campus. Meeting rooms and a large ballroom available.

Summary

Based on current room usage, the UW-Oshkosh campus will be able to host preliminary rounds Thursday through Sunday. Our campus is relatively compact. The walking distance from the Reeve Union to the furthest academic building is less than five minutes. The walk between academic buildings used for the tournament is even shorter.

MONDAY ELIMINATION ROUNDS

On Campus Option

If staying on-campus, a variety of larger spaces are available for Semi-final and Final rounds. These spaces include:

Reeve Union Theater (160 people)
Reeve 306 Meeting Room (90 people)
Reeve Ballroom (3 Spaces at 200 people each)
Arts & Communication Center Music Hall (500 seats)
Frederic March Theater (500 seats)

Off Campus Option

The Oshkosh Convention Center & Best Western Premier Hotel are available if the tournament wants to move to a single facility for the final day. The center's meeting rooms and convention hall could easily accommodate the final day of competition and awards ceremony. There would be a cost for the use of the facility.

TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT

Below is a tentative list of available spaces and facilities for tournament functions.

Tab Room

Reeve Second Floor Meeting room 221

Ballot Stuffing Area

Reeve Second Floor Meeting rooms

Ballot Drop/Pick Up Area

Reeve Union Concourse (1st floor)

Reeve Union Ballroom Pre-function area (2nd floor)

Opening/Closing Assembly

Kolf Sports Center or Reeve Union Ballroom (On campus option)

Kolf Sports Center or Reeve Union Ballroom/Oshkosh Convention Center Ballroom

Meeting Rooms

Reeve Union Ballroom (student meeting)

Reeve Union Theatre (coaches meeting)

Computers

Computers may need to be rented from an outside vendor.

Student Tournament Staff

UWO Communication Club

UWO Titan Volunteers

Students from a possible event planning course

Judges

Securing hired judges might be a challenge, since an event of this size has not happened in our area. However, the UW-Oshkosh Director of Forensics has connections to over 100 high school forensics programs from around the state.

Ballots

These can be easily and cost effectively provided.

Printing

Printing of tournament booklet and schedules can be done by the on-campus printing center. Printing during the tournament can be handled by the Copy this! Store in Reeve Union or by renting a printer or copier from a vendor.

Video Equipment

Radio TV Film Department may be available to help with recording of final rounds

Food Service

Reeve Union Concourse (6 different restaurants in a food-court style setup). The setup is similar to the food arrangements at Ball State University & the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Wisconsin Street Restaurants (Erberts & Gerberts Subs, Toppers Pizza, Subway, Jimmy Johns, Niko's Gyros, Polito's Pizza, Lou's Brew Cafe, Big Apple Bagels, Mahoney's Restaurant)

ACCOMMODATIONS

Here is an abbreviated list of hotels in Oshkosh. This is not an all-inclusive list, but does outline the variety of facilities and price options.

In total, Oshkosh has around 900 hotel rooms available.

Hotel	Rooms	April 2017 Rates
Best Western Premier Riverfront (connected to Oshkosh Convention Center)	178	\$89-99/night
Hilton Garden Inn	152	\$90
Fairfield Inn	45	\$140
Holiday Inn Express	69	\$115
LaQuinta Inn	96	\$82
Comfort Suites	80	\$108
Super 8 Motel	61	\$69
Motel 6	96	\$46
Gruenhagen Conference Center (on-campus residence hall-style rooms)	256	\$40

-Most Hotels in Oshkosh are less than 4 miles from campus.

-Additional lodging options are available in:

Neenah (14 miles)

Appleton (21 miles)

Fond du Lac (25 miles)

TRANSPORTATION

Oshkosh is easily accessible from the south and east via Interstate 41 and US Highway 10 & Interstate 41 from the west.

The nearest commercial airport is in Appleton, but more cost effective flights can be found if flying into Milwaukee.

Airport	Distance to Oshkosh	Airlines served
Appleton International	20 miles	Delta, United, Allegiant
Green Bay Austin Straubel International	50 miles	Delta, United, American
Milwaukee General Mitchell International (least expensive option)	94 miles	Delta, United, American, Frontier, Southwest