



54th National IFYE Conference - July 24-28, 2012 Embassy Suites - Downtown/Old Market Omaha, Nebraska

“Heartland Heartbeat.....Reaching Out” is the theme of the 54th National IFYE Conference. The conference will be held at the Downtown/Old Market Embassy Suites in Omaha, Nebraska. The Embassy Suites is located downtown in the heart of Omaha’s Old Market District. It is about five minutes from Eppley Airfield. Free shuttle service to and from the airport to the hotel is provided. If traveling by car, there is easy access from I-29 and I-80.

Omaha is located in the heartland of the USA and offers museum, culture, shopping, agriculture, and is the home of the College World Series.

The conference will offer fun, education, IFYE business, and lots of time to make new friends and renew friendships. We hope you will share your talent with us at our very own “IFYE’s Got Talent” on opening night. Compete for “Nebraska Treasures” It is sure to be an evening filled with lots of fun and laughter!

The tours will provide something for everyone. The Henry Doorly Zoo is one of the most popular attractions in Omaha. There will be an opportunity to visit the Mead feed lots and a hay processing plant for small animals. See where the Omaha Police Mounted Patrol Unit trains. A walk along the longest pedestrian bridge to link two states provides a safe crossing from Omaha to Council Bluffs over the Missouri River. Located in Council Bluffs is the Union Pacific Railroad Museum which houses one of the oldest corporate collections in the nation. You will also be able to visit the Strategic Air and Space Museum and Boys Town.

We will have two service projects this year. One of our very own Nebraska IFYE’s has been involved in starting 4-H in Mongolia. We will reach out to that program by raising funds with our live and silent auctions and “hands-on” making of book bags for their 4-H projects during one of our workshops. For those who want, we will volunteer at the “Open Door Mission” on Friday. We will help sort and package clothing. If you have room in your bag, you can bring along clean, used clothing and blankets to donate.

The International Banquet on Friday evening will be held at the Swanson Gallery, inside the historic Durham Museum. The Durham was previously known as Union Station and had been used by the Union Pacific Railroad. It was a showpiece for headquarters of the railroad. The Swanson Gallery exhibits will be open before the banquet at no additional cost. We ask that you dress in your country attire for the banquet if possible.

A display area will be available to share your international programs, state activities, future conference sites, etc.

We have some exceptional workshops planned for Wednesday. You can sign up for the workshops when you check in at the conference. We’ll be learning about rain water gardens, family trees, travel tips and ideas, a taste of Nebraska, Laws of Leadership, and of course, a hands-on project for our Mongolian 4-H friends.

Our “Children’s Program” will provide supervised activities for children ages 5-12 all day on Wednesday and Friday morning. On Thursday the children will go with parents/grandparents on their tour, and on Friday afternoon the children may participate in the service project or enjoy free time with parents/grandparents.

For more information on the conference please contact Barb Batie 308-325-2247 (cell) 308-324-2541 (home) email [bbatie @atcjet.net](mailto:bbatie@atcjet.net) or on facebook @ Barb Batie.

To make your reservations, contact the Embassy at 402-346-9000 for the \$119 per night rate. Our Group Name is International 4-H and Group Code is MI4 (M as in Mary, I as in Igloo and the number 4)

CONFERENCE TOURS

Monkey Around with Us. Visit the Henry Doorly Zoo. Your day can be as long as you want. A free shuttle is available to return to the Embassy when you want. Included in the day is admission, IMAX, rides on train, tram, carousel & skyari and lunch.

Heartland Agriculture. Includes Animal Science, Mead Feed Lots, Ashland Packers with a BBQ lunch, and a Hay Plant.

Trails to Rails. Take a walk across the Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge and visit the Union Pacific Museum. A box lunch will be included.

Strategic Brother Tour. Visit the Strategic Air & Space Museum and a tour of Boys Town. You will eat lunch at Boys Town.