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## 2008 Annual Conference Kansas City, MO July 16-19, 2008

**Theme: Sustainable Peace through Livable Communities**

Learn more about the 2008 Youth Conference  
Learn more about the 2008 Young Artist Showcase  
Schedule at a Glance  
Hotel Information (see below)

### Conference Promotion Winner

Congratulations to David Starline of Vandalla, Ohio! He won a complimentary registration and hotel stay for the 2008 Annual Conference in Kansas City, MO

### Registration

#### Register Now!

Register by March 31 to receive Early rates of \$425.00 for members and \$525.00 for non-members. Complete the registration online now.

	Member	Non-Member
<b>Early Rate (by Mar. 31)</b>	\$425.00	\$525.00
<b>Advance (Apr 1 - Jun 16)</b>	\$525.00	\$625.00
<b>One Conference Day Only (Thur or Fri. only)</b>	\$200.00	\$275.00
<b>Two Conference Days Only (Thur. &amp; Fri. only or Pre-conference sessions, Welcome Reception &amp; Thur.)</b>	\$375.00	\$475.00
<b>Pre-Conference Sessions Only (Lunch not included.)</b>	\$75.00	\$125.00

### Tentative Schedule

The schedule details and speaker confirmations are being developed. See an outline of the conference schedule below or view the schedule at a glance.

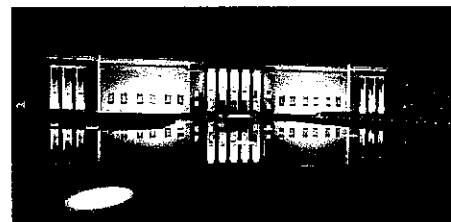
#### Wednesday, July 16, 2008

Leadership Meetings  
Pre-Conference Trainings  
Orientation Sessions  
Welcome Reception at the National World War I Museum  
at Liberty Memorial

#### Thursday, July 17, 2008

Opening Keynote Speaker  
Workshops & Breakout Sessions  
Mayor's Reception at the **Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art**

#### Friday, July 18, 2008



Keynote Speaker  
 Workshops  
 Best Practices Showcase & Global Conversations  
 Reception Hosted by Northern Ireland

### Saturday, July 19, 2008

Annual Business Meeting  
 Leadership Meetings  
 Explore Kansas City  
 Closing Gala at the Westin Crown Center Hotel

### **Conference Sessions**

The conference speakers will explore opportunities and challenges facing the global community in the 21st century and point to ways ahead, as we seek to shape the future of sustainable peace through our own communities. As active players on the global stage, the speakers' insights will provoke discussion and debate throughout the conference by providing a diverse and challenging range of perspectives.

**3 Pre-Conference Tracks** will offer intense sessions concurrently on Wednesday, July 16.

- **Economic Development** - City Hall, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Department of Economic Development are all looking for innovative channels to encourage entrepreneurship, build investment, and stimulate tourism in your community. Sister city programs are often overlooked as a partner in these efforts. Many local sister city programs have found a winning strategy to adding this work to the traditional mix of exchanges and programs. You can ?Show Your Mayor the Money? by learning the jargon, taking a page from fellow volunteer leaders who have succeeded, and sharpening up on trends from expert presenters.
- **Africa** - Moving beyond the humanitarian assistance model is a driving desire of African sister cities. Participants will learn how to find opportunities to create viable economic and cultural relationships with impact, hear from experts on the current state of Africa, and explore first-person accounts of productive sister city partnerships on the continent.
- **Asia** - From some of our oldest partnerships to hot new ones, working in Asia provides members a range of cultures, perspectives, and challenges. Find the secrets to success from expert speakers, thriving partnerships, and representatives from various countries in the region.

**Conference Workshops** are being offered on Thursday, July 17 and Friday, July 18.

The topics will include:

- Sustaining Your Community
- Ramping Up Your Fundraising Program
- Sister Schools: Connecting Classrooms
- Sister Cities Role in the Global Economy
- Volunteers Corps - Who's Managing Whom?
- Fundraising: Big Bucks from Small Ideas
- Sister Cities in Regions of Conflict
- Solutions for Youth Programs
- Waging Peace: Cross-Cultural Dialogue Between U.S. & French Sister Cities
- Mayor's Forum: Engaging Your Elected Officials

Invitations to keynote speakers include:

- Kit Bond, *U.S. Senator for Missouri*
- Dianne Dillon-Ridgley, *Environmentalist and Human Rights Activist*
- John McCain, *Republican Presidential Nominee*
- Barack Obama/Hillary Clinton, *Democratic Presidential Nominees*
- Ron Sims, *King County (WA) Executive*

### Special Events

The City of Kansas City, MO and the Sister City Association of Kansas City, MO are planning three great events for the conference.

*Note: These events are included in the full registration fee. Individual tickets are available for purchase for spouses or other individuals not attending the full conference.*

#### Opening Reception on July 16, 2008

##### National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial

Opening Ceremonies including the Welcome Reception will take place on the South Lawn of the majestic Liberty Memorial. The event will feature the Avenue of Nations display, local acoustical entertainment, delicious food and beverages, and guided tours of the National World War I Museum. Designed by Ralph Applebaum, whose credits include the Holocaust Memorial in Washington, the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial is an emotional, interactive and high-tech educational experience you won't want to miss.

Individual tickets are available at \$20.00 per person.



#### Mayor's Reception on Thursday, July 17, 2008

##### Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

The elegant Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art will be the dramatic backdrop for the Mayor's Reception. The reception and program begins in the grand Kirkwood Hall and opens into Rozzelle Court, the gracious interior courtyard. Attendees will feast on cocktail appetizers prepared by award-winning chefs. During the reception, attendees are welcome to enjoy the museum's exclusive exhibits including the new, world-renowned Bloch Building.

Individual tickets are available at \$30.00 per person.



#### 2009 Conference Reception Hosted by Northern Ireland on Friday, July 18, 2008

Experience a taste of good old Northern Ireland hospitality in the historical setting of Kansas City's famous Union Station. Drum your fingers and tap your toes to the magical beat of traditional Irish music and dancing and let your taste buds be tantalized by the flavours of famous Irish brews that have been around for hundreds of years.

The team in Northern Ireland is confident that your appetite to see and explore more of the land of the forty shades of green will bring you to Belfast in July 2009 to experience the complete package! From the Glants Causeway to the Mountains of Mourne and the Lakes of Fermanagh you will be amazed by the many contrasts to be found in the land of Saint Patrick. The folk from Northern Ireland look forward to meeting and entertaining you in Union Station.

#### Closing Gala on Saturday, July 19, 2008

Partnering with the American Jazz Museum, Kansas City is proud to present a spectacular jazz themed Gala at the Westin Crown Center Ballroom. We are bringing the American Jazz Museum experience to the Westin with historical perspectives and exhibits from the American Jazz Museum's private collection. Attendees will enjoy a wonderful dinner and an unforgettable night of entertainment showcases featuring legendary jazz musicians.

Individual tickets are available at \$60.00 per person

### Hotel

#### Westin Crown Center

One East Pershing Road  
Kansas City, MO



Phone: 1.816.474.4400  
Westin Crown Center Hotel Website

The Westin Crown Center Hotel is the headquarter hotel for the conference. Meetings and daytime events will take place at the Westin.

**Room Rates:** \$149 per night + taxes (single or double)  
Reservations must be made by June 16, 2008 in order to receive the group rate.

Make reservations by:

- Calling 1.888.627.8538. Be sure to mention you are with Sister Cities International to receive the group rate.
- Online through the hotel reservations website

### Airline Information

Sister Cities International has partnered with **Midwest Airlines**. They are offering up to a 10% discount on flights for attendees flying to the annual conference this year.

Here are three easy ways to save when booking your flight:

- Visit [www.midwestairlines.com](http://www.midwestairlines.com) and enter promo code CMZ1588
- Call Midwest at 800-452-2022 and provide CMZ1588 to the agent
- Purchase ticket through a travel agent and mention CMZ1588 Terms and Conditions

Please note some important details of the offer:

- 10% discount for tickets purchased at least 30 days in advance of travel
- 6% discount for tickets purchased within 30 days
- Valid for travel July 13-22, 2008 for travel to Kansas City from any city served by Midwest Airlines

*Coming soon: Information on more discounted airline offers.*

### Kansas City, Missouri

An energetic city forged by a rich history, Kansas City offers unexpected discoveries every day. Part of the city's charm lies in its beauty, with impressive boulevards, spacious parks and exquisite fountains. But it's the unique adventures that make your time in Kansas City special - eclectic cuisine, swinging jazz, one-of-a-kind museums and fantastic shopping.

Visit the links below to learn more about what Kansas City has to offer!

Kansas City Video  
Arts and Culture Venues  
City Market  
Restaurants

### Attractions Near the Westin Crown Center Hotel

American Jazz Museum  
National World War I Museum  
Nelson Atkins Museum  
Union Station Kansas City

*Credits: All photos on this web page are compliments of the Kansas City Convention and Visitors Association.*

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