

158TH

ANNUAL SESSION

MAY 7-8, 2026
NEBRASKA INNOVATION CAMPUS
CONFERENCE CENTER
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA



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you to the NDA Annual
Session page



INNOVATE.

INTEGRATE.

INSPIRE.



On behalf of our entire organization, it is my pleasure to welcome you to this year's meeting! We are thrilled to have you join us as we come together to **Innovate • Integrate • Inspire.**

This year is especially exciting as we gather at a new venue which will offer fresh opportunities to connect, learn, and experience everything our annual meeting has to offer.

Why should you participate? Because our members are the heart of the NDA. Your insights, experiences, and curiosity fuel the conversations that lead to breakthroughs. By engaging fully, attending sessions, visiting the exhibit hall, and connecting with peers, you help shape the future of our profession. Every handshake, every question, every shared idea matters.

You will have the opportunity to:

- **Explore the Exhibit Hall** - Discover groundbreaking solutions and meet the companies driving progress.
- **Engage with Experts** - Learn from thought leaders and innovators during continuing education sessions and networking events.
- **Connect with Peers** - Build relationships that will strengthen your professional journey.

Your presence is what makes our meeting special. We encourage you to visit the exhibit hall to support our exhibitors and sponsors and take full advantage of the resources and experiences designed for you.

Thank you for being part of this exciting meeting. Together, let's innovate boldly, integrate seamlessly, and inspire each other to achieve greatness.

See you in May!

Dr. Adam Lamprecht

President, Nebraska Dental Association

2026 CORPORATE SPONSORS

(as of date of printing)

Innovation Partner | \$10,000

Harold Diers Agency

Trailblazer Speaker Sponsor | \$5,000

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Todd Stark, RBC Wealth Management

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"Ideas In Ink" | \$500

Kota Technology

"Inspire and Win" | \$250

Oral Surgery Associates

Speaker Sponsors

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Schedule of Events

All events at the conference center unless otherwise listed.

THURSDAY, MAY 7	SESSION/EVENT	DESCRIPTION
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	-	Board of Trustees Meeting & Lunch
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	-	House of Delegates Meeting
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Event A	5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Cocktail Hour @ Scarlet Hotel (Barred Owl) 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Awards Reception @ Scarlet Hotel (Barred Owl)

FRIDAY, MAY 8	SESSION/EVENT	DESCRIPTION
7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	-	NDA Registration
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	-	Exhibit Hall Open
7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	-	Professional Headshots
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	-	Welcome and Keynote Address Nebraska Men's Basketball Assistant Coach, Nate Loenser
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Session 1	Dr. Joshua Austin – “True Value of Digital Dentistry”
10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	-	Break
10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Session 1	Dr. Joshua Austin – “True Value of Digital Dentistry”
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Session 2	Minal Sampat – “Social Media for Dental Practices: From Engagement to Conversion”
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Session 3	Seth Thomas, Benco Dental – “Operatory Maintenance”
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Session 4	Ryan Rutar and Erin Haley-Hitz – “Elevating Hygiene”
10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	-	Break
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Session 5	Minal Sampat – “Conquer Instagram: “Reeling” Into the Now”
11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Event B	Tour of Nebraska Innovation Studio and Scarlet Hotel

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, MAY 8	SESSION/EVENT	DESCRIPTION
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	-	Lunch Break
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Event C	Past President's Lunch – @ Scarlet Hotel (Founder's Room)
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Event D	NSPD Annual Business Meeting & Lunch
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Event E	Northeast District Business Meeting and Lunch – @ Scarlet Hotel
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Event F	Southeast District Business Meeting and Lunch – @ NIC Boardroom, Ste. 2220
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	-	NDA House of Delegates and Installation
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Session 6	Dr. Joshua Austin – “What’s New: Materials & Tech to Expedite Excellence”
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Session 7	Minal Sampat – “30 Strategies in 90 Minutes: Patient Experience, Team Building & Marketing for Dental Practices”
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Session 8	Ryan Rutar – “Fluoride: Friend, Foe, or Just Misunderstood”
2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Session 9	Trudy McFadden, Benco Dental – “Stop the Spread: Infection Control and Bloodborne Pathogens Made Practical”
3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	-	Break
3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Event G	Tour of Nebraska Innovation Studio and Scarlet Hotel
3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Session 10	Dr. Joshua Austin – “Mental Dental Connection”
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	-	Social Hour at Scarlet Hotel



Attendees can grab a complimentary cup of coffee courtesy of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska and Todd Stark, RBC Wealth Management



Wealth Management

Keynote Address

Join Us for an Inspiring Keynote Address

Friday, May 8, 2026, at 8:00 a.m.

This year, we are honored to welcome Nate Loenser, Nebraska Assistant Men's Basketball Coach, as our keynote speaker.

Coach Loenser describes himself as a lifelong learner and someone who strives to be a "giver, not a taker." His message extends well beyond the basketball court, emphasizing:

- Making the most of every opportunity
- Building others through intentional personal development
- "Being seen by being unseen" - focusing on doing the work rather than seeking the credit
- Facing adversity with resilience and purpose

His experiences in competitive athletics translate seamlessly to the dental profession. A successful basketball team depends on trust, communication, preparation, and each person understanding their role, much like a thriving dental office. When every team member commits to a shared goal and supports one another, excellence follows.

Coach Loenser's life story reflects these principles, having overcome early physical challenges, excelling in athletics, and building a respected coaching career grounded in adaptability, humility, and hard work.

Join us for an energizing and inspiring start to our Annual Meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!



Nate Loenser

Nate Loenser (pronounced Lenzer) is in his fifth season with the Husker basketball coaching staff, contributing across player development, scouting, game planning, and recruiting. During his tenure, he has helped five Huskers earn All-Big Ten honors.

A former NBA assistant, Loenser spent five seasons with the Chicago Bulls (2015-18), working under Fred Hoiberg and Jim Boylen with a focus on offense, scouting, and player development. He helped develop NBA players such as Zach LaVine, Kris Dunn, and Coby White, and coached the Bulls' 2019 Summer League team. He has also served as head coach of the Windy City Bulls in 2016-2017.

Before his NBA career, Loenser spent two seasons on Hoiberg's Iowa State staff, contributing to back-to-back Big 12 Tournament titles and helping develop several All-Big 12 and All-America players. His earlier coaching stops include Southern Mississippi, where he spent six seasons, and high school programs in Iowa.

A Cedar Falls, Iowa native, Loenser was a four-sport athlete (baseball, basketball, football, and golf) at Northern University High School. Loenser graduated from Iowa State in 2002, where he played baseball for the Cyclones in 2001. He and his wife, Jackie, have three daughters, Delaney, Logan, and Hadley.

Sessions



Session 1

Dr. Joshua Austin

The True Value of Digital Dentistry: A Four Step Revolution for Your Practice

9:00 A.M. TO 10:00 A.M.

10:00 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M. BREAK

10:30 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.

2.5 CE credits

As clinicians we often look at digital scanners as a replacement for impression material. While this is a fantastic attribute of digital scanners, this is a short-sighted view. How can we maximize the return on investment of our digital scanning? The answers are astoundingly simple and help us realize the true value and power of digital technology communication.

In this course, participants will learn how innovation and enhancements in intraoral scanning contribute to improved practice workflows, and enhanced patient experience. Discover how these devices can close the gap of patient communication by allowing you to easily share digital images and provide a better understanding of dental procedures for your patients. You will also realize the true power of digital for your practice and how it can help you work smarter, not harder. Join us and take your dental practice to the next level!

Learning Objectives:

- Explore the latest innovations and enhancements in intraoral scanning.
- Learn how improved scanning amplifies practice productivity.
- Discover how these devices can close the gap of patient communication.
- Realize the true power of digital for your practice.

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Session 2

Minal Sampat

Social Media for Dental Practices: From Engagement to Conversion

9:00 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M.

1.5 CE credits*

Are you spending money on Social Media Marketing, but not seeing any conversions? Feeling overwhelmed and don't know what to post for engagement? Are you falling behind your competition?

Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, TikTok – where should you begin and how can you use social media to grow your practice? Join us for an engaging course on mastering social media, complete with hands-on training for ads and capturing video testimonies (scripts included!).

In this interactive workshop-style course designed for dental practices by the Marketologist™ herself, Minal, you will learn how to build an effective social media presence, navigate algorithm with confidence, and create posts that highlight your unique services.

Discover how to craft ads that attract new patients, train your team to capture compelling patient testimonials, and maximize the impact of video content. Minal will also share time-saving tools, copywriting tips, and strategies to engage current patients, strengthen your brand, and grow your practice.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn what, when, and how to use social media for conversions.
- Gain actionable insights and implementation tools that you can use immediately to improve your social media pages.
- Discover the latest tactics and trends, including video and content redistribution.
- Learn how to create targeted social media ads.

*This course is eligible for practice management CE credit in Nebraska (up to four hours per renewal period).

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Sessions



Session 3

Seth Thomas, Benco Dental

Operatory Maintenance

9:00 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M.

1.5 CE credits

Through this course, attendees will learn the fundamentals of proper operatory and sterilization area maintenance, as well as basic repairs that can be performed without a service technician visit. The information presented is designed to help ensure practice equipment operates at peak performance and avoids premature failure. In many cases, the simple action items covered in this course can prevent future issues, reducing downtime and minimizing costly service calls.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the procedures and importance of delivery unit water care and maintenance.
- Perform basic air/water syringe repairs.
- Apply proper care techniques for patient chairs and upholstery.
- Identify early signs of autoclave failure.
- Implement effective autoclave care and maintenance practices.



Session 4

Ryan Rutar and Erin Haley-Hitz

Elevating Hygiene

9:30 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M.

2 CE credits

Building and maintaining a successful dental practice requires a cohesive and motivated team that not only understands their individual roles but also works synergistically to deliver exceptional patient care. This comprehensive course is designed to empower dental professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to foster team motivation, understand the scope of practice, and effectively manage a dental hygiene team. Participants will gain insights into the intricacies of teamwork, the evolving role of dental hygienists, and the strategies needed to lead and support a dynamic dental hygiene team.

Learning Objectives:

- Recognize collaborative interdisciplinary opportunities for optimal patient outcomes.
- Identify pathways for skill enhancement and career development.
- Apply techniques to maximize dental hygiene performance.

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NDA members receive a complimentary gift at check-in. Register early as supplies are limited.

Sessions



Session 5

Minal Sampat

Conquer Instagram: “Reeling” Into the Now

11:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.

1 CE credit*

Do you want to leverage Instagram for your practice? With over a billion active users, Instagram isn't just a platform for selfies and food pics – it is a powerful marketing tool for businesses, including dental practices. Instagram is an effective way to connect with current and potential patients, educate them about your services, and turn new leads into loyal followers.

This engaging and interactive workshop offers valuable insights, creative strategies, and plenty of laughs. Minal will teach you how to build content with posts, stories, and reels that showcase your practices personality and connect with your audience.

Discover how to educate, entertain, inspire, and run ads while keeping your content fresh and exciting. From crafting engaging captions to leveraging analytics, Minal will share practical tips to elevate your Instagram game. Bonus: Posts, Reels and Stories Ideas included!

Learning Objectives:

- Learn how to leverage Instagram for your practice.
- Understand how to craft engaging posts, stories, and reels that resonate with your audience.
- Gain insider tips and tricks for maximizing your reach and building your brand on Instagram.
- Develop the skills to drive patient growth and convert new leads into followers on the platform.

*This course is eligible for practice management CE credit in Nebraska (up to four hours per renewal period).

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Top 5 Reasons to Bring Your Dental Team to the 2026 Annual Meeting!

Innovate. Integrate. Inspire—Together.

1. Learn Together, Grow Together

From clinical updates to practice management tips, everyone from hygienists to front office will find sessions tailored to their role.

2. Strengthen Team Dynamics

Shared experiences spark better communication, collaboration, and trust. Plus, nothing bonds a team like attending a great dental meeting.

3. Integrate New Ideas Seamlessly

When your whole team hears the same message, implementation back at the office becomes smoother, faster, and more effective.

4. Inspire Each Other

Innovation Campus is built for breakthroughs, and your team will leave energized, motivated, and ready to elevate patient care.

5. Enjoy the Perks

Enjoy some giveaways and take a fun team photo that you can take back to the office or post on your social media.

Sessions



Session 6

Dr. Joshua Austin

What's New? Materials and Tech that Expedite Excellence

1:30 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

1.5 CE credits

In this fast-moving market, advertising makes every product appear to be the panacea. However, some of the best products and services don't enter the market with much fanfare. Dental professionals can become bogged down or confused when trying to decipher which new materials and technologies are right for their practices.

As editorial director with Dental Economics magazine, Dr. Joshua Austin authors the column, "Pearls for Your Practice", and has personally worked with most new products and technologies that have entered the market. In this interactive, fast-moving course, Dr. Austin shares the current trends in dental materials and technologies. Learn how materials have changed over the past few years and how those changes can affect your procedures and practice.

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Learning Objectives:

- Illuminate growing trends and discover the best new products and innovations on the market.
- Explore the impact new products/technologies have on the practice's bottom line.
- Gain a formula for assessing time savings vs. financial output in your purchasing decisions.
- Analyze how bulk fill posterior composites compare to their traditional counterparts.
- Discuss time saving placement techniques for bulk fill posterior composites.
- Review universal adhesives and their advantages.
- Explore the three etching techniques and learn when each are appropriate.
- Review current cements and identify which classes are superior.
- Discuss when luting is an appropriate choice instead of bonding.
- Explore many other products and items that can make your life easier and your dentistry faster.

Need a New Headshot? Have One Taken At The NDA Annual Session

Time slots are available from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Registration is required. Sign up using the online registration link on the NDA website @ nedental.org/annualsession or scan the QR code.



Rebecca Marie is a brand and headshot photographer known for making headshots feel easy, comfortable, and confidence-boosting—while helping professionals show up consistently across their brand. You can find more of her work at rebeccamariemphoto.net or on [Instagram](#).

Your session during the conference will include one backdrop and 2–3 guided posing options. Images will be delivered via email in an online gallery, where you'll be able to purchase images at your convenience. Images are \$50 per image.

Rebecca is also offering 20% off a future headshot or brand session for you and your team.

To contact Rebecca, email hello@rebeccamariemphoto.net.



Rebecca
Marie



Sessions



Session 7

Minal Sampat

30 Strategies in 90 Minutes: Patient Experience, Team Building & Marketing for Dental Practices

1:30 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

1.5 CE credits*

An engaging, interactive session for dentists, office managers, and teams. In 90 minutes, Minal will share 30 strategies that cover everything from elevating the patient journey from appointment to appreciation, diverse marketing ideas that will engage current and new patients, and initiatives that strengthen team culture. Also, learn about tools, resources, and how to leverage AI to prioritize, delegate, communicate, and lead effectively. Expect quick wins, live mini-workshopping scripts you can use the next day, and smart ideas that fit real schedules and budgets.

BONUS: You'll receive scripts on how to capture meaningful video testimonials and use them to promote new services, boost referrals, and celebrate wins.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn diverse dental marketing strategies, from traditional to digital, that will encourage practice growth.
- Obtain team-building ideas that boost communication and trust.
- Gain the skills to acquire powerful video testimonials that showcase your practice's success.
- Leverage resources, tools, and AI to prioritize, delegate, and communicate to lead effectively.

*This course is eligible for practice management CE credit in Nebraska (up to four hours per renewal period).

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Session 8

Ryan Rutar

Fluoride: Friend, Foe, or Just Misunderstood

2:00 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

1 CE credit

This engaging lecture will explore science, controversy, and public perception surrounding fluoride. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of how fluoride functions chemically to prevent dental caries and support remineralization. The session will dispel common myths and equip dental professionals with evidence-based responses to fluoride skepticism. Participants will compare various fluoride delivery methods—topical and systemic—and examine their effectiveness in different populations. In addition, alternative remineralization strategies will be discussed, giving clinicians a broader toolkit for personalized prevention. With all the online misinformation and growing distrust in public health, this topic is something we as oral health care professionals need to be prepared to handle.

Learning Objectives:

- Define the history and role of fluoride in caries prevention, chemistry, mechanism, and interaction with teeth.
- Compare various fluoride delivery methods and their effectiveness.
- Identify common myths and misconceptions about fluoride.
- Recognize other effective remineralization methods and how they can help.

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Sessions



Session 9

Trudy McFadden, Benco Dental

Stop the Spread: Infection Control and Bloodborne Pathogens Made Practical

2:00 P.M. TO 3:30 P.M.

1.5 CE credits

This seminar will introduce to you the infection control principles and best practices pertaining to sterilization, disinfection of patient care items as well as dental unit waterlines, in accordance with the CDC guidelines. You will learn strategies to assist you in maximizing safety and efficiency of instrument processing. In addition, you will learn how to optimize the quality of water that you deliver to your patients.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand OSHA requirements and their impact on dental practices and team safety.
- Identify methods to prevent or reduce exposure, including engineering controls, work practices, and PPE.
- Explain bloodborne pathogens and their impact on employee safety.
- Recognize appropriate response and follow-up procedures for exposure incidents.
- Interpret biohazard signs, labels, and color-coding systems.
- Review workplace violence policies and prevention strategies.
- Apply ergonomic principles, including proper seating, glove sizing, and posture to reduce injury risk.



Session 10

Dr. Joshua Austin

The Mental Dental Connection: The Secret to Being a Better Clinician and Leader

3:30 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

1 CE credit

Anxiety, pain, depression, burnout. Dentistry can be difficult and take a toll. Studies show us that dental professionals experience a high incidence of mental illness. Additionally, many dental professionals don't clearly understand the mental health conditions that our patients present with, which red flags to watch for, or what to do/how to intervene.

Presented in Dr. Austin's trademark comedic style, this course explores strategies for working together to improve mental health so we can be our best. Learn how to recognize triggers and warning signs. Identify essential tools and resources. Discover how and when to refer to a mental health professional. Explore and understand mental health terms, common treatments, and therapy options. Gain coping mechanisms and learn how to manage expectations – both our own and those of our patients.

Learning Objectives:

- Define mental health terms and analyze mental health statistics.
- Discover mechanisms for coping with our personal and professional challenges.
- Illuminate common DSM-5 diagnoses and characteristics.
- Learn how to choose professionals for our own personal wellness team.
- Identify and examine our psychological triggers and their importance.
- Explore the benefits of psychotherapy.
- Consider today to be Dental Mental Health Day!

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Speakers



Dr. Joshua Austin
DDS, MAGD, FACD

Dr. Joshua Austin's keynote performances, from Dentsply Sirona World to Seattle Study Club Symposiums, are met with rave reviews from audiences and conference organizers alike. Joshua incorporates his trademark comedic style in his lectures across the country on topics such as mental wellness, new products, material reviews, and online reputation management.

Dr. Austin has been honored with several awards during his dental career. In 2009, the Texas Dental Association named him Young Dentist of the Year. In 2010, the Texas Academy of General Dentistry named him New Dentist of the Year.

Dr. Austin has earned a Mastership in the Academy of General Dentistry. In 2014, Joshua was awarded with a Fellowship in the American College of Dentists for his outstanding commitment to ethics in patient care. Today, he maintains a full-time restorative dentistry private practice in San Antonio, Texas.

Sessions:

- Session 1** **The True Value of Digital Dentistry: A Four Step Revolution for Your Practice**
9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.
Break | 10:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.
10:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
- Session 6** **What's New? Materials and Tech that Expedite Excellence**
1:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.
- Session 10** **The Mental Dental Connection: The Secret to Being a Better Clinician and Leader**
3:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.



Minal Sampat
RDH, BA

Minal Sampat is a Best-Selling Author, Marketing Strategist, Social Media Coach, and Dental Hygienist. She was born in India, grew up in the U.S. Virgin Islands, went to college in New Jersey, lived in Washington State, and just this year, moved to Indianapolis with her husband and an extensive shoe collection! She launched her first company by breaking a Guinness World Record and since then has helped hundreds of dental practices and businesses with marketing strategies to grow production while reducing marketing expenses. Minal is also the founder of Marketologist™ - an online marketing training program and CE on the Beach™ - where she hosts Dental CE events on tropical islands! In June, it's in Maui, Hawaii! She is also the co-founder of the Pediatric Dental Marketing Course & Pediatric Dental Growth Summit! Minal's marketing strategies have been featured in industry press AND on Forbes.com - not once, not twice - but seven times in the last six years.

Sessions:

- Session 2** **Social Media for Dental Practices: From Engagement to Conversion**
9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.
- Session 5** **Conquer Instagram: "Reeling" Into the Now**
11:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
- Session 7** **30 Strategies in 90 Minutes: Patient Experience, Team Building & Marketing for Dental Practices**
1:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Speakers



Ryan Rutar
RDH, MAM

Ryan is the President and Co-Founder of Pearly White Prevention, LLC. He consults in dental offices to help empower the dentist/hygiene relationship and coaches hygienists that want to change the way they deliver care.

He has a dual role at Morning Glory Dental private practice. He works as a clinical hygienist and streamlines hygiene as the Dental Hygiene Manager. He was the honored recipient of the "Change Maker in Dentistry," by OnDiem, and he also developed the first "Rutar Toothbrush Meditation Technique" to combine health of mind and mouth. He has written numerous articles, and served on the Editorial Advisory Board for RDH Magazine. He is also passionate about diversity in our current settings and helped kick-start Delta Dental Chair-side Recruitment Project to increase diversity in dental hygiene.

Ryan empowers dental professionals to create change and how they can contribute to their practice. He is focused on mental health and the LGBTQ+ community. If you would like to learn more, he may be contacted through his website - www.pearlywhiteprevention.com

Sessions:

Session 4 Elevating Hygiene
9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

Session 8 Fluoride: Friend, Foe, or Just Misunderstood
2:00 PM. to 3:00 P.M.



Erin Haley-Hitz
RDH, BSDH, MS, FADHA, MAADH

Erin resides in Lincoln, Nebraska, and is a Past President of the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) and Chair of the ADHA Foundation. She proudly served as ADHA's 2024–2025 President, leading with vision, collaboration, and commitment to advancing the dental hygiene profession.

Erin earned her Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene from the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry in 1995, and subsequently received a Master of Science in Health Promotion and Human Resource Management from Nebraska Methodist College in 2002. Dedicated to lifelong learning, pursuing certifications in both myofunctional therapy and lifestyle medicine through the Wellcoaches School of Coaching.

Professionally, Erin currently practices at Morning Glory Dental, LLC, and co-leads Pearly White Prevention, LLC. Consulting and coaching dental hygiene teams nationwide, empowering departments to thrive through leadership development, operational excellence, and person-centered care. Erin serves as a Key Opinion Leader for Solventum, providing valuable insights and influence in shaping the future of dental care technologies and practices.

With 30 years of engagement in the ADHA, holding numerous leadership roles, including President of the Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association (NDHA). Honored with multiple accolades, including Dental Hygienist of the Year at both the component and state levels, a 2023 WaterPik Patient Impact and Rise Above Clinician Recognition (PIRA) award, and the 2025 UNMC College of Dentistry Alumni Association, Distinguished Service Award Recipient.

Session:

Session 4 Elevating Hygiene
9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

Speakers



Seth Thomas
Benco Dental

Seth Thomas is a Benco Dental Sales Representative with three years of experience in his current role and five years as a dental Field Service Technician. Originally from Pennsylvania, Seth relocated to Nebraska after enlisting in the U.S. Air Force following high school. During his service, he flew aboard reconnaissance aircraft and maintained, troubleshot, and repaired advanced intelligence-gathering equipment. Seth began his dental career in 2018 as a Field Service Technician with Benco Dental, where he installed, repaired, and maintained every type of equipment and technology found in modern dental practices across a region spanning from Northern Wyoming to Eastern Iowa. Through the strong relationships he has built with doctors, assistants, hygienists, and front desk staff, he developed a deep passion for the dental industry. Now, as a sales representative, Seth combines his technical expertise with a customer-focused approach to help practices find practical solutions, minimize downtime, and eliminate common frustrations. Outside of dentistry, Seth enjoys hunting, restoring vintage vehicles and tractors, and spending time with his wife and their many animals on their small acreage.

Session:

Session 3 **Operatory Maintenance**
9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.



Trudy McFadden
Benco Dental

Trudy McFadden brings more than 40 years of dental industry experience to her role as a Territory Representative with Benco Dental, where she has served since 2020. She began her career as a chairside dental assistant after completing the Dental Assisting program at Mid-Plains Vocational Technical College in North Platte, Nebraska, and has held roles including Clinical Staff Manager, Front Desk Coordinator, and Office Manager.

From 2006 to 2020, she worked with Patterson Dental as a Technology Advisor and Educator, specializing in software, CAD/CAM, and digital dentistry, and conducting seminars regarding several areas of the dental practice. She is OSHA and HIPAA certified and continues to provide in-office training for dental teams.

Trudy leverages her clinical, operational, and technology background to deliver practical, customized solutions in equipment, imaging, and digital workflows. She is known for her relationship-focused approach, open communication, and commitment to long-term partnerships. Outside of dentistry, she enjoys crafting, camping, boating, and spending time outdoors with her family.

Session:

Session 9 **Stop the Spread: Infection Control and Bloodborne Pathogens Made Practical**
2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.



Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center

The beautiful Nebraska Innovation Campus (NIC) is the site of our 2026 NDA Annual Session on May 7-8, 2026. Nebraska Innovation Campus is a public-private research campus located at 2021 Transformation Drive in Lincoln, Nebraska. The campus was built on the 249-acre site of the former Nebraska State Fairgrounds and was designed to connect the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) with industry partners to accelerate innovation, research, and economic development.

For parking information, please see the information on page 16 of this packet.



Hotel

The Scarlet Hotel, 2101 Transformation Drive, Lincoln, Nebraska is the host hotel for the 2026 NDA Annual Session on May 7-8, 2026. The Scarlet is a vibrant tribute to the spirit of the Midwest, blending local charm with modern sophistication.

- The NDA has secured a room block for May 6-8, 2026, at the rate of \$159 per night plus tax.
- For reservations, call the hotel at 531-300-6300, or use the link on the NDA website at nedental.org/annualsession.
- The NDA room block expires on 4-6-26. Plan ahead!

Exhibit Hall

Let's support those who support us and keep our meeting vibrant, informative, and thriving!

Take time out of your day to visit the Exhibit Hall on Friday, May 8, 2026, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Exhibit Hall is an essential part of our meeting, and our vendors and sponsors play a major role in making this event possible. They have shown up for us - now they are hoping to see *you* show up for them.

- **Take a walk through the Exhibit Hall and earn 1 hour of CE.**
- **Engage with the vendors.**
- **Learn about new products, technology, and services.**
- **Thank our sponsors for their commitment to the NDA and our profession.**

Your presence and participation demonstrates the strong partnership between our members and the companies who invest in our mission. Every conversation, every booth visit, and every moment of engagement makes a difference.

Continuing Education

The NDA is proud to offer high-quality continuing education throughout the meeting. We have searched for outstanding speakers who bring valuable knowledge and expertise to the entire dental team. We also extend our sincere appreciation to our generous sponsors, whose support helps make these educational opportunities possible.

After the meeting, attendees will receive an email directly from the American Dental Association (ADA) confirming the credits they have earned. Once they receive that notification, they can log in to their ADA online portal to view and print their official CE certificate at any time.

All earned credits remain stored in the attendee's ADA account, so certificates can be accessed, downloaded, or reprinted whenever needed in the future. No paper certificates will be distributed on-site.

The NDA is an approved PACE provider.

Registration Fees

- **NDA Dentists:** Attend at no additional charge with paid 2026 dues.
- **Dental Team Members:** \$100 day pass, which includes access to all courses offered throughout the day (registration required for each individual session).
- **Dental Students:** Attend at no charge.
- **ADA Member from Another State** - \$250 registration fee*

* Due to a reciprocal agreement with South Dakota and North Dakota, their members can attend our annual session for no additional fee.



Lunch Buffet

On Friday, as a token of our appreciation for your membership, NDA members are invited to enjoy a **complimentary Valentino's lunch buffet**. Buffet will consist of several kinds of pizza, salad, and breadstick.

PRE-REGISTRATION BY 4-20-26 IS REQUIRED.

- Lunch ticket will be included in your registration packet.
- Additional lunch tickets may be pre-purchased for \$20 each.
- Please present your lunch ticket to the staff on site.
- No additional lunch tickets will be available the day of the meeting.

Lunch seating will be in Breakout Rooms B1-B3 which are also being utilized for the CE sessions. No food is allowed in the auditorium. You are welcome to sit anywhere within the designated lunch areas.

If you prefer, you are welcome to take your food outside. Please remember that you will be responsible for disposing of your own trash to help us keep the venue clean and comfortable for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we work within the limitations of our smaller venue.

“Innovation Is Sweet— Outside Food Isn’t”

As part of our venue regulations at Nebraska Innovation Campus, we kindly remind all participants that **outside food and beverages are not permitted within the event space**.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and compliant environment for all attendees.

Spark Station Photo Booth



We are thrilled to offer a state-of-the-art photo booth experience with Simple Booth. Be sure to stop by with your dental team to the “SPARK STATION (Photo booth), generously sponsored by Patterson Dental. You will receive your photo straight to your phone where you can then easily share with others. Make sure to tag the NDA using our hashtag, [#NDAsparkstation26](#).

**SPONSORED BY:
PATTERSON DENTAL**



Refresh & Recharge: Beverage Stations



Beverages will be available throughout the day, including freshly brewed coffee, iced tea, and assorted Pepsi products. Water dispensers will be replenished regularly to ensure continuous access.

Reminder – No outside food or drink is allowed inside of Innovation Campus. Thank you for your cooperation!

**SPONSORED BY:
ZEALOUS COMPLETE DENTAL BILLING**



Complimentary Massages

Via Medical Massage will be providing complimentary massages for attendees on Friday, May 8, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Stop by and get pampered during the meeting. Tips appreciated.



Parking at NIC

Visitor Parking at NIC Using the Passport Parking App | Parking Lot North of Transformation Drive

Visitors, including those attending events at the NIC Conference Center, are welcome to park in the lot north of Transformation Drive and use the Passport Parking app (Zone 9900) to pay for parking. Paid parking is enforced from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.



Please note: Pay stations at Nebraska Innovation Campus are for on-street metered parking payments only. Pay stations cannot be used to pay for parking payments for vehicles parking in the paved lot north of Transformation Drive. Parking in the paved lot north of Transformation Drive must be paid for using the Passport Parking app (Zone 9900).

Not familiar with the Passport Parking app? Using Passport Parking is easy!

1. Download the Passport Parking app from the Apple App Store or Google Play store.
2. Create an account with your mobile phone number or email address.
3. You can park anywhere you see Passport Parking app signs & decals.
4. Pay for your parking session from your phone using Zone 9900.
5. Extend your time remotely if you'd like to stay longer!

If you have questions about visitor parking at Nebraska Innovation Campus, please email parknic@goldenrodcompanies.com.

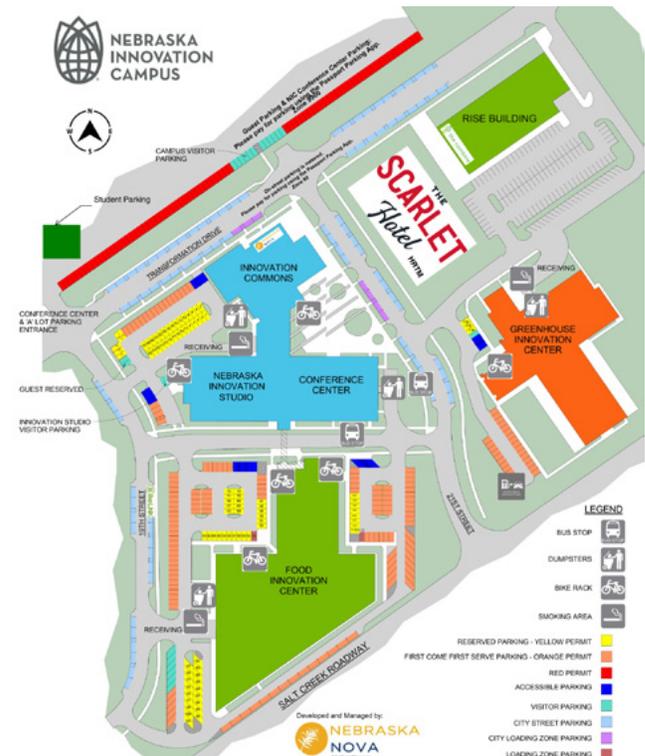
On-Street Parking at NIC

On-street parking at Nebraska Innovation Campus is metered and is enforced by the City of Lincoln Parking Services Division from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Please pay for metered on-street parking using your phone (**Zone 80**) or by using a physical pay station.

Pay by Phone:

- Use the **Passport** app. Simply create an account or log in, select **Zone 80**, enter your plate number, select your time, then click continue to start your session. A text message will be sent as a reminder before the session ends.
- Visit m.ppprk.com to register and pay.

NIC Parking Map



Campus Tours

Discover Nebraska Innovation Studio & The Scarlet Hotel Guided Tours Available!

Since we are gathering in such a dynamic and forward-thinking environment, we thought it would be a perfect opportunity to get you better acquainted with our host spaces and learn more about what they offer to our community. We have partnered with each venue to offer short, guided tours during the morning and afternoon breaks. Tours are limited to a maximum of 30 people per tour to ensure a comfortable and engaging experience.

The tours will include these two locations:

- Nebraska Innovation Studio** | Nebraska Innovation Studio (NIS) is a community-oriented makerspace that serves as a hub for innovators, artists, and entrepreneurs. Opened in October 2015, NIS is one of the nation's top makerspaces, a 16,000-square-foot facility with a full metal shop, wood shop, rapid prototyping room, art studio, ceramics and textiles equipment, and more. NIS is open to anyone, and membership is month-to-month. Most of our equipment requires training before use - but it's free and included with membership. After joining NIS, members can reserve equipment or sign up for training on their website.
- The Scarlet Hotel** | Experience the hospitality hub that blends local culture with modern design. The Scarlet Hotel is a six-story, 154-room boutique hotel located in the heart of Nebraska Innovation Campus. Opened in April 2022, this Marriott Tribute Portfolio property features a full-service restaurant, coffee shop, fitness facility, rooftop bar-along with high-end features to ensure an outstanding guest experience. It's also dog-friendly, and guests can enjoy complimentary shuttle service to and from the Lincoln Airport as well as destinations within a three-mile radius.

Tour Times:

EVENT B MORNING SESSION BREAK 11:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

- Meet on 1st floor at Nebraska Innovation Studio's back entrance (near the restrooms) as shown on the map below.

EVENT G AFTERNOON SESSION BREAK 3:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

- Meet on 1st floor at Nebraska Innovation Studio's back entrance (near the restrooms) as shown on the map below.

Reserve Your Spot! Please sign up in advance to secure your place on one of the tours. Walk-ins will not be accommodated if the tour is full. **Each tour is limited to 30 people.**

Tour Locations:



Social Events



Event A NDA Awards Reception

Thursday, May 7, 2026
Barred Owl at the Scarlet Hotel

Cocktail Hour
5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Awards Reception
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Awards Reception is a celebration recognizing individuals whose leadership, service, and professional excellence have significantly advanced organized dentistry. This gathering honors dentists at key career milestones, as well as those whose work has strengthened the dental profession, expanded access to care, and uplifted communities.

Awards will be presented for the following:

- Fifty Years of Dentistry
- ADA Life Status
- NDA Hall of Fame
- NDA Young Professional
- President's Award
- Humanitarians of the Year

The Awards Reception will include heavy hors d'oeuvres and two drink tickets per guest

*\$40 pp for spouses and guests

*Honorees may attend this event for no charge, but registration is required.

Events C – F Specialty Group Lunches

Friday, May 8, 2026
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

If you are attending a specialty lunch, please register for that specific lunch using the individual event codes provided in the registration materials. Each specialty lunch, except for the Past President's Lunch and the Northeast District will partake in the complimentary Valentino's buffet lunch for NDA members.

Breakout Rooms B1-B3 will be utilized for lunch. The NDA Past Presidents and the Southeast District will be meeting at the Scarlet Hotel, and the Northeast District will be meeting in the NIC Boardroom.

Events B and G Guided Tours of Nebraska Innovation Studio & The Scarlet Hotel

Since we are gathering in such a dynamic and forward-thinking environment, we thought it would be a perfect opportunity to get you better acquainted with our host spaces and learn more about what they offer to our community. We have partnered with each venue to offer short, guided tours during the morning and afternoon breaks. There are two tours:

- **Event B** – During the morning break
from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- **Event G** – During the afternoon break
from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Tours are limited to a maximum of 30 people per tour to ensure a comfortable and engaging experience. Tours will leave promptly at the start time. Please register for ONE of the tours above.

Please meet on the first floor at Nebraska Innovation Studio's back entrance (near the restrooms) as shown on the map in this registration packet.

YOU'RE INVITED! Social Hour at the Scarlet Hotel

Friday, May 8, 2026, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

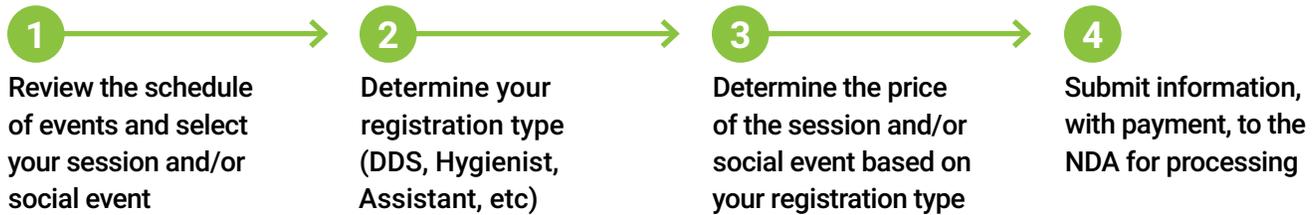
Please take a few minutes at the end of the day to unwind and connect with colleagues. Join us at **The Scarlet Hotel** for a relaxed social hour filled with good conversation before you head home. NDA members will receive one complimentary drink ticket. Cash bar following.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**CO-SPONSORED BY DDS MATCH GREAT PLAINS,
HENRY SCHEIN DENTAL AND vVARDIS**

Registration Information

Please note that because we are in a smaller venue this year, space may be limited. Registrations will be accepted on a **first-come, first-served basis**. To help us manage attendance and ensure everyone has a fair opportunity to participate, we strongly encourage you to register early. We also ask that you register only if you fully plan to attend. If your plans change after registering, let us know as soon as possible so we can offer your spot to someone else.



WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE THE ONLINE REGISTRATION

Types of Registrants

NDA Dentist – NDA active or retired member dentists, who have paid their 2026 membership dues, can attend the continuing education for no additional charge.

Dental Team – Hygienist, Dental Assistant, Office Staff, and Spouse - Day Pass - \$100 per person

Dental and Graduate Students – Students may attend the continuing education for no charge but registration is required.

ADA Dentist from Another State – \$250 registration fee.* ADA members from another state may attend continuing education courses with a \$250 registration fee.

* Due to a reciprocal agreement with South Dakota and North Dakota, their members can attend our annual session for no additional fee.

Name Badges

Each person registering will receive a name badge. The name badge will gain you admittance into the sessions. Name badges will be available to pick up on Friday morning beginning at 7:00 a.m. Members of the NDHA or NDAA may use their association name badge to gain admission into the exhibit hall.

Deadlines, Refunds, Cancellations

April 6, 2026 – NDA Hotel Room Block Ends

May 1, 2026. Online registration closes. If space is available, on-site registration will be offered.

Refunds & Cancellations:

All refund and cancellation requests **MUST** be made in writing prior to **April 15, 2026**. No refunds for any reason after this date.

4 WAYS TO REGISTER

ONLINE AT nedental.org/annualsession

MAIL | FAX | EMAIL | ONSITE

- ▶ **Online** – Skip the line and register online. Online registration is available through the NDA website at nedental.org/annualsession. Online registration will close on May 1, 2026. After this date you will need to register onsite.
- ▶ **Mail or fax** – Mail or fax your registration to the NDA Office, 7160 South 29th Street, Suite 1, Lincoln, NE 68516. Fax: 402-476-2641
- ▶ **Email** – Email registration form, with credit card information, to Jody at jody@nedental.org
- ▶ **Onsite** – Registration will close on **May 1, 2026**. After this date you will need to register onsite. If space is available, on-site registration will be offered. However, due to the limitations of our smaller venue, availability cannot be guaranteed. Please register in advance to help us manage capacity and ensure a smooth experience for all.



Scan this QR Code to take you to the NDA Annual Session page

Registration Form

ONE FORM PER ATTENDEE

Full name: _____

Email: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____

ADA and/or AGD #: _____

CHECK APPROPRIATE TITLE: NDA Member DDS Hygienist Assistant Staff
 Spouse Guest Dental/Graduate Student ADA Member from Another State*

Online
nedental.org/annualsession

Mail or Fax
 7160 S 29th St, Ste 1,
 Lincoln, NE 68516
 Fax: 402-476-2641

Email
jody@nedental.org

Onsite
 Registration closes
 5-1-26. After that
 time you must
 register onsite.

THURSDAY, MAY 7

Check Box to Register for Event

EVENT A: AWARDS RECEPTION
 HONOREES – NO CHARGE
 SPOUSES AND GUESTS – \$40 PP

FRIDAY, MAY 8

CE SESSIONS

Check Box to Register for Course(s)

- SESSION 1:** DR. JOSHUA AUSTIN
- SESSION 2:** MINAL SAMPAT
- SESSION 3:** SETH THOMAS, BENCO DENTAL
- SESSION 4:** RYAN RUTAR AND ERIN HALEY-HITZ
- SESSION 5:** MINAL SAMPAT
- SESSION 6:** DR. JOSHUA AUSTIN
- SESSION 7:** MINAL SAMPAT
- SESSION 8:** RYAN RUTAR
- SESSION 9:** TRUDY MCFADDEN, BENCO DENTAL
- SESSION 10:** DR. JOSHUA AUSTIN

LUNCH BUFFET

Pre-Registration Required

No lunches will be available the day of the meeting

Check Box to Register for Valentino's Lunch Buffet

NDA MEMBER VALENTINO'S BUFFET LUNCH
 NO CHARGE FOR NDA MEMBERS
DENTAL TEAM VALENTINO'S LUNCH BUFFET
 \$20 PP

SOCIAL EVENTS

Check Box to Register for Event(s)

- EVENT B:** TOUR OF NEBRASKA INNOVATION STUDIO AND SCARLET HOTEL
- EVENT C:** PAST PRESIDENT'S LUNCH
- EVENT D:** NSPD ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING & LUNCH
- EVENT E:** NORTHEAST DISTRICT BUSINESS MEETING AND LUNCH
- EVENT F:** SOUTHEAST DISTRICT BUSINESS MEETING AND LUNCH
- EVENT G:** TOUR OF NEBRASKA INNOVATION STUDIO AND SCARLET HOTEL

PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS

To register for a timeslot for a professional headshot photo, if registering online, select that agenda item and more information will be emailed to you, or use the sign up linked on the NDA website at nedental.org/annualsession.

REGISTRATION FEES

- NDA Dentists – No charge with paid 2026 dues.
- Dental Team Members - Day Pass - \$100
- Dental / Graduate Student - No charge
- ADA Member from Another State - \$250 registration fee*

* Due to a reciprocal agreement with South Dakota and North Dakota, their members can attend our annual session for no additional fee.

PAYMENT DETAILS

Total Paid \$: _____

Check

(Make checks payable to the Nebraska Dental Association)

Credit Card VISA MasterCard American Express Discover

Name on Card _____

Billing Address _____

Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ CVV# _____

Signature _____

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

(as of date of printing)



SAVE THE DATE
FOR NEXT YEAR

159TH

NDA ANNUAL SESSION

APRIL 8-9, 2027
EMBASSY SUITES,
LAVISTA, NE