

FREEDOM FROM RELIGION *foundation*

P.O. BOX 750 · MADISON, WI 53701 · (608) 256-8900 · WWW.FFRF.ORG

FFRF National Convention 2024 Guide

We look forward to seeing you soon at FFRF's 47th National Convention, Thursday, Sept. 26, through Sunday, Sept. 29, at the Sheraton Downtown Denver Hotel. These materials serve as your guide to the convention. For additional information, visit: ffrf.org/convention2024.

TRANSPORTATION

The convention site, the Sheraton Downtown Denver Hotel, and the overflow hotel, The Brown Palace Hotel & Spa, are a 45-minute drive from the Denver International Airport. The A Line Airport Rail (\$10 one way) to Union Station stop takes 37 minutes. Taxis/Uber/Lyft typically cost \$50 minimum. More transportation information can be found at ffrf.us/con2024transportation.

HOTEL SITES & PARKING

The Sheraton Downtown Denver — 1550 Court Pl., Denver, CO 80202, (303) 893-3333

Check-in is 4 p.m., checkout 11 a.m. Offers a rooftop swimming pool, a coffee bar open (10 a.m.–10 p.m.) plus a cocktail lounge, the 16th Street Commons Cafe (6 a.m.–10 a.m. M–F and 6 a.m.–11 a.m. Sat–Sun) and dining at the Yard House (11 a.m.–midnight.) Wi-Fi in rooms is free. Valet parking is \$59 per day; self parking is \$49 per day.

The Brown Palace Hotel & Spa — 321 17th St. Denver, CO 80202, (888) 236-2427

Check-in is 4 p.m., checkout 11 a.m. Offers Ellyngton's (breakfast, 6:30 a.m.–1 p.m., everyday) Coffee Shop (6 a.m.–1 p.m., everyday) Ship Tavern (11 a.m.–10 p.m., everyday). Wi-Fi in rooms is free. Valet parking is \$59 per day.

CONVENTION CHECK-IN AND REGISTRATION

Preregistered check-in will begin at the evening reception on Thursday, Sept. 26, from 4–6 p.m. and will be available throughout Friday and Saturday. At check-in you will receive:

- Required name badge (including any Lifetime Membership, State Rep, etc., ribbons)
- Meal Tickets (any meal tickets ordered are tucked inside your badge)
- Convention brochure

Please Note: A security guard will check to ensure everyone is wearing a name badge in order to be admitted to all FFRF events, so keep your name badges on!

MAY I BRING A LAST-MINUTE GUEST?

Due to a predicted high attendance level, we recommend that any guests you may want to bring preregister by the Friday, Sept. 13, cutoff, to ensure their spot. Please visit ffrf.org/convention2024 to confirm whether onsite tickets are still available. Meal tickets will not be available for purchase at the door.

IF YOU PRE-ORDERED A CONVENTION T-SHIRT ONLINE

Pre-ordered convention t-shirts will be available for pick up at the Thursday night reception, and at the preregistered check-in desk all day Friday and Saturday. A limited quantity of the convention T-shirts will be for sale during the convention inside the ballroom.

Over, please

SCHEDULE INFORMATION

Please see the full schedule enclosed for the complete program, subject to minor changes.

MEALS

Tickets will be collected for the Friday dinner, and Saturday nonprayer breakfast and dinner. We offer a cash bar at each evening meal.

SALES AND ‘CLEAN MONEY’ DRAWING

- **Book and sales tables** will open Friday morning at 8 a.m. and close Saturday, 5 p.m.
- **The Clean Money** drawing is an opportunity to win “clean money” (sans the “In God We Trust” motto). The top prize is \$100 — lesser prizes include \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$50. Tickets are only \$3 each, or three for \$5. All proceeds benefit FFRF.
- **Look for the raffle** for a beautiful new handmade quilt!

SUNDAY MEMBERSHIP/STATE REPS MEETINGS

FFRF members are invited to the **Membership Meeting** at 9 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 29, followed by the annual **State Representatives Meeting** ending by noon in the Windows meeting room. Hear reports, chapter leaders, future conventions.

GENERAL CONVENTION INFORMATION

LOOK FOR THE FFRF BILLBOARD, A BLOCK AWAY FROM THE CONVENTION SITE!

FFRF and the Denver Metro Chapter have placed a billboard: “Keep freedom alive — Stop Project 2025” at 601 W Colfax.

ADA/LISTENING DEVICES & CAPTIONING

We will be providing captioning under video monitors for most of the conference. Listening devices for those with hearing impairments may be borrowed from the preregistered check-in desk, free of charge. Sit near the front of the room for the best sound. If you have not previously contacted FFRF regarding any special accommodations you need to fully participate in the convention, please immediately email: conventionliaison@ffrf.org

RECORDING POLICY

Individuals may not audio record or videotape any speeches, but taking photos is fine unless otherwise specified. FFRF audio- and videotapes speeches, if permitted by speakers, to post on the FFRF website. Transcripts of convention speeches, as always, will be published in future issues of Freethought Today.

COVID POLICY

We encourage attendees to be up to date on their Covid vaccines & boosters.

DRESS

Come as you are or dress up! Dressing in layers is recommended, since convention ballrooms can be cold before they fill up. Some dress up for the Saturday night dinner.

FFRF WELCOMES YOU!

We want you and all participants to feel comfortable, welcome and safe. Notify an FFRF staffer to contact the directors immediately if you have a problem or concern, and we’ll do our best to help. See you soon!

Also enclosed: Sheraton Downtown Denver hotel floor plan, restaurant guide, current schedule.

Live tweet or post using #ffrfcon2024. Follow us @FFRF or at FFRF_official on Instagram.

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Schedule is subject to change.
Final schedule will be in convention brochure.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

4:00–6:00 PM Early Registration and Welcome Reception / Cash Bar
Complimentary reception with mini-sliders / desserts » *South Convention Lobby, Sheraton Denver Downtown*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

» *All events take place on Level 2 and in Grand Ballroom, unless otherwise noted*

8:00 AM Check In / Registration Reopens
Complimentary coffee and tea
» *South Convention Lobby*

Ballroom and Sales Tables Open

8:55 Song, “Die Gedanken Sind Frei,” Dan Barker

Welcome

Director of Operations Lisa Strand and Outreach Event Manager Sadie Pattinson

Metro Denver Chapter President Claudette St. Pierre

2024 FFRF Highlights and Achievements

FFRF Co-Presidents Dan Barker and Annie Laurie Gaylor

9:30 “Goodbye Religion: The Causes and Consequences of Secularization”

Ryan Cragun, sociologist

10:15–10:45 Break

Coffee & tea » *South Convention Lobby*

Book Signing for Ryan Cragun » *Ballroom*

10:45 “‘Tampon Tim’ and the Long Reach of Religion”

Kate Cohen, Washington Post contributing columnist and author

11:15 Clarence Darrow Award

“The Rise of Christian Nationalism”

Michelle Goldberg, New York Times columnist

Noon Book Signing for Kate Cohen » *Ballroom*

Noon–2:00 PM Lunch Break (on your own)

1:30 Ballroom, Sales Tables Reopen

2:00 Legal Report

FFRF Legal Director Patrick Elliott, Deputy Legal Director Liz Cavell, Senior Litigation Counsel Sam Grover, Intake Attorney Maddy Ziegler

3:00 FFRF Action Fund Legislative Report

Governmental Affairs Director Mark Dann, Senior Policy Counsel Ryan Jayne and State Policy Manager Ryan Dudley

3:30–4:00 Break

Coffee & tea » *South Convention Lobby*

4:00 Secular Legislative Panel

Colorado State Representatives Judy Amabile and Brianna Titone, Oklahoma State Representative Mickey Dollens

5:00 Friday Night Dinner / Cash Bar (plated, ticketed)

» *North Convention Lobby and Windows*

6:30 Ballroom, Sales Tables Reopen

7:00 Emperor Has No Clothes Award

Charles Blow, New York Times columnist

8:00 “The Present Moment”

Ron Reagan, political commentator and broadcaster

9:00 Book Signing for Charles Blow » *Ballroom*

Complimentary Dessert and Beverage Reception

» *South Convention Lobby*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

8:00 AM Non-Prayer Breakfast (ticketed)

» *South Convention Lobby*

9:00 Ballroom, Sales Tables Reopen

9:30 Student Essay Winners

Rita Nyamkiah, Ivy Nichols, Finn Mosher

10:00 “Preparing for War: The Extremist History of White Christian Nationalism — And What Comes Next”

Dr. Bradley Onishi, scholar and co-host of White American Jesus Podcast

10:30 “The Privateers: How Billionaires Created a Culture War and Sold School Vouchers”

Josh Cowen, professor, Michigan State University

11:15 Freethought Heroine Award

Katherine Stewart, author

Noon Book signings for Onishi, Cowen and Stewart

Noon–2:00 PM Lunch Break (on your own)

Chapter Leader Luncheon » *Windows*

1:30 Ballroom, Sales Tables Reopen

2:00 “Contraduction”

FFRF Co-President Dan Barker, author

2:30 Henry Zumach Freedom From Religious

Fundamentalist \$50,000 Award

Human Rights Campaign, accepted by Brandon Wolf

3:00–3:15 Break

Coffee & Tea » *South Convention Lobby*

3:15 Emperor Has No Clothes Award

Bonnie Garmus

Book Signings for Dan Barker and Bonnie Garmus

6:00 Saturday Night Dinner / Cash Bar (plated, ticketed)

» *North Convention Lobby and Windows*

8:00 Drawing for “Clean Money”

Emceed by Buzz Kemper

» *Ballroom*

8:30 “Blacks and Latinos: Unshackling

Ourselves from Holy Handcuffs”

Jon Huertas, Actor

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

8:30 AM Coffee, tea, light pastries

For current members attending business meetings only
» *Windows*

9:00 Annual Membership Meeting

11:00 State Representatives Meeting

Adjourn by noon



SHERATON

Denver Downtown Hotel

Restaurant Suggestions in Downtown Denver (Locally owned and operated)

Contact the Front Desk for Information & Reservations at Extension 0

16th St Commons, Plaza Lobby, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner, Open Daily 6:00 am to 10:00 pm

5280 Burger Bar, 16th & Glenarm Pl, Burgers, Beer, Ice Cream, \$, from 11:30 am to 9:00 pm

Bistro Vendome, 2267 Kearney St, French, \$\$\$ from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Blue Agave, 1201 16th St, Modern Southwestern, \$\$ from 11:00 am to 9:00 am

Buckhorn Exchange, 10th & Osage St, Steak & Game, \$\$\$\$ (T/U) from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Cholon, 16th & Blake St, Asian Fusion, \$\$ from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Elway's Steak House, 1881 Curtis St, Steak, \$\$\$\$ from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm

Foraged, 1825 Blake St, New American, \$\$\$ from 6:30 am to 10:00 pm

Guard & Grace, 18th & California St, Steak, \$\$\$\$ from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Hapa Sushi Grill, 15th & Blake St, Asian American, \$\$ from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm

JAX Fish House & Oyster Bar, 17th & Wazee St, Seafood, \$\$ from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm

La Loma, Broadway & Tremont Pl, Mexican, \$\$ from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm

Linger, 2030 W. 30th Ave, New American, \$\$ (T/U) from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Osteria Marco, 1453 Larimer, Casual Italian, \$\$ from 11:30 am to 9:00 pm

Panzano, 17th & Champa St, Northern Italian, \$\$\$ from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Rioja, 1431 Larimer St, Mediterranean, \$\$\$ from 11:00 am to 10:00 pm

Root Down, 1600 W. 33rd Ave, Global Seasonal, \$\$ (T/U), from 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Steuben's, 532 E. 17th Ave, American Classics, \$, from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm

Stoic & Genuine, 17th & Wynkoop St, Seafood, \$\$ from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm

Tag, 1441 Larimer St, Continental Social Food, \$\$ from 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Venice Ristorante & Wine Bar, 17th & Wynkoop St, Traditional Italian, \$\$ from 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm

West of Surrender AKA West Saloon & Kitchen, 501 16th St, American Western, \$\$ from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm

Zocalito, 18th & Champa St, Latin Bistro, \$\$ from 5:00 pm to 9:30 pm

\$ - \$10-\$20 per entrée

\$\$ - \$20-\$30 per entrée

\$\$\$ - \$30-\$40 per entrée

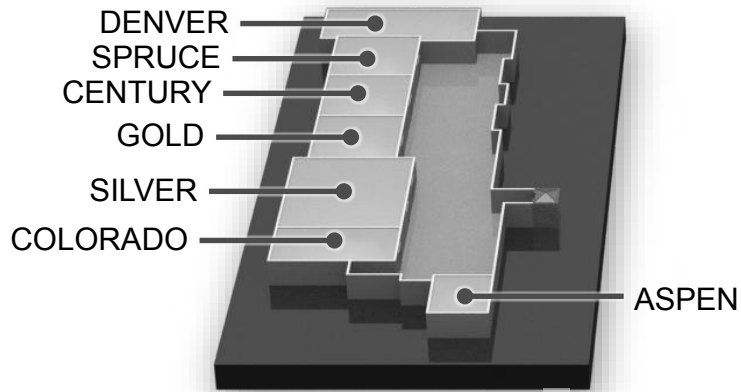
\$\$\$\$ - \$40 and up per entrée

(T/U) – Tax/Uber/Lyft to get there, all others are near the 16th Street Pedestrian Mall

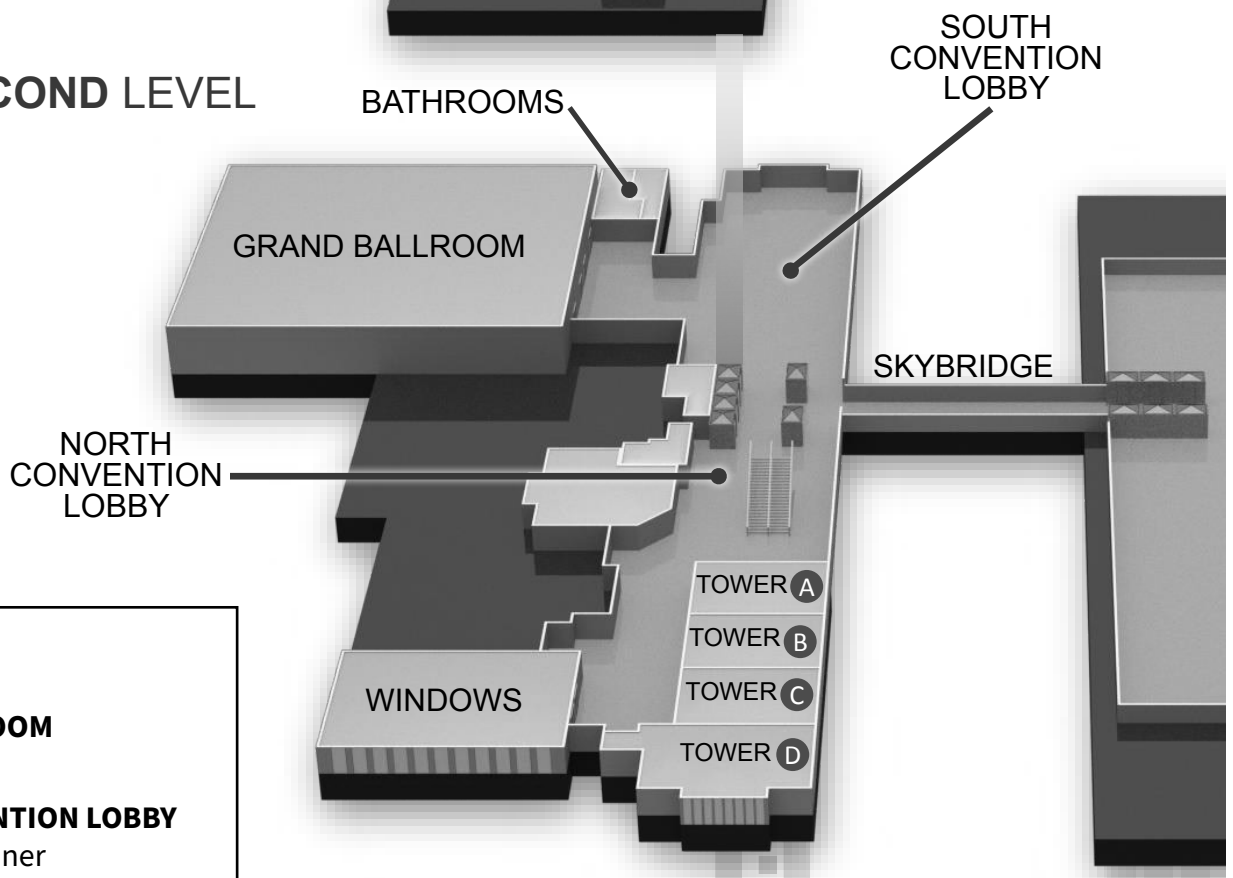
SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN HOTEL

TOWER | MEZZANINE & SECOND LEVELS

MEZZANINE LEVEL



SECOND LEVEL



ASPEN

Board Meeting

GRAND BALLROOM

Program

NORTH CONVENTION LOBBY

Friday Night Dinner
 Saturday Night Dinner

SOUTH CONVENTION LOBBY

Registration & Help Desk
 Thursday Night Reception
 Saturday Nonprayer Breakfast

WINDOWS

Chapter Lunch
 Friday Night Dinner
 Saturday Night Dinner
 Membership Meeting
 State Reps. Meeting

NOTE

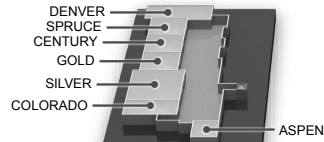
Friday and Saturday night dinners are located in both the North Convention Lobby and in the "Windows" room.

SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN HOTEL

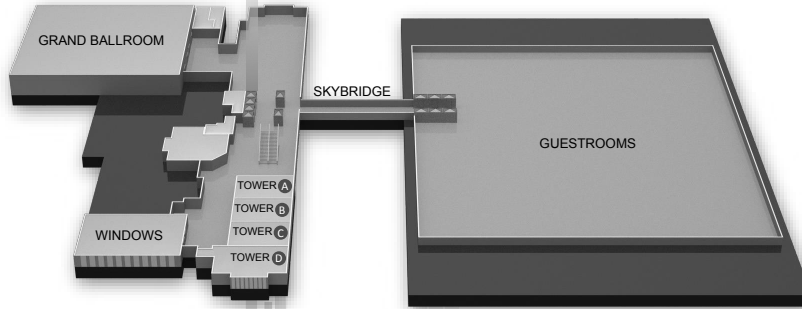
TOWER

See flip side for convention event locations

MEZZANINE LEVEL

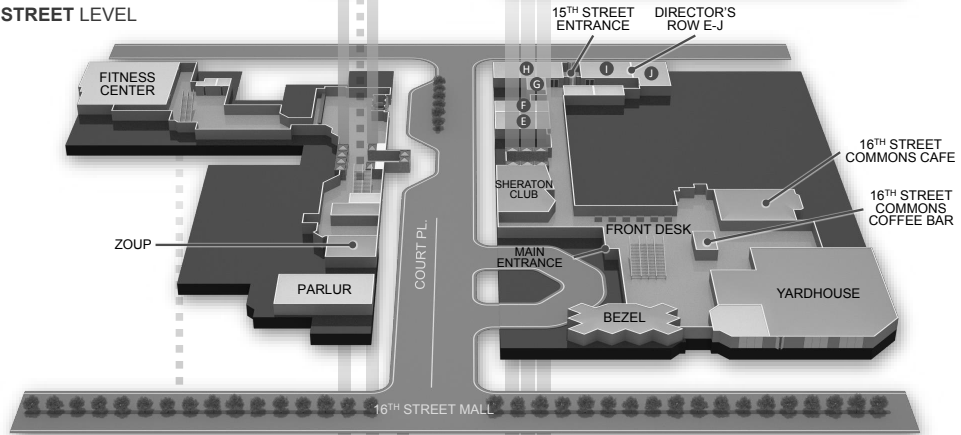


SECOND LEVEL

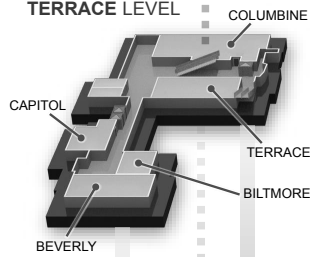


PLAZA

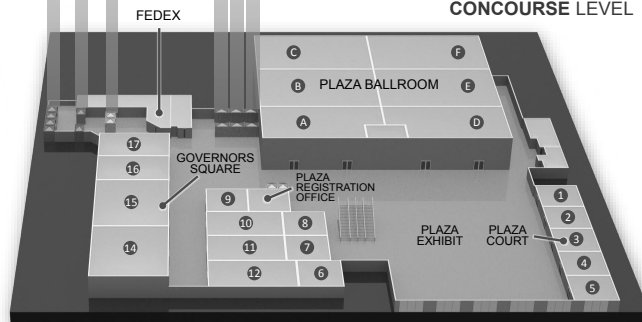
STREET LEVEL



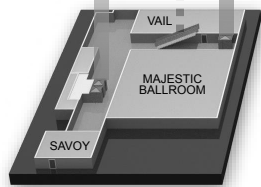
TERRACE LEVEL



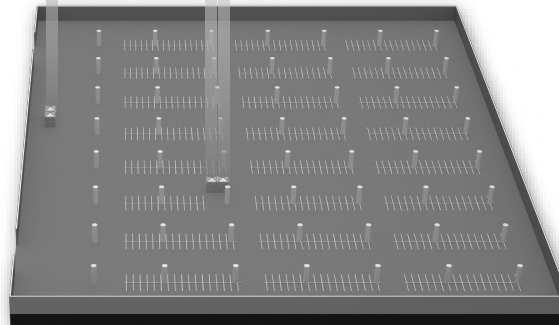
CONCOURSE LEVEL



MAJESTIC LEVEL



GARAGE LEVEL



TOWER

PLAZA