

Let's Sing & Dance! at the SUA National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio!
Thursday, June 13, 2019—Sunday, June 16, 2019
Marriott Cleveland East, Warrensville Heights, Ohio

Please join the Slovenian Union of America for our 2019 National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio at the Marriott Cleveland East from Thursday, June 13, 2019 until Sunday, June 16, 2019. Convention festivities will begin on Thursday evening with a welcome reception, and the four-day event will offer attendees the chance to participate in cultural learning sessions, a bus tour of vibrant Cleveland, delicious meals, SUA business meetings and plenty of time to dance while enjoying Slovenian music. *Let's Sing & Dance* together this summer in Cleveland!

Schedule of Events

Thursday, June 13

4:00-5:30 pm—DNA presentation and testing. DNA testing has become all the rage for understanding more about one's heritage and familial patterns. Join us for a presentation by Peter Hawlins and Vlasta Knapic from the Slovenian Genealogical Society in Slovenia on the use of DNA testing to uncover more about your family tree.

7:00-10:00 pm—Welcome Reception. The welcome reception on Thursday evening will kick off the whole weekend of events. Join us for hors d'oeuvres and cash bar as we reunite and reconnect. Attendees will have the chance to win door prizes, shop from an assortment of on-site vendors, and sing and dance along to our strolling musicians, Anthony Culkar and Hank Guzel. An art display by Joseph Vodlan will be featured.

Friday, June 14

8:30-11:30 am—SUA business session.

12:00-6:00 pm—Faith, Song, and Dance Bus Tour. Attendees who elect to include the bus tour will receive a boxed lunch and will travel on a chartered coach to the Museum of Divine Statues, where we will get an exclusive arranged tour, we'll then continue on and pass iconic landmarks in Cleveland before touring the Polka Hall of Fame in Euclid, Ohio.

7:00-10:00 pm—90th Anniversary Celebration of Zarja-The Dawn. Fred Ziwich and his International Sound Machine will join us for a night to remember—the celebration of the 90th birthday of Zarja, the official publication of SUA. Come gather to sing and dance along to the band and enjoy an endless variety of sweets and treats on the dessert bar. Show your competitive side in our trivia game, or try your luck at winning a door prize or raffle prize—you can't win unless you attend!

Saturday, June 15

8:30 am-12:00 pm—SUA business session.

12:30-1:30 pm—Luncheon. Join us at Saturday's delicious luncheon for a family-style meal of Slovenian favorites, including Slovenian sausage from a local butcher shop, sauerkraut, fried potatoes, and oil and vinegar salad. *Dober tek!* We will also be entertained by the fabulous Folklorna skupina Kres Cleveland-based Slovenian youth organization dedicated to preserving and celebrating the traditions of our beloved Slovenia through the arts of song and dance.

1:45-3:45 pm—Educational Sessions. Following our theme of *Let's Sing & Dance!* Attendees will have the unique opportunity to learn from two experts on the topic of Slovenian music—Charles "Chuck" Debevec and Joe Valencic. Chuck will speak on music history pre 1940 and Joe from 1940 to present. Their vast knowledge will captivate you.

5:00-11:00 pm—SUA National Convention Banquet. We'll gather before dinner for cocktails at the cash bar. Joe Valencic will serve as Master of Ceremonies. After dinner, awards, and acknowledgements we will dance to Cleveland-style polka and other party hits from the Frank Moravcik Band. Save your appetite for the bountiful buffet that will include different meat selections, a baked potato bar, and salad.

Sunday, June 16

8:00-10:00am—*Brunch Buffet*. We can't send you home or off to church with an empty stomach! The brunch buffet will include fruit juices, seasonal fruit and berries, fruit yogurts, cereal with milk, scrambled eggs, French toast, bacon and link sausage, breakfast potatoes and pastries.

10:30 am—*Slovenian Mass at St. Vitus Church*. Join us for a Slovenian Mass at St. Vitus Church (*optional; on your own*), an integral part of the Slovenian community in Cleveland since it was founded in 1893 by the first documented Slovenian immigrants to the city. Following the mass you may participate in a short guided tour of the church as well as a visit to Joseph House, a partnership between four Catholic churches in the Diocese of Cleveland that provides affordable housing and other support to refugees resettling in Cleveland.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! You may find the registration form on line by going to www.slovenianunion.org. Conference registration deadline is Thursday, June 6, 2019.

Convention attendees can book deluxe standard hotel rooms at the discounted convention rate of \$129.00 + taxes. This is a rate available to conference attendees only! To make your reservation, call 800.533.0162 and reference Slovenian Union of America National Convention.

Hotel reservation deadline is Tuesday, May 28, 2019. Also, please note that dates extended beyond the duration of the convention may not be eligible for the convention rate.

All air and ground transportation is the responsibility of the convention attendee.
If you have any questions about the 2019 SUA National Convention, please contact:
Debbie Duris, Registration Chair
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