



MNSWAP 2026 Fall Conference

Schedule of Events

Wednesday October 7

2:30-3:30 p.m. Registration Open – Conference Center

Pre-sessions

3:30-4:30 p.m. Leading the Way: Best Practices for Today's Activity Directors Panel Discussion

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Vendor Spotlight Facilitated by Stacie Oakland

5:30-6:00 p.m. Registration Reopens – Conference Center

5:30-7:15 p.m. Exhibit Hall Vendor Grand Opening, Buffet Dinner, Lucky Buck Auction and Special Events
Celebration Room

Thursday October 8

7:30-8:45 a.m. Breakfast – *Atrium*

7:30-8:50 a.m. Registration Open- Conference Center

Opening Keynote

8:50-10:20 a.m. Spark your ARCC: Light up for those you Serve by Sarah Ciavarri
Rox-Johnnies Meeting Rooms

10:20-10:40 Beverage Break – Vendor Exhibit Open
Celebration Room

Morning Sessions

10:40–12:10 p.m. *Living Well: Mental Health Through Therapeutic Activities*
Speaker Nancy Richards
Rox Meeting Room

10:40–12:10 p.m. *Regulation Translation*
Speaker Tia Hovatter
Bennies Meeting Room

10:40–12:10 p.m. *From Loneliness to Belonging: The Java Project*
Speaker Dr. Kristine Theurer
Johnnies Meeting Room

12:10-1:10 p.m. Lunch and Annual Meeting
Atrium

Afternoon Session #1

- 1:15-2:45 p.m. *Resident Council Madness*
Speaker Tia Hovatter
Rox Meeting Room
- 1:15-2:45 p.m. *Imagine! Cultivating Life Enrichment Through a Lens of Creativity*
Speaker Nancy Richards
Bennies Meeting Room
- 1:15-2:45 p.m. *Doubling Activities and Personalization with YouTube*
Speaker Jenny Barlow
Johnnies Meeting Room
- 2:45 – 3:00 p.m. Beverage Break – Last chance to visit Vendors
Celebration Room

Afternoon Session #2

- 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. *Dementia Programming: Back to the Future*
Speaker Tia Hovatter
Rox-Bennies Meeting Room
- 3:00-4:30 p.m. *Play Matters*
Speaker Nancy Richards
Johnnies Meeting Room

Thursday Evening

- 6:30-7:45 p.m. Banquet, Awards Program
- 7:45-8:30 p.m. “MNSWAP Game Night”

Friday October 9

- 7:15-8:25 a.m. Breakfast – Atrium
- 7:30-8:30 a.m. Registration Open- Conference Center
- 7:30-8:30 a.m. Voting- Registration Area

Morning Sessions

- 8:30-10:00 a.m. *The Happy Concept*
Speaker Tia Hovatter
Rox Meeting Room
- 8:30-10:00 a.m. *Doubling Activities and Personalization with YouTube (Repeat)*
Speaker Jenny Barlow
Johnnies Meeting Room
- 8:30-10:00 a.m. *Finding Wonder at the Intersection of Nature and Poetry*
Speaker Nancy Richards
Bennies Meeting Room
- 10:00-10:30 a.m. Beverage Break – Celebration Room

Large Group Closing Session

- 10:30–12:30 p.m. Celebrating Creativity with Excellence Small Group Round Robin
Rox-Johnnies Meeting Rooms
- 12:30 p.m. Closing Announcements / Election Results
Rox-Johnnies Meeting Rooms