

# BACK <sup>2022</sup> TO THE FUTURE

KRPA CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW

# SCHEDULE



JAN 19-21, 2022

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# BREAKING



# BARRIERS

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# WEDNESDAY

7:30  
8:30  
9:00  
1:00  
3:15  
3:15  
3:15

7:30 am - 5:00 pm  
Registration Open

8:30 am - 4:00 pm  
Coffee, Tea, Water Available

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Room: Konza Prairie - A**

**Emotional Intelligence: Becoming more Resilient even through Adversity.**

Speaker(s): Terri Callahan, Consultant

*This highly interactive session will explore the transformative power of understanding emotional intelligence and the impact emotional intelligence has on our daily lives. Emotional Intelligence is a better predictor of a success than IQ. Understanding our own areas of strengths and challenges and developing strategies to change and grow is vital to our personal and professional development. We will discuss 15 areas of emotional intelligence with a focus on the importance of wellbeing, hope, optimism, and empathy. These areas are key to building our own resiliency through difficult times. This session will be highly interactive with time for personal reflection and group discussion. Participants will come away with an enriched knowledge of Emotional Intelligence and strategies for personal growth.*

9:00 am -12:00 pm

**Room: McDowell/Tuttle**

**Student Summit**

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

**Room: Kaw Nation/Big Basin**

**Passion! 8 Steps to Reignite Yours**

Speaker(s): Mark Lindquist

*As working professionals, we could all use a little jolt from time to time. This session may be the only time all year when you take a moment to reflect on the things you need to do to reignite the passion that brought you into the workforce in the first place. World-touring entertainer and actor Mark J. Lindquist offers a keynote that is as entertaining as it is enlightening as he sends you out the door on fire. Gain an awareness of the mental roadblocks that stand in the way of progress; this progress can be in our personal lives, the workplace, or in the pursuit of our passions.*

3:15 pm - 5:15 pm

**Room: Kings A**

**Traffic Stops and Vehicle Searches**

Speaker(s): Under sheriff Eric Coffman, Geary County Sheriff Department

*With traffic stops being one of the most common interaction between police and public officers can easily become complacent. This class will cover some of the safety aspects of making traffic stops and also conducting roadside vehicle searches.*

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

**Room: Ft Riley**

**Community Partnerships**

Speaker(s): Gregg Eyeston, K-State Extension

*Most likely, co-sponsored programming isn't your primary job. Somehow, the responsibility just landed in your lap. And now, it's up to you to bring it all together like clockwork to create the memorable occasion everyone is anticipating. Build up your professional network by getting tips and techniques from several Manhattan business on how they partner with agencies in the community. Steal ideas and suggestions on how to incorporate these events into your community.*

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

**Room: Konza Prairie - A**

**Employee Handbooks for Empowering Part-Timers**

Speaker(s): Jennifer Kraus, Emporia Recreation Commission; Amanda Gutierrez, Emporia Recreation Commission

*Do you realize your youngest, least-experienced employees are the face of your organization? The part-time staff you hire are the first employee patrons meet at the pool, ball field or summer camp. Do these employees know the mission or values of your organization? Can they answer questions about your weather policy or know who to call? An employee handbook (different than your organization's policy manual) is the answer to helping part-time employees feel empowered in their job to represent your organization. Learn how to write one as a "living document" that includes continuous training on the key categories included.*



3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Room: **Konza Prairie - B**

**Reaping Benefits in Conservation, Maintenance, and Outreach with Goats**

Speaker(s): Margaret Chamas, Goats On The Go(R) KCMO  
Goats are increasingly being employed for vegetation management across the county, as they provide chemical-free, mechanical-free, low-impact control of many nuisance vegetation species. They can access areas that are impossible, unsafe, or simply inconvenient for mowers or weed eaters, and in many cases represent a cost-savings over standard maintenance. Goats are also engaging and entertaining, and represent an outreach and public relations boon. On the other hand, livestock in public spaces requires planning for safety and security of the site, navigating local zoning restrictions, and ensuring that the experience is a positive one. Margaret has been in targeted grazing for four years and has grazed parks, conservation areas, and botanical gardens, as well as private residences and acreages. This session will walk through some things to consider when contemplating goats, including site selection and security, finding a good grazer, what to expect from the goats, and a few case studies.

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Room: **Konza Prairie - C**

**Re-imagining an Icon: Transforming the Big Pool into a New Destination**

Speaker(s): Doug Whiteaker, Water Technology, Inc.; Hank Moyers, Confluence; Aaron Stewart; Garden City Parks and Recreation

Join us in this session to hear about the transformation of the famous Big Pool – from both the City of Garden City and the entire design team. Learn about the importance of a pre-design phase for public engagement and proper planning, design and budgeting. Hear from the City of Garden City on the inaugural year of operation in 2021 and how they are planning for their 2022 season and beyond. The team will highlight the importance of the journey for Garden City and how that led to a world-class waterpark in Western Kansas.

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Room: **Kings - C**

**Disc Golf**

Speaker(s): Jamie Rusco, Dynamic Discs; Eric McCabe, Dynamic Discs

We will cover all aspects of disc golf in your community. Needed products and costs, Importance of design, Economic Impact for events, Raising Funds, School Curriculum and more.

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Room: **Flint Hills**

**Powered Productivity: Super Tech Tools to Get Stuff Done**

Speaker(s): Beth Ziesenis, Your Nerdy Best Friend  
Exasperated by email? Peeved about passwords? Tired of tedious tasks? You're not alone. Join Your Nerdy Best Friend, aka Author Beth Ziesenis, for a research-based look of common productivity problems, followed by the technology to solve them. Discover how to use free and bargain technology tools you never knew existed to work more efficiently with your teams, get organized and finally get stuff done.

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Room: **Kings B**

**How To Use a Podcast To Connect With Your Community**

Speaker(s): Rachel Berbiglia, Uncovering Kansas Podcast  
A podcast can be a valuable tool to create deeper connections with your community. Over 32% of Americans download podcasts each month, so if you haven't considered this option for promoting your events and programs, this is the session for you! We'll break down the elements of a podcast, and go behind the scenes of the creation of an episode. You'll leave this session with a better understanding of what it takes to produce a podcast that can connect with your community.

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Room: **Big Blue River**

**Transformational Impact: Designing Public Spaces to Promote Intergenerational Play & Recreation**

Speaker(s): Jennie Sumrell, Playcore  
By thoughtfully creating and programming outdoor environments with health and wellness in mind, parks can positively impact healthier lifestyles and promote physical activity across generations. Multigenerational spaces, recreation, and relationships sites in every community should be an everyday option to create greater understanding between generations as the population grows more diversified in age, race and ethnicity. Fortunately, interest in using intergenerational strategies to create relevant community spaces, programs, and policy is growing. Our parks and public spaces have great potential to change our communities for the better. This session will explore intergenerational design strategies aimed at bringing people together through purposeful, mutually beneficial activities that promote greater understanding and respect between generations.

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Room: **Konza Prairie - C**

**Call of the Wild**

Speaker(s): Recreation Branch

We don't steal ideas, we borrow other people's great ones! Come see if any of these strike your fancy during our Call of the Wild. We'll discuss special events, preschool, youth, adult, senior and adaptive programming.

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Room: **Konza Prairie - B**

**Transforming a Golf Course for a few to a Park for Many**

Speaker(s): PJ Novick, Confluence; Hank Moyers, Confluence

Transforming a golf course for a few to a park for many; reimagining three under-performing open spaces into signature recreational facilities and mixed-use developments. The presentation will feature a discussion of three specific projects including: The Meadowbrook Mixed Use Development; Lake Olathe Park and Clapp Park. Each of these facilities were golf courses that were closed and reenvisioned into destination park facilities and developments providing a variety of parks and recreation facilities for each of their communities.

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Room: **Konza Prairie - A**

**Landscapes and Trees: What should we be doing?**

Speaker(s): Tim McDonnell, Kansas Forest Service

This session will cover a number of topics including: Woody Plant Research and Trials at the JCPHC, Planting and Planting Sites, Inventories and Species Diversity and Trends and Issues in Landscapes.



4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

**Room: Kings - B**

**Pickleball League and Tournament Director Guide**

Speaker(s): Jeremy Reimer, City of Lenexa Parks & Recreation; Mallory Ozier, City of Lenexa Parks & Recreation

*Recreation professionals are seeing a growing demand of pickleball programming in their communities. Together we will discuss how to take your pickleball programs to the next level! This session will provide realistic strategies for implementing and managing pickleball tournaments, leagues and even the players. Walk away with the confidence you need to finally manage a league or tournament of your own.*

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

**Room: Kings - C**

**Aquatic Policy Manual Sharing and Discussion**

Speaker(s): Brian Hill, Wichita Park and Recreation  
*Discuss, compare, and contrast various policy manuals among attendees. The goal of the class is have a discussion on trying to have consistent policies among Kansas pools. It will also help to identify policies that are need up updates and allow for discussions of best practices.*

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

**Room: Flint Hills**

**How to be Visible in a Virtual World**

Speaker(s): Beth Ziesenis, Your Nerdy Best Friend  
*Even before the pandemic started a worldwide work-from-home revolution, professionals were struggling to make connections. You're not alone in your virtual world. There are millions of people around the globe who also have to find ways to make connections when they don't see each other every day. Join Beth Z, Your Nerdy Best Friend, for an hour of tips on how to be more human with technology.*

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

**Room: Big Blue River**

**Maximize Productivity - Reduce Burnout even in the age of COVID-19**

Speaker(s): Dacia Moore, GateWay of Hope  
*Burnout has always been a problem, but in 2020 became rampant due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In this session we will discuss how physical effects of the pandemic declining, and more people returning to work, is being highly productive even possible?? YES, it is! But you must be intentional, and strategic. This session will help you create a plan to become both so that you can achieve extraordinary success.*

5:45 pm - 6:45 pm

**Room: Flint Hills Discovery Center**

**Branch Awards Social**

Grab your AquaNet and your slap bracelets as we remember the 80s, celebrate the KRPA Branch Award winners, and enjoy fellowship with fellow park and recreation friends. No dinner at this event.

7:00 pm

**Pub Crawl**

*Sponsored by Vireo.*

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## KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MARK J. LINDQUIST

Mark J Lindquist's life and career are two of the most awe-inspiring stories you have ever heard. Mark is a person who believes that if one human being can do a thing, then you can too. He started life in an orphanage in Seoul, South Korea, was adopted and was brought to America at the age of 8 months and raised on a farm in rural Minnesota. Performing was in his blood from a young age and the culminating moment of his teenage years came when he was given the opportunity to speak on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial for the AmeriCorps graduating class of 2000.

Always a servant, as his mother and father taught him, Mark continued his service in the United States Air Force and served honorably at Hickam Air Force Base in Honolulu, Hawaii.

During his time on the Island of Oahu, Mark earned a few roles on ABC's LOST, CBS' Hawaii Five-O and in the Universal Studios movie "Battleship." Since launching his motivational speaking firm (Mark J Lindquist Motivational Speaking and Entertainment) and his consulting firm (Lindquist and Associates), he has had the opportunity to speak for the largest companies in America (McDonald's, Walmart, Starbucks, IBM), sing for the largest crowds in America (NFL, NBA, MLB, NCAA), and perform for the President of the United States of America.

Mark is a United States Air Force and Afghanistan War Veteran. He currently lives in Moorhead, Minnesota.

# FEATURED SPEAKERS

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## BETH ZIESENIS

Beth Z, also known as your Nerdy Best Friend, has made a verb out of the word nerd. She will help you filter through thousands of apps, gadgets, widgets and doodads to find the perfect free and bargain technology tools for work and home. She has written multiple books on apps and has spoken to about 100,000 people, about 99.9% of whom can't pronounce her last name.



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## FRANK TRACZ

Dr. Frank Tracz is professor of music and director of bands at Kansas State University. At K-State, he directs the Wind Ensemble and the Marching Band, teaches graduate and undergraduate conducting, advisor to Kappa Kappa Psi, Tau Beta Sigma, and the Band Ambassadors, and administers and guides all aspects of a large BIG XII comprehensive band program.



# THURSDAY

JAN 20 2022

7:30 am - 5:00 pm  
**Registration Open**

8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
**Coffee, Tea Available**

8:30 am - 9:30 am  
**Room: Kings A**

### **Child Passenger Restraint Laws**

Speaker(s): Carson A. Nuss, Kansas

Highway Patrol / Drug and Alcohol Evaluation Unit

*This class will be at a review of Child Passenger Restraint Laws for the State of Kansas. It will cover type of restraints required for the child's age and size. Also covering enforcement of violations and the fines associated with each type violation.*



8:30 am - 9:30 am

**Room: Konza Prairie - A**

### **Youth Job Connections- Developing a Strong, Vibrant Workforce**

Speaker(s): Debbie Williams, Derby Recreation Commission

*A large percentage of young people preparing to enter the workforce over the next few decades are significantly lacking in the "soft" or applied skills — such as teamwork, decision-making, and communication — that will help them become effective employees and someday managers. It is the development of soft job skills (those that are more social than technical) that is critical to developing a strong, vibrant workforce. What are you doing to train your young people to be good employees now and in the future? Join us in discovering how you can educate young people on the importance of communication, enthusiasm and attitude, leadership, teamwork, networking, problem solving and critical thinking, and professionalism.*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

**Room: Ft. Riley**

### **Imagination and Place: The Role of Public Art in Parks**

Speaker(s): Meredith McKinley, Via Partnership; Jennifer Kraus, Emporia Recreation Commission

*Public art projects are often expected to accomplish a wide range of goals including education, economic development, storytelling, and placemaking. However, effective public art projects depend on clear goals, the quality of public space, and engagement with the community. In the context of a park or park system, public art can be a catalyst and sustainer of a community's sense of stewardship. As public spaces to encounter culture and nature, parks are an ideal setting for innovative public artworks that stimulate interaction rather than simply passive observation. Importantly, the design process and ongoing life of public artwork is just as critical to these benefits as the final piece itself*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

**Room: Konza Prairie - B**

### **Kansas Collaborative on 2-wheels: More Kids on Bikes**

Speaker(s): Tina Khan

*This will be an educational informative session on the development of Kansas NICA and bringing the National organization of youth sanctioned cycling to Kansas. This interactive session will cover topics of community engagement, team formation, and coach licensing that spans across our great state with a common mission to get more kids on bikes! With a successful 2021 inaugural launch season, the 2022 KRPA annual conference will be a pinnacle gathering to share more about Kansas and the wonderful collaboration with Parks & Recreation as we continue to build the Kansas NICA state league, Join us to learn more about getting #morekidsonbikes*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

**Room: Konza Prairie - C**

### **Differences Between Recreational and Competitive Sports**

Speaker(s): Randy Carter, Hutchinson Recreation Commission; Troy Houtman, Wichita Park and Recreation; Wesley Joy, Winfield Recreation Commission; ;

*This will be a panel discussion on how different communities run their recreational and competitive leagues and they will talk about the differences between programs.*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

**Room: Big Blue River**

### **Uncomfortable Policy Enforcement**

Speaker(s): Brian Hill, Wichita Park and Recreation

*Talk about many of the high profile and uncomfortable policies that are at swimming pools and strategies on how to enforce them. The class will focus on implementing strategies to inform the public of policies and how to approach the enforcement in a positive way.*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

**Room: Kings - B**

**Nature Therapy Day - An Approach to Mental Wellness**

Speaker(s): John Gallagher, Hutchinson Recreation Commission; Beth Akins, Horizons Mental Health Center  
*A "muscle" often overlooked and that receives little direct, purposeful activity is the brain. Scheduling deliberate activities for the mind is just as important as your physical workouts. Mental health isn't for just when you are "sick". Proactive mental health should be a routine activity. And, now more than ever, we all need to address this. The stress that these times bring emphasizes the need for "mindfulness". One of the best ways to approach mindfulness is by immersing yourself outside.....in nature. There is clear evidence that immersing yourself in nature is beneficial for your overall health. This can include activities like Yoga, Tai, Chi, and meditation. But, you can go deeper by deliberately taking the time to feel, listen, and smell nature.*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

**Room: Flint Hills**

**Motivating During a Pandemic**

Speaker(s): Frank Tracz, K-State University - Band  
*As a leader to 450 college age students, some new, a few grumpy seniors, I have learned a few techniques on how to motivate the 18-24 year old age group. Every year new kids come with new issues, so keeping up is hard to do. If this is not what you were looking for, a few great stories will be told you that you will not want to miss. (Yes, it was the Starship Enterprise)*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

**Room: Kings - C**

**Infusing Nature into Every Space of Childhood**

Speaker(s): Jennie Sumrell, Playcore  
*Explore best practice design principles and case examples for creating naturalized play environments and playful pathways as a solution to delivering quality outdoor environments for children to reconnect with nature. Discover how these environments intentionally attract families, promote physical activity, increase play value, and provide unique learning opportunities for communities.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am

**Room: Big Blue River**

**Programming for Older Adults**

Speaker(s): Bettie Parington, Lenexa Parks and Recreation; Gayle Sigurdson, Lawrence Parks and Recreation; Denise Dias; Johnson County K-State Research and Extension; Sabrina Jo; Johnson County K-State Research and Extension  
*Panel of content experts bring fresh ideas to your senior programming. KRPA members and K-State Extension office employees on panel. Jazz up your older adult offerings in 2022 from building relationship with the public to building back from covid. This session will give you some inspiration to jazz things up and make your O.A. programs fun to offer and participate in. Learn how to create motivational climate in group exercise classes, specifically with older adults. Focus on helping exercise leaders and fitness facility managers understand how to foster positivity and motivation in their group exercise classes, which leads to increased engagement and exercise adherence.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am

**Room: Kings - C**

**The Aquatics Edit**

Speaker(s): Renee Reis, City of Overland Park; Kathy Yates, City of Overland Park  
*The City of Overland Park will present their monthly organizational plan for trainings and recognition. Attendees will walk away with some great idea for training and easy to produce recognition, and rewards to match their monthly theme. This session is great for both a veteran aquatics professional and someone just starting.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am

**Room: Konza Prairie B**

**Grant Writing 101 for Parks and Recreation**

Speaker(s): Nancy Daniels, K-State Research and Extension; Erika Seward, Johnson County Park and Recreation District  
*Are you a beginning grant writer or a grant writer "wannabe?" Perhaps you know you need to be writing grants, but a feeling of fear and overwhelm keeps you from starting. In this session, experienced KRPA grant writers will share their grant writing experiences, successes and failures. At the end of this session you will know the opportunities available through grants, the processes and ground work necessary to be successful, and tips to increase your effectiveness. The session will be facilitated by an experienced grant writer and includes a panel of your KRPA peers who started just like you: as beginners. This session will also provide information on future grant writing workshops available for KRPA members at a nominal cost.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am

**Room: Konza Prairie - A**

**A Higher Level of Inclusive Play**

Speaker(s): Jill Moore, Landscape Structures  
*The playground should be a place for laughter, friends and fun, for all. Traditional playgrounds focus on accessible-element play count and developmentally appropriate activities; but miss the mark when it comes to supporting a wide range of abilities. Per the CDC, one in 54 children has autism resulting in challenges interpreting sensory messages, engaging in play and social interaction. All children learn through their senses. Evidence-based research shows sensory-rich play environments with appropriate levels of challenge, a variety of activities to promote choice, develop functional skills, imaginary play and social skills provide a higher level of inclusive play for all.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am

**Room: Konza Prairie - C**

**Evaluating and Training of Sports Officials**

Speaker(s): Lee Whitman, Kansas Sports Officials Association; Gordie Wetmore, Kansas Sports Officials Association; John Dehan; Kansas Sports Officials Association  
*Join the session to talk about training, educating, evaluating, and retention of officials. We will discuss about the following sports: basketball, baseball, volleyball. This session will help you walk away with ideas and action steps to ensure you have the best officials possible for your youth sports.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am

**Room: Flint Hills**

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Best Practices for Hiring and Retention**

Speaker(s): Silas Dulan, Evergy  
*DE&I (diversity, equity & inclusion) continues to be monumental topic of our times. It is shown up in how we view the workplace, how we treat others and how we think of ourselves. In this workshop you will learn of some best practices as it relates to creating and sustaining a culture that not only attracts, but also sustains talent from every walk of life.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am

**Room: Kings- A**

**Surveillance Techniques for Law Enforcement**

Speaker(s): Detective Rob Gordon, Pottawatomie County Sheriff Department  
*This class will cover some of the technology available to law enforcement to use for surveillance purposes. Mainly focusing on the use of cameras and GPS trackers. Also the legal aspects that go along with using these devices.*



9:45 am - 10:45 am

Room: Kings - B

**Mental Health Matters for Teens**

Speaker(s): Tyrone Townsend, Riley County Police Department

*This presentation will explore research on psychological first aid, risk factors of suicide/self-harm and emotional disturbances unique for adolescents. Receiving guidance from existing research, it will highlight tools for teens to use to monitor their own needs and empower them to seek help when needed. It will explore interventions such as open communication, congruence, consistency in care and investment in the wholeness of the teen as an employee and person. Lastly, it will examine mental health resources available to you as an employer/employee with regards for intervention, such as ComPsych through your employee assistance program.*

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Trade Show**

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Room: Hotel Pool

**Aquatic Showcase (repeated at 2pm)**

*How many times have you wanted to try a piece of equipment or talk to someone who has used it before you bought it? Stop by and get your hands on pieces of aquatic equipment on land and in-water. The hotel pool will be available to try the in-water pieces of equipment - bring your suit and towel and walk away knowing how good your balance is!*

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Room: Hotel Pool

**Aquatic Showcase (repeated from noon)**

*How many times have you wanted to try a piece of equipment or talk to someone who has used it before you bought it? Stop by and get your hands on pieces of aquatic equipment on land and in-water. The hotel pool will be available to try the in-water pieces of equipment - bring your suit and towel and walk away knowing how good your balance is!*

12:30 pm- 1:30 pm

Room: Kings - B

**Advocacy Meeting**

Speaker(s): Advocacy Committee

*Advocacy is one of the 3 pillars of our association. Come and meet the KRPA Advocacy Committee. Learn more about the 2022 legislative updates, about what the advocacy committee does, and how you can help your agency and association in your advocacy efforts.*

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Room: Kings- A

**Kansas Drone Laws**

Speaker(s): Mark Engholm, Kansas Highway Patrol

*A quick review to better understand the laws governing drones and the illegal acts that could trigger a criminal complaint or civil lawsuit.*

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Room: Konza Prairie - B

**Get Outside and Play**

Speaker(s): Jimmy Kegin, Eudora Parks and Recreation

*The pandemic brought us outside to enjoy our parks, trails and amenities. Let's keep the ball rolling and get outside to play! Leave this session with 50+ different program ideas you can take to your organization and start immediately.*

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Room: Konza Prairie - A

**Employee Handbooks & Labor Law - What to Know**

Speaker(s): Brian Huston, OutrightHR, LL

*An in depth look at how to go about revising employee handbooks or policy and procedure manual changes. To go along with that, discussion about the most updated labor laws and practices and how they can effect your policy manual.*



JANUARY 20, 2022

**CONFERENCE**  
**OLYMPICS**



A KRPA tradition is back by popular demand- the 2022 Manhattan Olympics! These Olympic games cultivate the park and recreation professional, through sports and mental challenges, and contribute to world peace. (Well, maybe not world peace but the joy of the KRPA family.) 32 five-person\* teams will compete in challenges from The Great Corn-holio to Logomania. Entry forms available on the KRPA website

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

**Room: Kings - B**

### **River Recreation Opportunities in Kansas**

Speaker(s): Aaron Deters, Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams (KAWS)

*In recent years, many states across the mid-west have been designing and constructing a variety of river recreation features utilizing a host of funding mechanisms. Kansas is unique to many of these states as the majority of rivers in Kansas are considered private and present unique challenges, yet paddle sport use still appears to be on the rise. River recreation opportunities exist throughout Kansas that can help with increased paddle sport interest, provide communities a quality of place/ quality of life improvement, and assist with greater support and adoption of water quality practices. You will receive an overview of river recreation projects of other mid-west states followed by an overview of past efforts in Kansas.*

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

**Room: Kings - C**

### **Transforming Youth Sports Culture - Our Role and Impact**

Speaker(s): Jeff Eckert, Author of book titled: "#Sportsmanship: Go Viral With It"

*This session describes the #1 challenge facing Sports Recreation and Parks Program Leaders in growing their programs in an increasingly combative environment - poor sportsmanship. In this session we will explore root causes of player, coach, and parent/fan negativity and how we can easily become a model and advocate for positive change. We will explore our role in raising athletes right and how we can control the environment responsible for 70% of athletes quitting sports by age 13, and causing officials to quit as well, resulting in our programs shrinking or closing.*

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

**Room: Big Blue Basin**

### **Managers Need Training Too**

Speaker(s): Joe Marten, Derby Recreation Commission; Donita Grinde-Houtman, Derby Recreation Commission  
*How do you know your next management team is ready for their first day out on the deck? Management training is needed even for those that have been a lifeguard for your facility for years and is a strong peer leader. We will discuss strategies that have helped to prepare our management team for success as well as activities that have not been as successful, and positive roles for those wanting to pursue careers in the aquatics field.*

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

**Room: Ft Riley**

### **Not Your Average Race - It's the Adventure Race!**

Speaker(s): Katy Renner, Johnson County Park and Recreation District; Tiara Adams, Off Road Rage Adventure Racing

*This session is all about how to host an Adventure Race in your community. You can modify your race to be as elaborate or simple as you'd like, whichever is the best fit. Join us as we breakdown the steps on coordinating this Family Wellness event.*

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

**Room: Flint Hills**

### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Best Practices for Hiring and Retention**

Speaker(s): Silas Dulan, Evergy  
*DE&I (diversity, equity & inclusion) continues to be monumental topic of our times. It is shown up in how we view the workplace, how we treat others and how we think of ourselves. In this workshop you will learn of some best practices as it relates to creating and sustaining a culture that not only attracts, but also sustains talent from every walk of life.*

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

**Room: Konza Prairie - C**

### **Recreation as a Building Block**

Speaker(s): Mike Bell, RDG Planning and Design; Colt McDermott, RDG Planning and Design

*What is an Urban Recreation District? This presentation will introduce you to Iowa's first such district, its origins and the significant public / private partnerships that helped bring this project to fruition. During the recently completed City-wide Park and Recreation Master Plan called LiveDSM, a few significant areas within Des Moines were found to be underserved including this project area. A partnership between the Iowa Parks Foundation, the local business community, and The Avenues of Ingersoll & Grand, a Self-Supported Municipal Improvement District (SSMID), initiated this master planning study. The study included significant stakeholders including the City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department, the Des Moines Public School System, the Des Moines Art Community, seven neighborhood associations, as well as residents and other visitors to the district.*

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

**Room: Konza Prairie - C**

### **Community Camp 101**

Speaker(s): Susan Lamb, Hesston Recreation and Education

*Hesston has hosted a "community" camp for middle school students for 12 years with great success. Kids learn about the history of our town, spend time learning about the work of Fire/EMS/Police Department, get a behind the scenes look at more than a dozen local businesses and end the week by completing a community service project. This project has the ability to be self-sustaining benefitting not only camp participants but families and the local community. Details from planning through implementation will be outlined in this session enabling attendees to make plans for hosting a similar event in their home town.*

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

**Room: Konza Prairie - A**

### **Everybody Plays: Play for all Ages**

Speaker(s): Jill Moore, Landscape Structures

*As our population continues to age, communities must continue to stay livable and usable to all- because the reality is we're designing these communities for our future selves. According to the World Health Organization, by 2050 2 billion people will be over the age of 60. Everybody Plays takes a look at the evolution of our aging population and age-integration trends. Specifically; we will take a look at how intentionally designed parks contribute to healthy lifestyles both physical and mental, can keep users engaged in society- thus reducing isolation in older adults, meeting the needs of younger children, and providing engagement at all stages. Through best practice design elements, we can create park and play-spaces that go beyond access but provide enriching and engaging experiences for all so that we can continue to learn from each other, combat ageist beliefs, and most importantly- allow everybody to play.*

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

**Room Kings - B**

### **Recreational Fishing Access and Opportunities in Kansas**

Speaker(s): Jeff Conley, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

*The session will explain the CFAP, WIFA programs. I will also touch on some other opportunities that Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks has to make recreational fish better around the state.*



4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Room: Kings- C

**Sports Branch Roundtable**

The session will include the following topics: 1) Coaching Incentives (discount, select practice times) 2) Streaming Youth Sports 3) Forming Teams (by schools, allow them to form, draft) 4) Requests from Registrations (coach, friends, school, transportation) 5) Scheduling Software (Team Sideline, RecTrac, CivicPlus) 6) Coaching Resources Page 7) Inclement Weather Procedures and Policies 8) Officiating Incentives (how to recruit, why recruit, when to recruit)

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Room: Big Blue Basin

**Creating A Positive Culture through Managing Performance Expectations**

Speaker(s): Joe Marten, Derby Recreation Commission; Donita Grinde-Houtman, Derby Recreation Commission  
 What type of expectations do you have for your staff? In this session we will talk about how to create and manage your expectations for all levels of your staff based upon their years of experience. Bring a copy of your aquatic job descriptions and certifying organization benchmarks to begin the discussion on creating expectations for your staff to adhere to and form a positive culture through increasing self-confidence.

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Room: Konza Prairie - B

**Recreation Roundtable**

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Conference Center

**Dinner**

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Conference Center

**Olympics**

A KRPA tradition is back by popular demand- the 2022 Manhattan Olympics! These Olympic games cultivate the park and recreation professional, through sports and mental challenges, and contribute to world peace. (Well, maybe not world peace but the joy of the KRPA family.) 32 five-person teams will compete in challenges from The Great Corn-holio to Logomania. Entry forms MUST be returned by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 14. Only the first 32 teams to enter will be accepted. [Registration required.](#)

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7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Alcove

**Painting with Cindy**

Join us for a fun, stress free evening Painting with Cindy. Participants will complete a Winter Barn painting during the class while enjoying snacks and Dollar Beers\*/cash bar. All supplies are provided as well as step-by-step instructions. No painting experience need! This art social is for attendees not participating in the KRPA Olympics.

[Registration required.](#)

\* Dollar Beers are available while supplies last.



# FRIDAY

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8:00 am- 2:00 pm  
**Registration Open**

8:30 am - 10:00 am  
**Room: Konza Prairie- B**

**4th Amendment Updates - Parks specific**

Speaker(s): Sarah Washburn, Kansas Highway Patrol  
*4th Amendment update, will discuss car stops, camper/tent searches, and person searches and updates that relate to each.*

8:30 am - 11:30 am  
**Park Tour**

*Step into the Park Tour Time Machine and visit the sights and programs of new and old. The three hour tour will encompass touring two of the City's newest park prairie restoration and several Pollinator Pocket Program locations. During the journey, a stop will be in Anneberg Park to view ongoing Flood Mitigation work, and, hopefully, a glimpse into the City's newest Park under development. The future is bright in Manhattan.*

8:30 am - 9:30 am  
**Room: Konza Prairie - A**

**KDHE Licensing for School Age Programs**

Speaker(s): Melissa Schoenberger, Kansas Department of Education; Jennifer Manuel, Kansas Department of Education  
*Looking to add a licensed school age program to your facility or organization? Representatives from KDHE available to answer questions and to give tips on what licensing looks like, how to start from scratch and how long it takes to get it up and running.*

8:30 am - 9:30 am  
**Room: Kings - C**

**Canada Goose Population Control**

Speaker(s): Brandon Lantz, USDA  
*This session will cover the importance of wildlife population control in parks and waterways, specifically Canada Goose overpopulation and the damage it can cause. Brandon will speak about his interdepartmental relationship to control goose populations in the waterways and steps taken to do that.*

8:30 am - 9:30 am  
**Room: Kings - B**

**Inclusive Plan-Waterplay Solutions**

Speaker(s): Kate Shepard, Playscapes; Eveylyn Hernandez, Waterplay Solutions  
*Designing for inclusivity goes beyond ADA compliance. Individuals are still experiencing exclusion from traditional play experiences that can be easily avoided. Inclusive play goes beyond getting wet on the aquatic play pad, it is about the quality of the play experience that follows. The goal is to accommodate different play habits and styles simultaneously, so everyone can play together in one space. If we nurture the human elements of play including the sensory, cognitive, social, physical, and creative elements we can target unique areas of development for children, appropriate to their age and ability.*

8:30 am - 9:30 am  
**Room: McDowell**

**LGBTQ 101: What's up with all of those Letters?**

Speaker(s): Misty Town, Johnson County Park and Recreation District  
*Have you heard acronyms like "LGBT," "LGBTQ" or "LGBTQ+" and asked yourself what does any of that mean? Do you feel you lack the skills needed to address concerns and questions from patrons and co-workers who identify as LGBTQ? Gain a better understanding of current terminology such as, queer, pansexual, intersexed, gender fluid and transgender. In addition you will learning about issues facing the LGBTQ community while having the opportunity to ask questions in a safe and non-judgmental space.*

8:30 am - 9:30 am  
**Room: Alcove**

**Promoting the Profession**

Speaker(s): Janice Jewett, Pittsburg State University; Laura Covert-Miller, Pittsburg State University; Rick Hardy; Pittsburg State University; Shelby Hutchens; Pittsburg State University  
*Learn and share ideas regarding competitive wages and other benefits and incentives that attract and keep employees in the recreation profession! This includes part-time/seasonal as well as full-time professionals. Walk away with strategies on increasing wages as well as employer strategies for being competitive in the job market plus more!*

# FEATURED SPEAKERS

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## SILAS DULAN

Silas Dulan is responsible for developing, implementing, and cultivating Evergy's overarching diversity, equity and inclusion strategy. Silas began his career with Evergy in 2016 as a Sr. HR Business Partner. Subsequently, he served as Trading Analyst within the company's Power Marketing Department. He has led the company's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts since 2019.



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## RACHEL BERBILGLIA

Rachel Berbiglia is the creator of a new podcast series, "Uncovering Kansas", and a self-proclaimer Kansas Ambassador. Rachel is a problem solver, with over 15 years of experience managing enterprise-wide, complex strategic and operational programs. She enjoys the challenge of seeing the big picture while being able to execute on the details to ensure successful outcomes.



10:15 am - 11:45 am  
**Room: Konza Prairie- B**  
**Kansas Alcohol Laws**

Speaker(s): Enforcement Agent Tony Webb, Kansas Department of Revenue, Alcoholic Beverage Control  
*Underage drinking is a problem in Kansas as it is throughout the United States. It poses a public safety threat to everyone, as well as threatens the health and welfare of our youth. This class will be a review of Kansas alcohol laws dealing with underage drinking and how to investigate violations. With the end goal of combating the risks involved with underage drinking and develop methods to reduce underage drinking and the many other problems associated with it.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am  
**Room: Tuttle**

**Adaptive Recreation (People with Disabilities Leading Independent Lives)**

Speaker(s): Dr. Melissa Burns PsyD, The Whole Person  
*The Whole Person's mission is to connect people with disabilities to the resources they need by supporting independent choice and advocating for positive change in the community. They envision a fully accessible community where opportunities and choices are not limited by disability. Melissa will explore different ways for you to include all abilities into any sports program. Don't be scared! Everyone loves to play and all activities can be modified to get everyone moving.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am  
**Room: Kings - A**

**Invasive Plants and Parks: What's the Problem?**

Speaker(s): Ryan Armbrust, Kansas Forest Service  
*Many invasive plants can be found across Kansas, including in the midst and at the margins of our public parks and recreation lands. In this session, a few of the most concerning plants will be identified, including bush honeysuckle, callery pear, wintercreeper, and more. In addition, case studies will be shared highlighting successes and challenges in management from partnerships between the Kansas Forest Service and local park and recreation departments.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am  
**Room: Kings - C**

**Little League-The Royals Way**

Speaker(s): Darwin Pennye, Kansas City Urban Youth Academy  
*This is a look at the professional baseball player development approach to playing youth league baseball. The player development approach is ensuring every player receives the same resources.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am  
**Room: Kings - B**

**Episode IV Model Aquatic Health Code Returns!**

Speaker(s): Tina Dittmar, City of Laguna Niguel  
*The Model Aquatic Health Code is one of the most important documents evolving in the aquatic industry. We will discuss the latest updates to the 2021 Edition, interesting tidbits, and the future of the MACH.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am  
**Room: Konza Prairie - C**

**We like to Move it, Move it! - Youth Fitness**

Speaker(s): Alison Smith, Johnson County Park and Recreation District; Jenny Smith, Mission Park and Recreation  
*Youth wellness, it SOUNDS like a great program, but how do you hook em so they keep coming back for classes? In this session we'll talk about keeping your Youth Fitness classes and programs fresh, and we'll dive into the discussion of Tweens being on your fitness floor. How do you determine what age is too young?*

9:45 am - 10:45 am  
**Room: McDowell**

**Gender Identity: Moving through a "Fluid" World**

Speaker(s): Misty Town, Johnson County Park and Recreation District  
*Living in a world of constant change requires organizations to stay current with often uncomfortable societal changes. Developing awareness on gender issues and a better understanding of the transgender community will allow you to not only provide a safe space for those patrons, it allows you to have a plan in process before a situation arises.*

9:45 am - 10:45 am  
**Room: Alcove**

**The Covid Effect- Administration Roundtable**

Speaker(s): Administration Branch Board  
*Join Janice Jewett, Professor at Pittsburg State University and Administrative and other professionals as we discuss the continued presence and challenges of COVID-19. Topics of discussion will include: labor shortages, volunteer shortages, supply chain delays, and strategies to combat these issues. We will also discuss the lingering fatigue on our staff, morale boosters and other challenges on your mind. Come ready to share, offer solutions, and network.*

11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
**Room: Kings - C**

**Camp Activity Swap Meet**

Speaker(s): Lisa Hughes, Johnson County Park and Recreation District; Amy Branson, Johnson County Park and Recreation District  
*Are you tired of offering the same games, craft projects and programs at your summer camps? Participate in our first time Camp Activity Swap Meet! Session participants will gather ideas and share in small groups on their favorite games, camp activities and camp counselor training exercises. Everyone will receive the ideas shared at the session to try this summer! Come with your game, activity and training ideas!*

11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
**Room: Kings - A**

**Mowing to Native: The Benefits of Embracing Native Plants in Parks**

Speaker(s): Lance Klein, SWT Design; Will Metcalf, SWT Design  
*Parks are increasingly playing a larger role in the strategies that municipalities use to address issues in stormwater, air quality, and public health. As parks and other green spaces grow in importance, they must be adapted to these challenges while still serving as hubs for recreation, relaxation, and community gatherings. Native plants play a critical role in these adaptations; however, many parks managers and staff are not familiar with the benefits and maintenance needs of these plants. This discussion will explore the performative benefits that native plants provide in addition to their impact on day-to-day parks operations and maintenance.*

11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
**Room: Alcove**

**Aquatics Roundtable**

Speaker(s): Aquatics Branch  
*KRPA Aquatics Branch Board will facilitate the table discussions regarding seasonal staff pay rate, recruitment/retention/commitment, special events/programs, and emergency action plans with a note to discuss how it is incorporated into crisis communication plans, single lifeguard facility trainings and EAP's. At the end of the roundtable, notes taken from each table and emailed to those who want them.*





11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Room: Kings- B

**Wichita State University Athletic Policy Committee**

Speaker(s): Dr. Mark Vermillion, Wichita State University  
WSU creation of Athletics Policy Committee. Task force charge with reviewing, the culture and existing ICAA policies, procedures and practices within the Athletics Department with the goal of ensuring Wichita State University provides a supportive environment for all student-athletes. During this process learned what was missing and needed for better cohesiveness for staff's student and the body of WSU. What we embarked on is what every agency should do to review their best practices, policies and make sure they are adhering to the culture that is needed for success.

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Room: McDowell

**Stereotypes: Haters Gonna Hate!**

Speaker(s): Misty Town, Johnson County Park and Recreation District

What do you do when you hear someone being the target of a stereotype? How often do you judge a person based on a widely held and often oversimplified belief about a particular class of people? Gain a better understanding of your own personal bias while gathering a better understanding on how to discourage the use of stereotypes in the work place.

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Room: Tuttle

**Musco's Newest Solutions, from Lighting to Automated Broadcasting.**

Speaker(s): Brad Thompson, Musco Lighting  
Learn about solutions for your field. We will start with our lighting solutions, covering key factors like spill and glare control, warranty, controls, life expectancy and benefits of LED. Through the presentation, we will explain how to determine if poles and electrical equipment can be reused and introduce new advances improving playability, such as our BallTracker technology and enhancing the fan and player experience with our Show-Light entertainment package. Lastly, we will cover our new MuscoVision, automated sports broadcasting, an all-in one solution that makes it easy for your facilities to broadcast the action on your fields to family and friends watching from across town or around the country.

12:15 pm - 2:00 pm

Rooms: Kaw Nation/Big Basin

**Awards Ceremony and Lunch**



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