



AKWA IBOM STATE ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA, USA INC.
NATIONAL SECRETARIAT
P.O. BOX 651, WARREN, MICHIGAN 48090

Detroit 2009 – Akwa Ibom State Association Annual Convention

From the big Apple to the City that never sleeps, to the big ‘D’, to the Queen City and the Nation’s capital...,to the Motor City. Excitement for the region’s first convention mounts as preparations are well underway for “the most anticipated event of the year”, the Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria USA Inc. 22nd annual Convention in Detroit, Michigan. August 13-16th, 2009.

Let me assure you that it is our commitment to bring you a thriller and the best convention experience. Yes, I say the best because we have assembled the best planning team to bring you nothing but the very best. Detroit is ready for you but the question is, are you ready for Detroit? We are rolling out the red carpet and reserving super stretch limousines for the all week celebration of Akwa Ibom that will leave a lasting impact in the Motor city!

We signed a contract with the prestigious, world-class hotel, the Hyatt Dearborn, which is strategically located with easy access to the airport and city. We are lining up many value added, very creative programs, incorporating old and new ideas without losing our originality and sense of purpose. It will be DELIBERATIVE and CELEBRATIVE while remaining engaging, entertaining and fun for all! There will be something for everybody; the children, the youth, the single, the professionals, the adults and our visitors. We intend to be PUNCTUAL with some of the activities running concurrently.

In addition, there will be major changes to our registration process. Utilizing our newly redesigned website, all Convention attendees will be required to register online or in advance through their local chapters and names must be turned into the national secretariat no later than July 31, 2009.

We will also offer limited reserved tables ranging in value from \$1 to \$10K during the Convention. Individuals, Chapters, families, groups and businesses are encouraged to consider this unique opportunity to support our programs and gain strategic advantage-this offer will come loaded with perk! These are challenging times for our Association. As you know, the Convention is our primary source of revenue therefore to accomplish our critical service commitment for the year, we would like to appeal to your goodwill and generosity to help us achieve our revenue target of \$200K. The fundraising committee will be conducting series of activities in the months leading to the convention.

Our primary objective is to make this Convention very cost effective and stress free therefore we are seriously working on a series of very attractive “STIMULUS” packages (food, hotel, transportation, entertainment etc) we hope will relieve some financial burden on families as well as make your decision process easy one. We will be announcing this shortly, please be on the look out and take advantage of them.

While this Convention will undoubtedly present its set of challenges, we are optimistic that it will be fun, purposeful and gratifying! Key to a successful Convention is your (everyone) understanding and cooperation in execution. We ask that you keep an open mind and please, don’t hesitate to send us your feedback or suggestions.



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Below are some event highlights for the 2009 annual Convention;

All week awareness campaign – Detroit metro

Thursday

- *Welcome Reception, Registration, Networking and singles activities, Governor's Ball.*

Friday:

Business Expo/Economic development Summit, Trade fair, Exhibits, Rehearsals, Registration

Afternoon session

- *Business meeting with lunch 1-7pm*
- *Gala & Cultural Night (Ethnic meal) Beauty pageant, Awards, Talent & Fashion show etc*
(7pm -1am)

Saturday

- *Registration, Kids activity (face painting, magician and folk songs), Soccer, tennis and volley ball (Sports of interest) Public services (health fair screening) City tour.*
- *Brunch/Lunch with keynote speaker, Town hall meeting/Symposium*
- *Main event ,Cultural performances and fundraiser , Dinner, closing remarks*
- *Dance, Dance, Dance*

Sunday- Final

- *Thanksgiving service in the hotel or local church*
- *Tour of City*

*We look forward to seeing you, **don't forget your dancing shoes and your generous heart.***

Goddy Ekpene, VP

Chairman Convention Planning Committee

