As we get ready to say farewell to 2021, NIA leadership and members are thankful for the chance to have gathered in person in October, and we can’t wait to pick up where we left off putting NIA President David J. Cox’s theme—Together for Tomorrow—back into action in a new year at a fantastic location. Registration is now open for NIA’s 66th Annual Convention and Silent Auction, and you are invited to join your industry colleagues to build and strengthen the relationships that NIA Board Member Matt Caldwell called “the cornerstones of our business.”

The fabulous, family- and golf-friendly location in San Antonio, Texas provides an ideal setting for the networking, education, and entertainment that make NIA conventions must-attend industry events! Plus, the Valero Texas Open (VTO) is back at the on-property Tournament Players Club (TPC) San Antonio golf course—celebrating its 100th anniversary!

NIA’s insider sources say the hotel WILL sell out, especially NIA’s discounted room block, so make sure to reserve your room as early as possible. If you want to stay longer, you must book early! Limited discounted rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit www.insulation.org/convention2022/location/hotel-reservations for details.

GREEN NETWORKING: VALERO TEXAS OPEN AND NIA’S GOLF TOURNAMENT

The VTO is taking place March 28–April 3, 2022, and nearly 150 of the world’s top golf professionals will take on The Oaks Course and compete for a share of the $7.9 million purse. NIA has secured a limited number of VTO tickets for Convention registrants. Past champs include Walter Hagen, Byron Nelson, Sam Snead, Arnold Palmer, Ben Crenshaw, Lee Trevino, Nick Price, Justin Leonard, Zach Johnson, Adam Scott, and Jordan Spieth. Visit www.valerotexasopen.com for details, including a post-tournament concert on Saturday, April 2, featuring Jason Aldean and Darius Rucker.

You can play like the pros at NIA’s Golf Tournament, an 18-hole scramble, taking place on Thursday, March 31. It will be held at the Pete Dye-designed Canyons Course, which also will host the Pro-Am event associated with the VTO. The course is located within walking distance of the hotel. It is never too early to start gathering your industry friends for an afternoon of networking and friendly competition! Keep in mind that preference will be given to foursomes, and pre-registration is required. Visit www.insulation.org/convention2022/networking/golf-tournament for all the details.

**Key Dates and Deadlines**

- March 7, 2022: Early-Bird, Hotel Reservation, and Golf Tournament Deadlines
- March 9, 2022: Silent Auction Donation Deadline
- March 16, 2022: Regular Registration Closes
MORE FRIENDLY COMPETITION: NIA’S SILENT AUCTION

Also back in 2022 is NIA’s Silent Auction, which offers bidding opportunities on extravagant donations, with the proceeds benefiting NIA’s Foundation for Education, Training, and Industry Advancement and Folds of Honor, which provides educational scholarships to spouses and children of America’s fallen and disabled service members. Donations are currently being accepted to make this a successful event! Popular donations have included items such as golf equipment or outings, trips or a stay at a vacation home, jewelry, designer handbags, hunting/fishing excursions, electronic items, show tickets, sporting event tickets, spa packages, fine wine and spirits, and sports/entertainment memorabilia. Donors may also make cash donations, which NIA staff will use to purchase items for the auction on their behalf. If you would like to donate or would like more information, please contact Aimee Doyle at events@insulation.org or 703-464-6422.

To better appreciate the positive impact Folds of Honor has on service families, take 5 minutes and watch the 2 videos on NIA’s website highlighting the Hallett and Bauguess families (see www.insulation.org/convention2022/networking/silent-auction).

During the Silent Auction, attendees also can participate in a raffle to benefit NIA’s Foundation, Folds of Honor, and the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation, in honor of NIA Past President Alec Rexroat, who passed away in October 2019.

NETWORKING AND CONNECTING EVERY DAY

Here is a look at some of the opportunities for you to network and connect with your fellow members at the Convention.

- **Honoring NIA’s Award Winners**: NIA’s Premier Industry Manufacturer Award Presentation and NIA’s Safety Excellence Awards.
- **Welcome and Appreciation Evening**: Tex-Mex cookout under the big Texas sky, featuring a full meal, open bar with beer burros, live music from an America’s Got Talent competitor, and plenty of time to reconnect.
- **Farewell Reception and Dinner**: Celebrating the accomplishments of outgoing NIA President David J. Cox of Owens Corning with a cocktail reception and sharing a fantastic meal.
- **Dessert Hospitality Suites**: Tasting all the sweet treats and marvelous concoctions from participating Associate member companies. Visit each suite for a chance at NIA’s raffle prizes!
- **NIA’s Spouse Event**: Creating Cacti offers spouses and guests the chance to make new friends, catch up with each other, and learn about arranging and caring for succulents. You will be able to design an arrangement to keep or donate to the Children’s Hospital of San Antonio.

The JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort and Spa and the surrounding area have something for everyone! Here are a few fast facts.

- The location is one of Marriott’s flagship properties.
- It is home to the TPC San Antonio, with two championship golf courses on the PGA TOUR.
- The Valero Texas Open, one of the PGA TOUR’s oldest tournaments, will be on site to celebrate its 100th anniversary during NIA’s Convention!
- You can choose adventure, relaxation, or both at the River Bluff Experience, with a 1,000-foot lazy river and multiple pools.
- Enjoy opportunities to socialize and network on site at seven distinctive restaurants and five bars.
- Steeped in local traditions, the resort’s Lantana Spa features a full menu of massage, beauty, and wellness therapies.
- The resort offers two fitness centers with Peloton bikes and a variety of fitness classes, plus walking and running trails.
- San Antonio International Airport (SAT) is located just 14 miles from the hotel.
INDUSTRY INSIGHTS AND EXPERTISE
The power of peer-to-peer learning will take center stage at an Experts Panel Discussion: Learning Perspectives—The Contractor and Distributor Relationship. NIA-member contractors and distributors will share their collective expertise in an interactive discussion on matters that impact day-to-day operations and larger industry challenges throughout the supply chain and overall construction industry. The panel will cover the full gamut of business, leadership, training, recruitment, industry trends, and forecast topics. Attendee questions are welcome and encouraged during this interactive session. Panelists include:

- Lance Devin, Chief Operating Officer, Distribution International, Inc.
- Marc Napolitano, Vice President/General Manager, Insulation Materials Corporation
- Rick Sutphin, Senior Vice President Operations, Performance Contracting, Inc.
- Facilitated By Jack Bittner, Senior Product Manager, Johns Manville

The General Session and Luncheon on Wednesday, March 30, will give attendees insider access to the new-and-improved 3E Plus® insulation thickness calculator from the North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (NAIMA). From new comparison features to updates to the way users share and save projects, see how this high-demand product is becoming more streamlined and easier to navigate.

In addition, NIA staff and leadership are taking the feedback from industry sessions at the October Convention and working to develop session topics and confirm speakers for the 2022 industry sessions. For suggestions, email events@insulation.org.

KEYNOTE SESSIONS FOR ALL ATTENDEES

The Power of One
Keynote Speaker: Clint Pulver, Emmy Award-Winning Author, Musician, and Workforce Expert

Clint Pulver will demonstrate why mentorship and management are different; how to communicate effectively with a multigenerational team; and how each of us can bring purpose, empowerment, and perspective to those around us.

Next-Level Leadership for an On-Demand World
Keynote Speaker: Sara Ross, Chief Vitality Officer, BrainAMPED

Chief Vitality Officer Sara Ross will redefine how we succeed at work and thrive in life by sharing brain-based, vitality-enhancing strategies to help produce healthier, happier, high-performing leaders and innovative workplaces.

Much more information will be added about speakers, industry sessions, schedule details, plus more. For more information, please visit www.insulation.org/convention2022 or email events@insulation.org.