

## Attendees Experience the Soul of New Orleans at ACE 2023

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Contact Information
Mackenzi Butson
Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals
Marketing & Member Engagement Coordinator
mbutson@ANFPonline.org
800.323.1908 x234

**St. Charles, IL -** The Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals (ANFP) hosted its Annual Conference & Expo (ACE) from June 25-28, 2023 at the New Orleans Marriott in New Orleans, LA. The theme of the conference was "Feed Your Soul" and more than 300 attendees participated in four days of education, networking, and exhibits.

The Keynote Opening Session kicked off the conference. Shola Richards presented the audience with "The Courage to Go Together: Three Questions to Change How You Work, Live, and Lead." In his presentation, Shola introduced the transformative concept of Ubuntu, which translates to "I am, because we are." This gave attendees actionable strategies to transform their work culture, amplify team civility, and inspire themselves to bring their best to their work.

Education sessions covered a variety of topics including dementia, QAPI, supply chain, regulations, food allergies, DE&I, and other CDM, CFPP practice areas. Highlights included a total of three keynote speakers, Shola Richards, April Simpkins, and Ellyn Elson.

The expo featured 50 exhibitors displaying a variety of foodservice products, innovations, and trends. In addition to the expo and to the education sessions, there were also networking events including an Opening Reception, Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, and Masquerade Ball & Honors Gala.

At the Masquerade Ball & Honors Gala, individuals were recognized with awards for demonstrating the highest level of dedication to the association and foodservice industry. Award recipients are listed here. Acceptance speeches are available on ANFPtv.

ANFP's philanthropic arm, the Nutrition & Foodservice Education Foundation, hosted its first-ever virtual silent auction. This one-day event, accepted donations at the

booth as well as through a digital interface. All proceeds from this event support NFEF grant programs, provide current and aspiring CDM, CFPPs committed to the field of food and nutrition with career development, and professional growth opportunities.

Attendees are already looking forward to next year's Annual Conference & Expo, which will be held June 10-13, 2024, at Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada.

ANFP is a national not-for-profit association established in 1960 that represents more than 14,000 professional members dedicated to the mission of providing optimum nutritional care through nutrition and foodservice management. ANFP members work in hospitals, long-term care facilities, correctional facilities and other non-commercial food settings.