



MARYLAND ASSESSMENT GROUP

School Improvement for Educational Achievement

Transforming Maryland Education Through Policy and Practice

DRAFT

**Program is usually final about 3 weeks prior to conference.
Session assignments are subject to change – please continue to monitor program
for additions, changes, and time assignments.**

**Maryland Assessment Group
2023 Annual Conference**

**November 18-20, 2024
Ashore Resort & Beach Club
Ocean City, Maryland**

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Achievement

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**MARYLAND ASSESSMENT GROUP
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**NOVEMBER 18-20, 2024
ASHORE RESORT & BEACH CLUB
OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND**

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Jaime Bowers
Timothy Guy
Karen Hitch

Deborah Gilmartin, Executive Director
Timothy Guy, Program Director

The MAG Board of Directors wishes to thank the vendors and sponsors for their financial support. Their support and contributions reduce the cost of this conference for Maryland educators.

Conference arrangements provided by MIXT MEDIA MARKETING

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Approved Sessions (Times TBD)

“From Bored to Engaged: Creating Lessons that Inspire”

Presenters: Despina Moniodis, Carrie Tiedeken, and Allie Racioppi - Kennedy Krieger School and Kennedy Krieger Fairmount

As educators, we are invested in student learning, but how do we motivate students to invest in their own learning? It is challenging to design and deliver lessons that provide the necessary content, meet individual student needs, and sustain student attention. Learning should and can be fun, without burning us out as educators! Join us as we explore strategies that capture student interest, create meaningful and memorable learning experiences, and ignite (or reignite) the joy of teaching.

“Systematizing School Improvement Planning”

Presenters: Anna Harding, Nicole Howard, and Nuria Williams - Anne Arundel County Public Schools

Discover practical strategies for systematizing school improvement planning through hearing AACPS lesson filled journey. This session will cover data-driven decision-making, stakeholder engagement, goal setting, action planning, and sustainable improvement practices. Equip yourself with tools to create effective, collaborative plans and resources that drive continuous growth and enhance educational outcomes.

“Hacking the Brain to Study Better”

Presenters: Judith V.T. Wilson Retired- Montgomery County Public Schools

Come and discover how the brain learns best. Many current study techniques are now known to be counter-productive. However, educational neuroscience research now has presented us with better study practices and strategies (that enhance long-term memory) for improving students’™ learning. Walk-away with ideas to use at home or school.

“Stress & Tests”

Presenters: Judith V.T. Wilson Retired - Montgomery County Public Schools

Discover what’s happening in the brain when students feel anxiety or stress. Hear about several educational classroom strategies that can help students feel better prior to tests. Find out how practicing mindfulness can bring back students focus, concentration, calmness, and relaxation. Walk-away with several mindfulness exercises to start practicing tomorrow.

“How Schools Can Get Better at Getting Better”

Presenters: Dr. Ronald S. Thomas - Towson University, AACPS

Studies have shown that improvement planning often does not result in significantly reducing learning gaps and increasing the learning of all students, despite the hard work of educators. This presentation will show how the research-based strategies of improvement science, a systems approach, and equitable practices can be used to capture the passion of stakeholders; incorporate protocols in which the push for improvement is blame-free; honor the perspectives of all stakeholders by incorporating discreet data; facilitate a convergent root cause analysis process; implement high-leverage practices to replace inequitable systems with more equitable ones, and use rapid iterative cycles of small-scale field tests.

“Science of Reading and Assessment Practices”

Presenters: Wicomico County Public Schools

Join us for an enlightening exploration into the dynamic fusion of assessments and the science of reading in elementary education. In this empowering presentation, we delve into the crucial role assessments play in fostering literacy proficiency among young learners. Grounded in the latest research and insights from the science of reading, attendees will discover practical strategies for designing and implementing assessments that effectively identify students' strengths and areas for growth. During the session, participants will dig deeper into practices with formative and diagnostic assessments to identify struggling readers. Don't miss this opportunity to elevate your teaching practice and empower students to become confident, proficient readers!

“Decoding Formative Assessment: Using a Conceptual Framework to Improve Practice”

Presenters: Terry Morgan & Gail Charles-Walters - RISE for Tomorrow

Teachers' understanding of formative assessment shapes its impact on student success. What began as an effort to improve its application evolved into a powerful tool for educational growth. This session reveals a conceptual framework that streamlines planning, enhances target instruction, and fosters teacher reflection.

“Leveraging MSDE Data for Accountability and Transparency: CLF’s Data Dashboard for it's Public Charter Schools”

Presenters: Tekin Tuncer - Chesapeake Lighthouse Foundation (CLF)

This session focuses on how CLF’s Data Dashboard (<https://clfmd.org/data-dashboard>) utilizes MSDE data to ensure accountability and transparency for its public charter schools in AACPS and PGCPS. Attendees will learn how key metrics such as MCAP, MD Report Card, NWEA MAP and college readiness data drive data-informed decisions, improving school performance and stakeholder engagement.

“Mastering State-Wide Testing: Innovative Strategies and Systematic Solutions”

Presenters: Mandy Verme & Brok Hess - Ivymount School

This collaborative presentation will include strategies on conducting state-wide testing. A facilitated discussion will have audience participants share new ideas and how various systems are used to increase efficiency and decrease errors. Bring your strategies to share and walk away with new ideas to implement this spring!

“Unpacking Inequities and Crafting Solutions”

Presenters: Windy Phillips - Worcester County Public Schools

This presentation will detail how one district tackled disproportionality in special education identification and discipline through systemic change. We will discuss addressing biases and systemic issues through implementation science, a school improvement process, and data analysis. Learn our strategies for promoting equity, fair practices, and improved student outcomes for all children.

“Creating A Test Ready Culture In Schools”

Presenters: Simene' Walden - PGCPS & Pretty Healed Enterprises, LLC

This session will present ways to rally schools together before, during, and after tests. I will include celebration strategies and how to provide parents with the resources to assist their child. I will include key protocols teachers can implement to prepare students and execute without error during testing days.

“Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) Modeling and Reasoning with Mathematics”

Presenters: Simeon Sanders, EdD – MSDE

Constructed responses on the Mathematics MCAP are scored with holistic rubrics using a process called rangefinding that involves MSDE, Maryland educators, and assessment vendors. Participants will learn about rangefinding and participate in a rangefinding simulation to score sample mathematics constructed responses.

“Scientific Literacy and Writing”

Presenters: Jeremy Marcus-Wenger & Jeremy Haack– MSDE

Constructed responses on the Maryland Integrate Science Assessment are a critical factor in determining a student’s scale score, though current trends indicate this is an area for growth. Participants will learn about MISA constructed response items and dissect student examples to determine methods for supporting student writing in science.

“Grade 5 and 8 Reporting Category Changes”

Presenters: Jeremy Marcus-Wenger & Jeremy Haack– MSDE

The Spring 2025 administration will see a change in the grade 5 and 8 Maryland Integrated Science Assessment system reporting categories. Participants will learn about the new reporting categories and the reasons for the change.

“Academic Integrity: Safeguarding Standardized Test”

Presenters: Adei Snyder - ETS and Pearson

Educate educators and administrators on current trends in academic dishonesty and best practices for ensuring the integrity of testing procedures. Topics will include data validity, secure test administration, prevention, and the affect breaches have on MCAP. Possible 2 sessions.

“Introducing Star Early Literacy”

Presenters: Emily Oliver - Renaissance Learning

MSDE is pleased to announce a partnership with Renaissance Learning to implement a new assessment system for kindergarten and pre-kindergarten students in Maryland. Learn about assessment administration, reporting, and instructional implications.

“Understanding Adaptive Testing: Math”

Presenters: Jay Lee - Pearson & Adei Snyder - MSDE

Description coming soon.

“Understanding Adaptive Testing: ELA”

Presenters: Jay Lee - Pearson & Stephanie Weager - MSDE

Description coming soon.

“The Path to MCAP Assessments”

Presenters: Chris DeLong - ETS, Angela Kellogg & Elizabeth Pennington - Pearson

Description coming soon.

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“Meaningful Data”

Presenters: Pearson

Description coming soon.

“ADAM Overview”

Presenters: Pearson

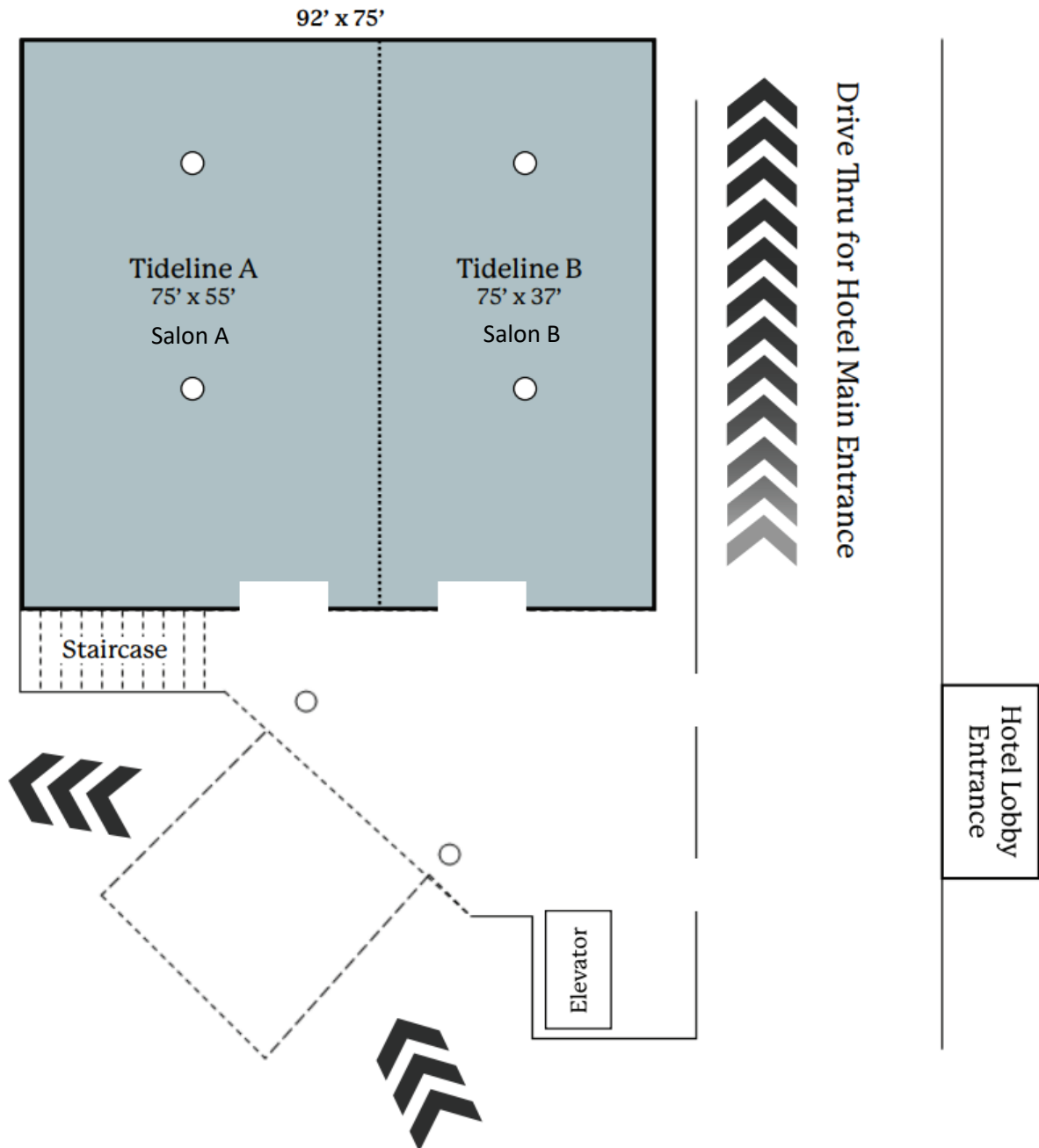
Description coming soon.

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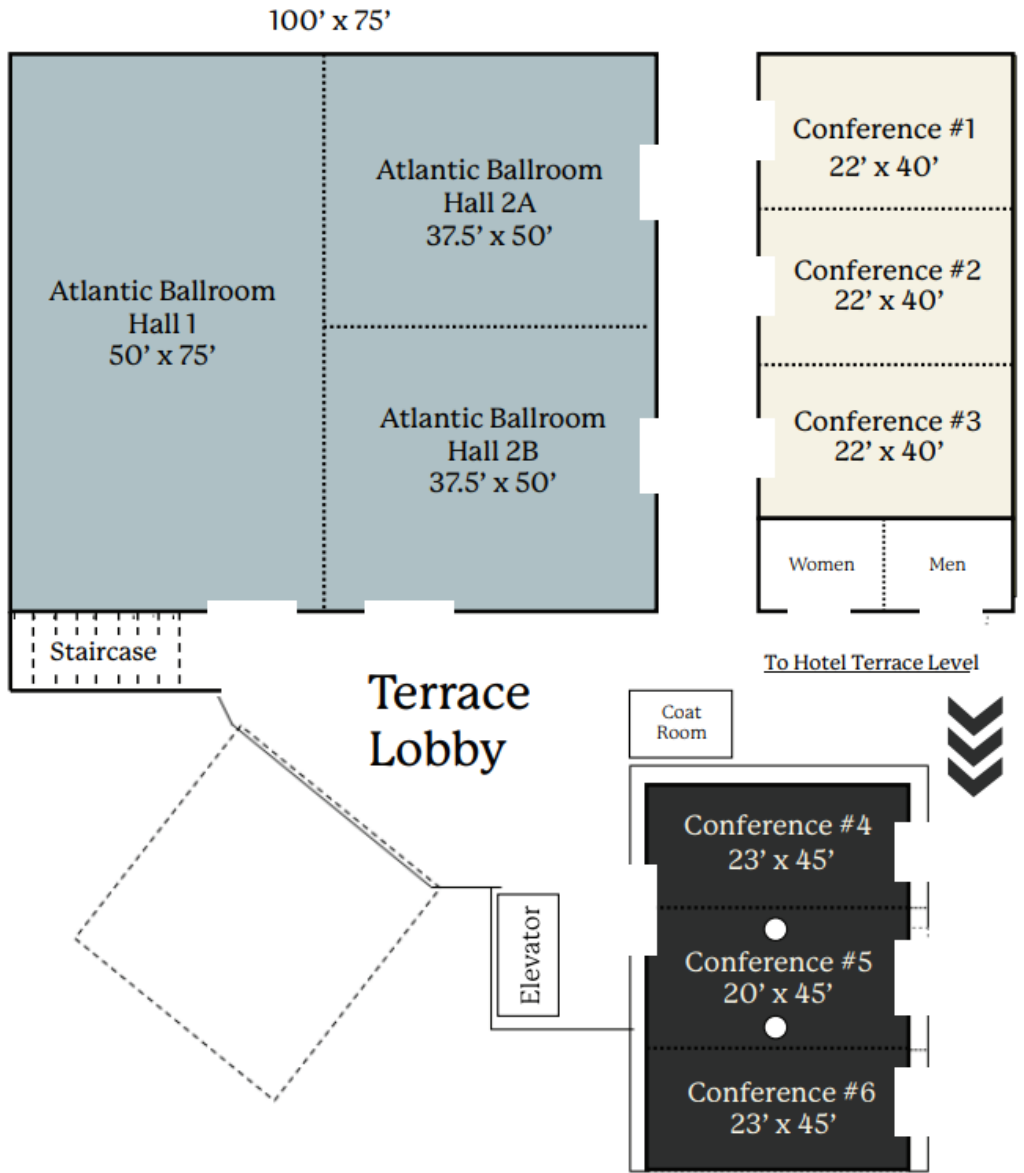
Floor Layout | First Level

GRAND BALLROOM



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Floor Layout | Terrace Level

ATLANTIC BALLROOM

Ashore Things - OPEN 7AM to 1PM

In between MAG meals - enjoy delicious premium coffee along with quick foods and gift shop essentials.

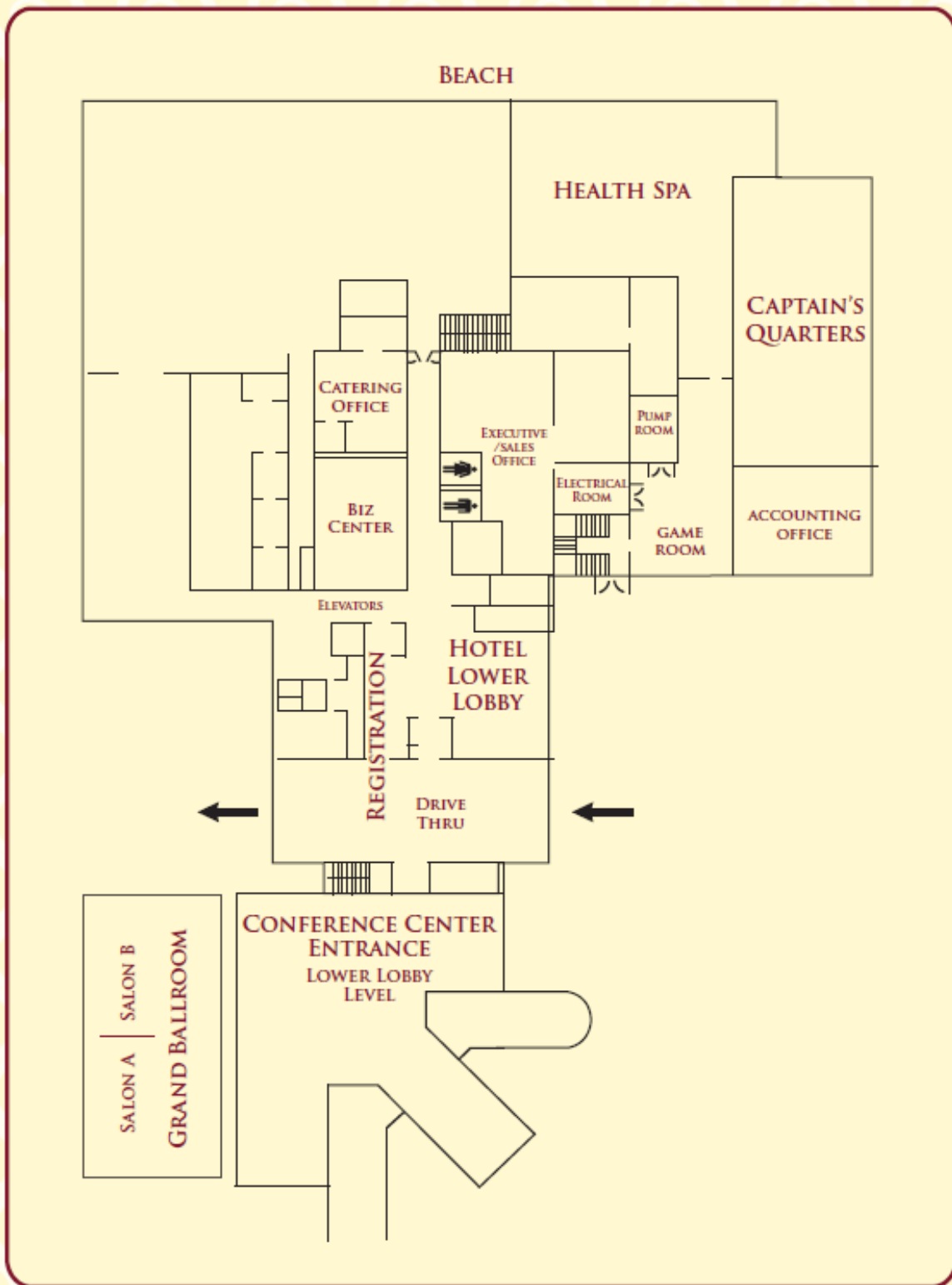
- Premium Coffee Drinks
- Fountain Sodas/Bottled Drinks
- Grab and Go Snacks and Meals
- Suntan Needs/Sundries
- Newspapers
- T-shirts/Sweatshirts

Located on the Terrace Level.

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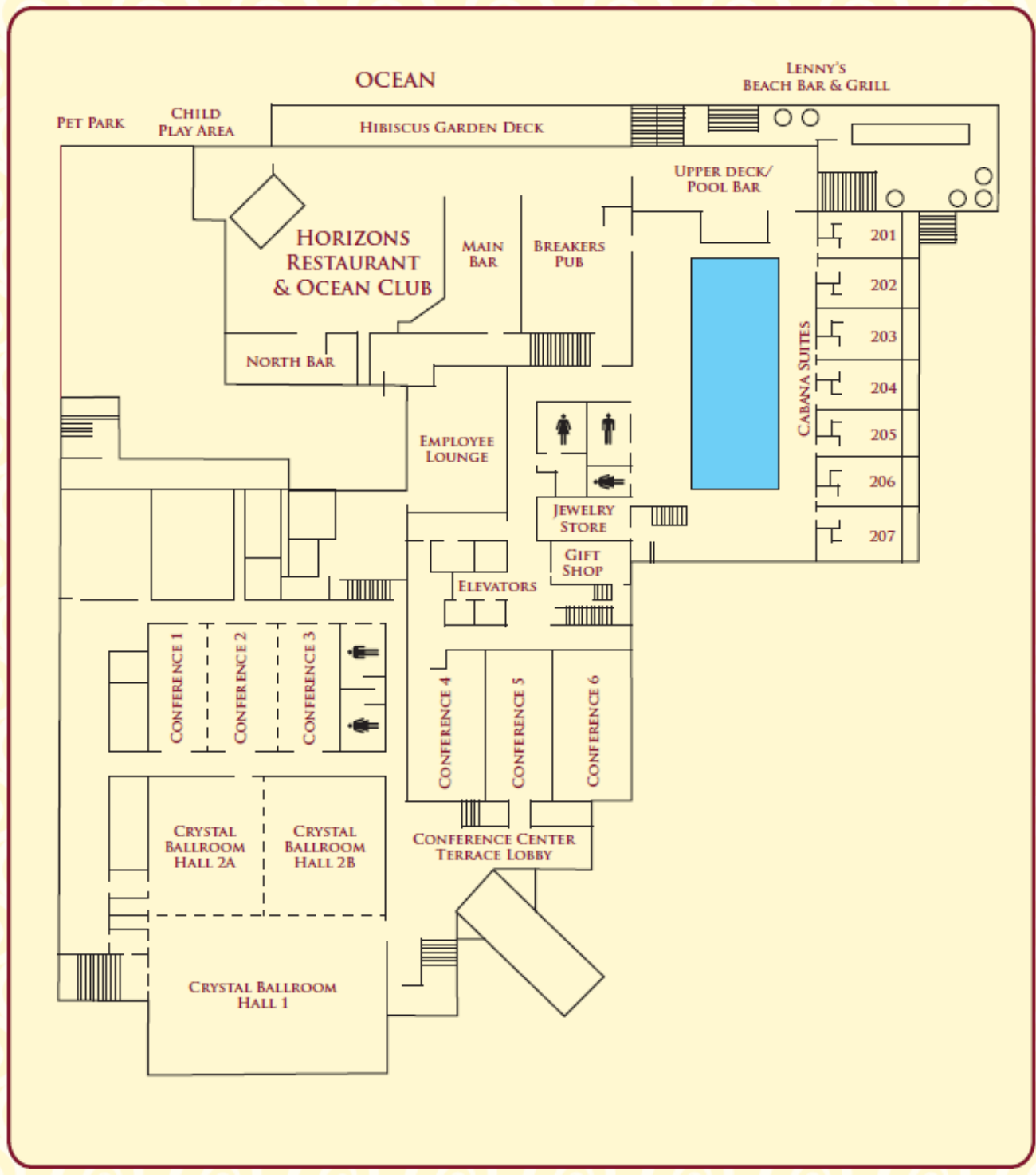
LOWER LOBBY MAP



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TERRACE-LEVEL MAP



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Perfection Learning	Maureen Rich	Exhibitor
Center for Transformative Teaching & Learning	Chavonne Primus	Exhibitor
McGraw Hill	Nick James	Exhibitor
MANSEF	Dorie Flynn	Exhibitor



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