

International Bear Rendezvous 2004



San Francisco

February 13th - 16th, 2004

Our 10th Celebration!



About International Bear Rendezvous

International Bear Rendezvous is an annual gathering of bears and bear-lovers held in San Francisco. It is hosted by the Bears of San Francisco, who conceived of Rendezvous as a weekend of fun and fund-raising, intended to foster a sense of community among participants while at the same time raising money for agencies serving the gay and HIV communities at the local, state, and national level. Fund-raising is accomplished primarily through raffles, auctions, and direct donations from participants and the community. Since the first Rendezvous in 1995, the net proceeds have resulted in donations totaling almost \$200,000 to such organizations Lesbian & Gay Rights Immigration Task Force, Online Policy Group, and the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, to name just three.

Schedule of Main Rendezvous Events

Thursday, February 12, 2004

BOSF Member Meeting & Early Registration
Welcome Party

Friday, February 13, 2004

Fisherman's Wharf & Alcatraz Tour*
Teddy Bear Factory Tour*
Vender Maul
Registration Opens
Meet & Greet Party
South of Market Pub Crawl
IBR Rocks & Contestant Intros

Saturday, February 14, 2004

Teddy Bear Factory Tour*
Asian Art Museum*
San Francisco Guided Bus Tour*
Paws for Words - Bear Readings
Thirsty Bear Party
Beer Bust at the Eagle
Bear-da-Bingo

Sunday, February 15, 2004

Club Day
Dim Sum Gobble*
Play Party*
Buffet Dinner
International Bear Competition

Monday, February 16, 2004

Continental Breakfast
Auction
Farewell Party

All weekend

Hospitality suite, vendor fair, affinity groups, optional activities; fun, fur, and friendship!

*This schedule of events is preliminary and subject to change. *Please see back side of this sheet for a complete listing of optional events and the costs associated with each optional event.*

Registration Packages Available:

"IBR" Package - \$50

\$60 if postmarked after Jan 5th, 2004.

Includes: Pin, Hospitality Suite, Shuttle Busses, Free admission to Vendor Maul, Welcome Party, Meet & Greet Party, Pub Crawl, Thirsty Bear Party, Eagle Beer Bust, Paws for Words, Club Day, Affinity Groups, Bear-Da-Bingo, Sunday's Continental Breakfast, Auction & Silent Auction, Farewell Party, and the IBR Coupon Book with over \$25 in discounts.

"IBR Plus" Package - \$70

\$80 if postmarked after Jan 5th, 2004.

Includes: All the above, *plus* Contest Admission

"IBR Gold" Package - \$100

\$120 if postmarked after Jan 5th, 2004. (Limited to 350 Bears!)

Includes: All the above, *plus* Gala Dinner Buffet

Until Jan 5th, 2004, there is a **\$10 Discount** on all packages for:

- International Attendees (Non-US Address)
- Past IBR Title-holders
- Volunteering BOSF Members
- Volunteers from other CA partner clubs

IBR Gold Packages are limited to the 1st 350 bears that sign up. The other packages will be sold until Jan 31st. After that you may only register for the "Walk-Up" Package at \$70.

Note: You can purchase your official IBR T-shirt using the registration application, or you can purchase T-shirts during the event (subject to availability). Each t-shirt is an additional \$20 on the cost of the run package (\$15 for BOSF members).

Bears of San Francisco has established the David Dysart Memorial Rendezvous Scholarship Fund to cover the registration fees of those who have HIV or other life-threatening illnesses, are on a fixed or limited income, and have demonstrated community involvement. Please contact BOSF to request a scholarship application before submitting a registration form. Scholarship applications must be received by December 31, 2003.

Host Hotel

Our host hotel for IBR 2004 is the Ramada Plaza International on Market and 8th Streets. Centrally located near Union Square, South of Market bars and the Castro, IBR '04 has negotiated special rates:

King Bed - 1 or 2 persons: \$99.00 per night
Two Double Beds- 1 or 2 persons: \$104.00 per night
Triple or Quad occupancy \$119.00 per night (existing beds only)

Rates do not include the 14.05% occupancy tax.

For reservations, call 1-800-272-6232. Be sure to ask the reservationist for **SRP Code CGBSF4** to get our special rates! The cutoff date for these special rates is January 29, 2004 so it's best to make your reservations early! You will need a credit card to guarantee your reservation. Should you need to cancel your reservation for any reason, you will need to notify the hotel no later than 72 hours prior to arrival or your first night's room and tax will be charged.

Local Transportation

Registered attendees will be able to use a courtesy shuttle service between the Ramada and virtually all Rendezvous activities. Many of the venues are within walking distance of the host hotel; taxis and local mass transit are also available.

Program Book Advertising

Space for display advertising is available in the International Bear Rendezvous Program Book, which is distributed to all attendees. Advertising information can be found on the IBR Extra Forms page. Program book advertisements must be received by January 5th, 2004.

Vendor Fair

BOSF invites merchants to participate in the vendor room, which is open Friday night and all day Saturday and Sunday. Space is allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Vendor information can be found on the IBR Extra Forms page. Space is limited, and must be reserved by December 31, 2003 (but will probably sell out sooner!).

Coupon Book

Last year we introduced a very popular coupon book. Inclusion into the Coupon Book is free for San Francisco merchants and IBR Vendors, however BOSF reserves the right to reject any coupons. The best coupons are those that will be of value to our attendees during their stay over President's Day Weekend. For more information visit our IBR Extra Forms page. Cut off date for Coupon Book is January 5th, 2004.

International Bear Competition

Contestants. The competition is open to anyone who is registered for Rendezvous. Contestants are expected to participate in fund-raising raffles on Friday night and Saturday afternoon, and to attend an orientation meeting, interview meeting with the judges, and rehearsal. Contestants must complete a separate application which can be found on the IBR Extra Forms page.

Judges. Judges must be registered attendees, must be available to observe raffle ticket sales, attend an orientation meeting and attend an interview session with the contestants. Prospective judges must complete a separate application which can be found on the IBR Extra Forms page. Judge Applications must be received by Friday, January 16, 2004.

Affinity Groups

Affinity groups give people who share a common interest a chance to meet for discussions, workshops, group activities, or social time together. If you think you'd like to organize an affinity group, we encourage you to contact us as soon as possible so that we can work with you to promote your group and arrange any necessary logistics. To indicate your interest in organizing a group, please e-mail us at ibraffinity@bosf.org and include information about your proposed group on your IBR registration form.

Special Note to All Attendees

BOSF has contracted Lynn Ludwig to take photographs during IBR 2004. If you do not wish to have your picture taken by Lynn please let him know and he will gladly respect your privacy. In addition, Rockhard Films may be filming a documentary in public and private areas. We are asking that all attendees sign a simple release form allowing this filming to take place. You may wish to simply avoid the camera whenever possible.

Optional Activities

The following optional activities have been planned at this time, and you can sign up on the registration form. You are encouraged to reserve early. Note: Vendors, contestants, and judges will not be able to participate in the Sunday activities.

Teddy Bear Factory Tour, Friday, February 13, 1:30pm

Teddy Bear Factory Tour, Saturday, February 14, 1:30pm

Participants get a behind-the-scenes tour of Basic Brown Bear, a San Francisco toy factory. See for yourself how these quality, huggable toys are created. This activity includes a stuff-it-yourself bear and round-trip transportation from the Ramada. We are collecting \$3 in advance from each participant to cover round-trip transportation from the Ramada. The tour itself, including the bear, is \$12 or more (depending on which bear you select) and is payable at the time of the tour.

Please note that there IS a second tour on Saturday, February 14 at 1:30pm. We are asking only those who are interested in the Friday tour to sign up in advance. If there is extra space on the Friday tour, a sign-up sheet will be posted in the lobby of the Ramada on Thursday evening, February 12. You can sign up for either tour on the lobby bulletin board beginning Thursday evening.

Fisherman's Wharf, Friday, February 13, 11am

Visit Fisherman's Wharf, including Pier 39, San Francisco's #1 tourist attraction. Stop to see the frolicking sea lions, or stop in several of the many shops, restaurants and other attractions. Visit Ghiradelli Square of chocolate fame, where you can also catch a cable car. Buses return to the Ramada at 4pm, or better yet, take a historic streetcar back to the hotel. You can take the cable car to the end of the line and catch a streetcar to the hotel from there. \$3 gets you bus travel and includes a Pier 39 coupon book.

Alcatraz Island Tour, Friday, February 13, 11am

Once a maximum-security prison in the middle of San Francisco Bay, Alcatraz is now part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and one of San Francisco's most popular tourist destinations. This island tour includes self-guided walks and an audio tour of the Cell House, with actual interviews of former guards and prisoners. Cost is \$20 per person and covers park admission, the audio tour and round-trip transportation from the Ramada. Note: There is a quarter-mile, very steep grade to the Cell House. An electric shuttle operates only once per hour. Bus returns to the Ramada at 4pm, or take time to visit Fisherman's Wharf and return to the hotel via historic streetcar or cable car.

Asian Art Museum, Saturday, February 14, 10am

Come take a tour of San Francisco's new Asian Art Museum. The 1917 Beaux Arts-style building was at one time the city's Main Library. But after many years of being vacant and a 4-year renovation project, the historic structure is now reborn as a \$160 million museum designed by internationally renowned Italian architect Gae Aulenti whose notable contributions also include Musée d'Orsay in Paris and Palazzo Grassi in Venice. The activity includes an architectural tour of the renovated building as well as open access to the Art Galleries. The museum is in the Civic Center Plaza, just a two-block walk from IBR's host hotel. Cost is \$16.

SF Guided Bus Tour, Saturday, February 14, 10am - 2pm

Explore San Francisco by luxury coach with professional tour guide. Journey to many of this city's most famous highlights including the Golden Gate Bridge, The San Francisco Palace of Fine Arts, and Twin Peaks for some beautiful panoramic views of the city (weather permitting, Twin Peaks sometimes gets fogged in). Drive along the Pacific Ocean and stop at the Cliff House to enjoy the fresh ocean air, and breathtaking ocean views. Other highlights on this tour include the San Francisco Marina, Nob Hill, Chinatown, City Hall, and other attractions. Cost is \$40.

Dim Sum Gobble, Sunday, February 15, 10:45 AM

The traditional Dim Sum Gobble at Canton Restaurant features hundreds of bears and an assortment of dim sum delicacies. We are collecting \$3 from each participant to cover round-trip transportation from the Ramada. The Dim Sum itself normally costs \$15-20 per person, payable at the restaurant.

Play Party, Sunday, February 15, 2:00 PM

Here's an opportunity to spend a Sunday afternoon gettin' frisky with your fellow bears at the world-infamous Blow Buddies. Cost is \$12 per person and includes round-trip transportation from the Ramada. Blow Buddies is opening early for this special bears-only party, and early admission will be limited to those who reserve a space by signing up. Of course, this is for consenting adults only.

International Bear Rendezvous 2004



Registration Form (Part 1) February 13th - 16th, 2004



Print clearly and complete both pages, including the signature on the second page. One name per form please.

Name				
Street				
City	State	ZIP	Country	
Phone	Email			
Confirmation	<input type="checkbox"/> To save on postage and paperwork, registration confirmations will be sent via email (if possible). Please check this box if you require a paper confirmation sent to you.			

Badge. Your badge will identify you as a Rendezvous participant, giving you access to the hospitality suite, shuttle, and will serve as your admission ticket to all regular Rendezvous activities. The first line (in larger, bolder print) will be your first name or nickname (up to 16 characters). The second line will be your full name (up to 24 characters). The next line will have your primary club affiliation (if any), and, space permitting, your other club affiliations (up to 24 characters total). The final line will be your hometown (up to 24 characters).

Example:

Nickname	OPTIONAL Up to 16 Characters
Name	Up to 24 Characters
Bear Club	OPTIONAL Up to 24 Characters
Hometown	Up to 24 Characters

International Bear Rendezvous SuperBear Bubba N. Luey Bears of San Francisco San Francisco, CA

Additional Information. We will make every effort to send a confirmation of your registration within a week after we receive it. Confirmation packets include a schedule and information about official and optional Rendezvous activities, accommodations, and sources of tourist information. Let us know if you want any of the following information as well:

- Please send an application to be a contestant in the International Bear Competition
Contestant applications must be received by January 16th, 2004 and are subject to limitations
- Please send an application to be a judge for the International Bear Competition
Judge applications must be received by January 16th, 2004
- Please send information about participating in the vendor fair (includes advertising information)
Vendor arrangements must be made by December 31, 2003, unless all spaces sell out earlier
- Please send information about advertising in the program book or registration packets
Program book advertisements must be received by January 5th, 2003; packet inserts by January 31, 2003
- I'm willing to volunteer for a two-hour shift during the weekend
BOSF & CA Partner Club Members who volunteer receive a \$10 Discount on their registration!
- Please contact me about organizing an affinity group. Topic: _____

Special Needs. BOSF is committed to accommodating persons with disabilities and other special needs. Facilities are wheel-chair-accessible. ASL interpreters will be provided wherever possible. There will be ovo-lacto vegetarian alternatives at the buffet dinner and continental breakfast. If you have other special needs, let us know now and we'll do what we can.

Scholarship Fund. Bears of San Francisco has established the **David Dysart Memorial Rendezvous Scholarship Fund** to defray the registration fees of members of the community who have HIV or other life-threatening illnesses, have a fixed or limited income, and demonstrated community involvement. Please contact BOSF to request a scholarship application **before** you submit this registration form. Completed scholarship applications must be **received** by December 31, 2003.

Cancellations. Your registration for International Bear Rendezvous is **not transferable**. If you find that you will not be able to attend, **you must cancel your registration in writing**. Cancellations postmarked by January 31, 2004 will receive a refund, subject to a \$10 processing fee. Later cancellations will be handled on a case-by-case basis. No-shows will not receive a refund, but we will mail their registration packets, T-shirts (if ordered), and pins four to six weeks after the event.

Registration form continues...

International Bear Rendezvous 2004



Registration Form (Part 2)



Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> "IBR" Package - \$50 (\$60 from Jan 6th - Jan 31st . \$70 "Walk-up") <input type="checkbox"/> "IBR Plus" Package - \$70 (\$80 from Jan 6th-Jan 31st.) <input type="checkbox"/> "IBR Gold" Package - \$100 (\$120 from Jan 6th-Jan 31st.)	IBR Gold Registration is limited to the 1st 350 bears. Check our web site or the hotline at (415) 541-5000 for "IBR Gold" Packages availability!	\$
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T-Shirt	Size: (circle one) S M L XL XXL 3XL 4XL	\$20 Each (\$15 for BOSF Members) Add \$5 for 3XL-4XL	\$
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Optional Activities. You can make your reservations for the optional activities below. Space is limited for each optional activity, so please let us know whether or not you wish to be put on a waiting list if the activity is already sold out. You can also sign up after you receive your confirmation materials. Each participant should fill out their own request for optional activities!

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Optional Activities:	When:	Wait List?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cost:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fisherman's Wharf	Friday, Feb. 13th, 9:45am & 11am	Transportation cost only! Event costs not included.	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$3	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Alcatraz Tour	Friday, Feb. 13th, 11am - 3:00pm		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$20	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Teddy Bear Factory Tour	Friday, Feb. 13th, 1:30pm - 4:00pm	Transportation cost only! Event costs not included.	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$3	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian Art Museum	Saturday, Feb. 14th, 10am		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$16	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> San Francisco Guided Bus Tour	Saturday, Feb. 14th, 10am - 2pm		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$40	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Dim Sum Gobble	Sunday, Feb. 15th, 10:45am - 1:00pm	Transportation cost only! Event costs not included.	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$3	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Play Party	Sunday, Feb. 15th, 2:00pm - 4:30pm		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$12	\$

Sub Total	Total for Run Package, T-Shirt and Optional Activities	\$
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Discount	BOSF and Partner Club volunteers, Past IBR Titleholders, and Int'l Attendees (with non-US Address)	-\$10	\$
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Other	Payment included for another attendee (Name _____)	\$
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Grand Total	Total amount enclosed...	\$
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Check or Money Order Enclosed in US Funds, payable to "Bears of San Francisco"
There is a \$15 fee if your bank returns your check unpaid.

Charge to MasterCard/VISA

Account Number: _____ Expires: _____

Signature authorizing charge: _____

Print name on card: _____



Release. I hereby certify that I am at least 21 years of age. I agree to conduct myself in a reasonable manner in the public areas of hosting facilities. I understand that my registration for International Bear Rendezvous is not transferable. I have read and understand the cancellation policy stated above. I agree not to hold Bears of San Francisco, Inc., its membership, guests, sponsors, or any commercial establishment used in conjunction with this event responsible for any loss or injury either to my property or my person while participating in this event. I assume full responsibility for any damage I may cause to the property of any commercial establishment used in conjunction with this event. I will not use any controlled substances (excluding drugs prescribed to myself) during Rendezvous activities. I grant Rockhard Films and its designees, Lynn Ludwig and Bears of San Francisco, the right to use my likeness, image, voice and appearance whether recorded on or transferred to videotape, film, slides, photographs, or other media, for publication, broadcast or use on the web.

Signed: _____ Printed: _____ Date: _____

Mail Completed Registration form to:

BOSF - IBR 2004 Registration
 584 Castro St., #266
 San Francisco, CA 94114-2594