



MAY 2024

Save the Date: Upcoming Chapter Events

Chapter Leader Day 2024 – June 2 @ 10 am

Chapter Legislative Representative Call - June 24 @ 11 am ET

[View the comprehensive 2024 chapter meeting, event, and communications schedule »](#)

Message from 2024 Annual Conference Host Chapter

The APIC San Antonio Chapter 071 is extremely proud to be extension of APIC's rich history and to advance the work of the infection prevention and control pioneers that came before us. We are equally excited to host the 24th APIC National Conference here in San Antonio in June! Our chapter serves the healthcare community not only in the San Antonio area, but also a total of 13 counties, and cities such as New Braunfels, Seguin, Kerrville, Kennedy, Cuero and Uvalde, Texas. Our members are from a diverse range of settings, including acute care hospitals, specialty hospitals, Federal Health Care facilities, ambulatory centers, outpatient clinics, long-term care facilities, and public health. And, we are all looking forward to welcoming you to our great state in just a few short weeks!

San Antonio is the nation's seventh-largest city located in south-central Texas. The city's rich culture offers an authentic glimpse of early Spanish colonial life in the Southwest. Visitors can enjoy cowboy culture every February at the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo; throughout the year, they can also see the 40-foot-tall cowboy boots at the North Star Mall.

If you have time, please get out and enjoy some of the city's top attractions such as the San Antonio River Walk, also known as Paseo del Rio. This 15-mile-long attraction is a must-see. Opt for a self-guided walking or bike tour of the riverside paths lined with beautiful cypress trees, shops, museums, hotels and of course Tex-Mex Restaurants.

Other attractions include the Natural Bridge Caverns, one of Texas' largest underground attractions, that is best explored on a guided tour, the McNay Art Museum, Texas' first modern art museum, and the Briscoe Western Art Museum, located on the banks of the historic San Antonio River Walk. Then there is the famous Japanese Tea Gardens, originally a rock quarry, now a serene oasis with a 60-foot waterfall, bridges and beautiful, picturesque breath-taking floral displays.

These are just a few of the many attractions San Antonio has to offer. Please make sure you get out and enjoy the surrounding beauty while you're here.

Leadership Highlights

Congratulations to the 2024 Chapter Award recipients

APIC and the Member Engagement Committee (MEC) would like to thank and congratulate the 2024 Chapter Award recipients! The Chapter Excellence Award recognizes innovative chapter programs either launched or updated in the last year that serve local members and support APIC's mission and strategic plan. The Chapter Leader Award recognizes a local chapter member for exemplary leadership and chapter contribution.

Please join us in congratulating this year's award recipients for modeling excellence in their chapter activities and local leadership translating into added value for their respective chapters and chapter members.

2024 Chapter Excellence Award Recipients

- APIC Northwest Ohio
- APIC Montana
- APIC Nebraska
- APIC Greater New York
- APIC Dallas-Ft.Worth

2024 Chapter Leader Award Recipients

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Anne Mattern, BSN, RN, CNORE, CIC | (Dallas-Ft. Worth) |
| • Jessica Arias, MHL, RN, CIC, FAPIC | (Southern New Jersey) |
| • Diana Yacoub, RN,BSN,MPA,CIC,CPHQ | (Greater New York) |
| • Maricar Telmo, MSN, CNL, CIC | (San Francisco Bay Area) |
| • Lindsay Montoya, MPH, CIC | (Three Rivers-Pittsburgh) |

This year's award recipients will be recognized in San Antonio during Chapter Leader Day 2024 on Sunday, June 2 at 10 am. We look forward to seeing you there!

Chapter protection against online phishing scams

On this month's Chapter Presidents' Call, participants were reminded of the dangers of online phishing scams and how to protect our chapters from them. In these attacks, scammers use illegally obtained information to trick their targets into electronically providing information that can be used for identity or online financial theft. Email is a primary mode of attack on both the organizations and the individuals tied to them.

To help maintain the security of our members' data, chapters should:

- Be diligent about protecting sensitive member information and handle related communications with extreme care
- Follow up with supposed senders by phone or a new email when messages are suspicious
- Don't reply to messages or open attachments on suspicious emails
- Report untrusted email addresses as spam
- Use systems and processes that require multiple approvals and verification prior to sharing member or chapter information, transferring funds, or making payments
- Stay alert and remain diligent as online scammers are constantly changing their tactics

Have questions or concerns about the security of your chapter's data and how to protect it? Email chapters@apic.org.

Membership Highlights

Be a stop on the APIC Board of Directors Speaking Tour!

The APIC Board of Directors (BOD) is embarking on a local chapter tour and would love to connect with your members! Would you like a member of the APIC BOD to speak at one of your chapter meetings and share key updates on APIC initiatives for 2024? They are ready and available, so spread the word. If you are interested in scheduling one of them for an upcoming meeting, please email chapters@apic.org. They are looking forward to meeting with you and your members soon.

Get ready for the relaunch of APIC's Chapter Mentoring Program

In the Fall of 2023, APIC piloted a new Chapter Mentoring Program. The program was designed to help chapters facilitate small group and peer-to-peer mentoring programs at the local level and will close at the end of May. As we now prepare for the final evaluations and assessments, we are simultaneously readying to relaunch the program to the broader chapter network.

The 2024 Chapter Mentoring Program for Peer-to-Peer and Small Groups will begin in July and run through December. Sign-ups for participation in this program year are now being accepted! [Check out the details of the program](#), including expectations and requirements, now. If your chapter is qualified and interested in participating in the 2024 Chapter Mentoring program, [sign up here](#) by **May 28**.

If you have any questions about the program, please [reach out to your assigned MEC liaison](#) or email chapters@apic.org.

Strategic Partner Program

Check out the Chapter Leaders & Strategic Partners Call – Available NOW!

Thank you to all of the Chapter Leaders who joined us last month for our joint Chapter Leader – Strategic Partner call. During the call, APIC's Strategic Partnerships team covered the various ways in which Chapters and Strategic Partners, along with other industry partners, can work together for the benefit of your chapters and local members. Participants were also introduced to several APIC Strategic Partners and specifically how they could help support chapters.

[Download the presentation](#), as well as the [Corporate Support Opportunities for APIC Chapters FAQs](#) for easy reference. To replay the recording, use the link and passcode provided below:

https://apic.zoom.us/rec/share/JGbS-lnrYt79QiA2D4LcFNXO3WOWdNiOUfSOdquIRB6JL-4X08-Zo3MlbFXNgSZD.G9sKV_wq_UTiLvLR

Passcode: .nt8NtQK

For additional questions regarding how your chapter can work with Strategic Partners and other members of industry, email chapters@apic.org. And, don't forget to wrap up Chapter Leader Day 2024 by joining us and APIC's Strategic Partners for the Chapter Leader/Strategic Partner Reception in San Antonio at 4:30 pm!

APIC Happenings to Share

2024 IPC Collaboration Series Call for Presenters is OPEN NOW!

We are seeking teams of two (an IP and a collaborator) to share your experience as a successful case study.

[The IPC Collaboration Series](#) will demonstrate the importance of relationship building between infection prevention and other areas of expertise and highlight mechanisms for IPs to foster stronger relationships. To do so, we want to hear your story!

These relationships are essential to the IP as they offer insight into how the work of other teams impacts infection prevention. Further, your experiences will highlight how cross-functional teams are an essential component of a comprehensive infection prevention program.

Why apply? In 2023 we had over 1,700 people register for the series. This is your chance to impact many lives and share your knowledge. Speakers also earn continuing education credit for participating in this series.

In 2024, we will focus on:

- Construction and Renovation
- Eye Clinics/Optomety
- Laundry management
- Environmental cleaning
- Respiratory viruses
- Immunizations
- Instrument Reprocessing

Apply Now!

Share your thoughts on APIC's research agenda!

The APIC member perspective is crucial to guide APIC's Center for Research, Practice, and Innovation as we develop our research agenda. Your input will help us ensure that the final research agenda prioritizes areas of critical knowledge gaps and will be most impactful to infection prevention practice. Please take a few minutes to [provide your feedback on the survey here](#) and encourage your members to complete it, as well. Together, we can advance the field of infection prevention.

CBIC Updates for Chapters

Connect with CBIC at the 2024 APIC Annual Conference in June! The CBIC staff and board of directors are looking forward to seeing many of you at this in-person event. See the specific opportunities to meet with CBIC below:

- CBIC will be holding a session providing an update on the Advanced Leadership Certification in Infection Prevention (AL-CIP). Join CBIC President, Andrea Flinchum, MPH, BSN, RN, CIC, LTC-CIP, FAPIC, CBIC Director, Gail Fraine, RN, MMHC, BSN, CIC, LTC-CIP, and CBIC Executive Director, Jessica Dangles, MBA, MS, PMP, CAE on Tuesday, June 4 from 10am-11am CST in Room 225 CD. For more information on the certification, see the [dedicated page on the CBIC website](#). We will continue to update this as more information is available.
- Hold a current CBIC certification? Come celebrate your certification with us at the CBIC Reception on Monday at 5:30pm CST in the Lone Star Foyer (Grand Hyatt San Antonio)! Drinks and light appetizers will be served.
- Giveaway Time! CBIC will be giving away three a-IPC certification examination registrations at the conference. Stop by our booth to enter. CBIC can be found in the Exhibit Hall with APIC and APIC Consulting – Booth #925. See you there!

Don't forget attending the conference and on-demand sessions earns infection prevention units (IPUs) eligible towards your current recertification. More information on IPUs and Recertification can be found [here](#).

If you have questions about CBIC's certifications, please contact us at info@cbic.org. It is always a pleasure to connect with APIC chapters and to learn how CBIC can better assist current and prospective certificants.



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