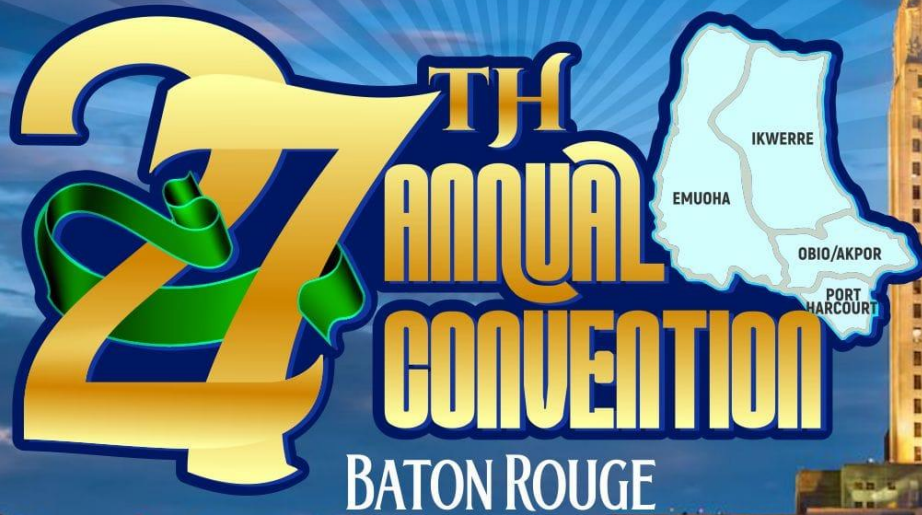




**OGBAKOR IKWERRE USA
/CANADA, INC. (OIUSA)**

2023 CONVENTION



MAY 26 - 28, 2023

HOLIDAY INN BATON ROUGE SOUTH
9990 AIRLINE HIGHWAY, BATON ROUGE, LA 70816

Ogbakor Iwhuruohna USA/Canada, Inc.

2023 Annual National Convention

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

May 26 - 28, 2023



Dear Members and Friends of OIUSA/Canada,

On behalf of the Executive Committee of OIUSA/Canada, we wish you and your families a Happy New Year.

I am delighted to announce that the 2023 Ogbakor Iwhuruohna USA (OIUSA)/Canada, Inc. Annual Convention will be held at the **Holiday Inn, Baton Rouge South, from May 26-28, 2023**. In keeping with our tradition, the National Convention Planning Committee (NCPC) has done a great job in finalizing accommodation and lodging arrangements for the convention, giving everyone sufficient time and information to facilitate travel plans.

This convention will differ from the past, but you have to be there to find out. The theme is *“Ikwerre active engagement in regional and national discussion: a pathway to sustained unity and relevance in the dynamic world.”* The overall format will be Town Hall-like, with selected panelists presenting a panoramic overview of a specific theme component. After that, our invitees and members will commence wide-open, robust discussions on the theme, with a moderator facilitating the meetings. A communiqué team headed by the Secretary-General will take notes and summarize the critical and most salient points of discussions. These will be compiled, archived, and made available to attendees after the convention.

The NCPC has invited various dignitaries from Nigeria and the USA, including His Excellency, the Governor of Rivers State, Chief (Barr) Nyesom Ezenwo Wike, CON, and the former Minister for Transport, Rt. Hon. (Chief) Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi, President General of Ogbakor Ikwerre Worldwide, Prof. Emenike Wami, HM Eze Blessing Wagor, traditional rulers, business leaders, and many more.

Host City: Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA

Host Chapter: OIUSA- Louisiana.

Date: Friday, May 26 - 28, 2023 (Memorial Day Weekend)

Event Venue: **Holiday Inn, Baton Rouge South**
9990 Airline Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70816
(225) 924-7021

Airport Information:

Baton Rouge Airport (BTR) is the closest airport to the event Hotels.

❖ *There is no airport shuttle to the Hotel, but our team has plans for your travel to the Hotel.*

You must carefully review the following information: Hotel [accommodation] discounted rates, air and ground transportation, convention pre-registration, etc., and complete your reservation immediately. Attached is information for the convention to assist you and your family in meeting your travel arrangements seamlessly.



Hotel Reservation:

To reserve online, please visit www.holidayinn.com/btr-south and enter Group Code - **OIU**
 Or call **+1 (225) 924-7021** and ask for in-house reservations.

Hotel Room Rate:

The Hotel offers special discounted rates to members and guests who make their **reservations on or before April 26, 2023**. You are encouraged to make your reservation immediately to take advantage of these special offers. Any booking made after this deadline will be at the Hotel’s standard commercial rate based on room availability.

Holiday Inn, Baton Rouge South

Rooms				
Traditional Kings and Double Standard	\$109			

- The rate includes breakfast on Saturday and Sunday- buffet style in front of the meeting space.
- The Hotel will accommodate families that need a suite by adjoining two standard king rooms into a King and double.
- The check-in time is 3:00 PM, and the check-out time is 12:00 PM. Early Check-in based on availability.
- The Hotel will honor the rates three days before and after the event.
- Notice of the individual’s cancelation must be received at least 48 hours before scheduled arrival.
- Billing is not final until final check-out and is subject to change due to any charges that are not available at this time, such as calls, room service, gift shop charges, final consumption charges, etc.

NOTE:

Individuals to pay own:

Members and guests are required to pay their account upon departure. When you make your reservations, the Hotel will require a deposit equal to the room rate and tax for the first night of each reservation. An individual’s deposit is refundable to that individual if the Hotel receives notice of an individual’s cancellation at least **72 hours** before scheduled arrival. *Upon check-in, the guest will be required to present a valid credit card, on which an amount of sufficient pre-authorization can be obtained to cover the room and tax charges for the length of the guest’s stay, plus the anticipated use of the Hotel’s ancillary services.*



Arrival & Departure Dates:

The National Convention Planning Committee (NCPC) has arranged with the hotel management to allow convention attendees *arriving or departing two days before or after the convention* to benefit from the Hotel’s discounted rate. This arrangement will allow members to enjoy your Louisiana experience and its surrounding tourist attractions.

Convention Pre-registration:

Members, prospective members, and guests are encouraged to pre-register for the convention online or by mail conveniently. Doing so will help you to avoid queuing up in a possibly long line at the registration desk during the convention, as this convention is expected to draw record attendance. For all early registration, your receipts will be mailed to you by the OIUSA Financial Team on or before April 30, 2023. To ensure you receive the registration receipts, we advise providing the following with your check or money order: **name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address.** For existing members absent at past conventions, you may mail in your membership dues to bring your membership up-to-date, help OIUSA meet her financial obligations, and help reduce the burden of paying past dues all at once. Please take advantage of the early registration by making checks or money orders payable to **Ogbakor Ikwerre USA, Inc., Attn.: Ven. Collins Asonye, 4643 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304, or call him @ (419) 438-1197 for updated information on your membership status.**

You can also pay online with your credit card or PayPal by logging on to <http://www.oiusa.org/Home/MemberPayments>

Membership and Convention Annual Dues:

The table below is a breakdown of the approved membership and convention dues.

CATEGORY

NEW MEMBERS	SINGLE	COUPLE	GUEST (EACH)
Registration	\$50	\$75	
Convention Fees	\$100	\$200	\$120/N90K (EACH)**
Annual Dues	\$100	\$110	
TOTAL FOR NEW MEMBERS	<u>\$250.00</u>	<u>\$385.00</u>	
RETURNING MEMBERS			
Convention Fee	\$100	\$200	
Annual Dues	\$100	\$110	
TOTAL FOR RETURNING MEMBERS	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>\$310.00</u>	
OIUSA NGBARU Annual Fee	<u>\$100.00</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>	
YOUNG ADULTS (23-25 Yrs)			
Convention Fee	\$25		
YOUNG ADULTS (26-30 Yrs.)			
New Registration	\$50		



OTHER PAYMENT METHODS:

1. Zelle – OIUSATRESURY@OIUSA.ORG
2. Bank of America (BOA) - Acct. # 21013855
3. First City Monument Bank (FCMB) – Acct. # (1027184019-NGN), (1027184026-USD)**

Youth and Children's Programs:

The youths and children are the future of OIUSA. OIUSA requests parents bring their children and encourage their grown children to attend the convention. The OIUSA Youth Leadership Committee is working on programs and activities for all the youths and children. For additional information, please get in touch with the **Youth Administrator, Mrs. Peace Ogunleye**, @ +1 (213) 265-6355

Graduating Students:

Parents who have 2023 high school and college graduates and graduate students, including adults, should submit their names to the Public Relations Officer or Chairman of the NCPC to ensure that they receive their deserved recognitions and awards. Please include the schools that they are graduating from and going to, their majors, and prospects. The OIUSA Public Relations Officer is **Mr. Victor Chima Wami**, and he can be reached at +1 (951) 285-0118, and email all the needed information to him at PRO@OIUSA.org

OIUSA Uniforms:

During the 2023 Convention in Dallas, Texas, OIUSA created the position of OIUSA WOMEN LEADER, whose committee handles everything related to OIUSA's female members, including uniforms, etc. The OIUSA Women Leader is **Mrs. Patience (Dada) Osiah**; she can be reached at +1 (313) 330-3446

Finally, 2023 is an election year, and we need to elect a new team of executives to continue moving OIUSA/Canada forward. I look forward to meeting you and your family as we prepare to receive our visitors from Nigeria and the diaspora in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. And together, we are all looking forward to the legendary Louisiana experience. I will be available to answer any questions and am open to any suggestions you may have on how to improve our events and organization; please do not hesitate to contact me at +1 347-907-1130.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to OIUSA/Canada. OIUSA wishes you and your family a safe trip to and from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Yours in service,

Eric Welle
President, OIUSA/Canada



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Congratulatory Messages and Ads Support: (No Payment No Ad)

NO PAYMENT, NO AD, NO AD, NO BROCHURE!!!

Convention Advertisements: The NCPC is soliciting advertisements, congratulatory goodwill messages, and greetings from our members, friends, and supporters to help defray the cost of printing the convention brochure. Please use the Order Form below for advertisement solicitation and follow the instructions as indicated. Collectively, let us support members of the NCPC in their efforts to solicit funds for the convention.

ADVERTISING IN THE CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOKLET

Contact information		
Name of Company/org/Family		
Name of Contact Person		
Full Address		
City, State, Zip Code		
Telephone Number + Area code		
AD SIZE	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
8.5x11	Back Cover is determined by the postmarked date	\$500.00
8.5x11	Inside Back Cover Determined by postmarked date	\$300.00
8.5x11	Inside Middle Page Determined by postmarked date	\$300.00
8.5x11	Full Pages	\$100.00/N72K
8.5x5.5	Half Page	\$80.00/N60K

- ❖ To help OIUSA/Canada raise funds, NCPC is appealing to members of OIUSA/Canada to buy an Ad for the brochure and help sell 3 Ads to their friends, businesses, and supporters.
 - ❖ All requests from individuals or organizations in the USA, Canada, and Europe must include full payment in US dollars. Please make your check or money order payable to **Ogbakor Ikwerre USA, Inc.**
 - ❖ **Mail to;** **Ogbakor Ikwerre USA, Inc;**
 - ❖ **ATTN: Ven. Collins Asonye,**
4643 Seminary Road, #203
Alexandria, VA 22304
- Payment by Zelle to; OiusaTreasury@oiusa.org • Payment through Bank: **BOA (#21013855), FCMB (#1027184019)**
- ❖ The deadline for all advertisements and payments is April 30, 2023. **No advertisements will be published in the program brochure without full payment.** **Email your Ad to 03prince@concast.net**

For questions and additional information, don't hesitate to contact the 2023 National Convention Planning Committee Co-Chairman - **Mrs. Patience Igwe**, at +1 614-260-3630, **Eze Charles Wopara** at +1 225-505-7258.