Fire Time Media Presents

2026 HPBExpo Show Guide

Legend

- Education Class
- Industry Event
- Walk Around the Show
- Meeting with Supplier
- Travel

Check out the 2026 *Fire Time Journal*

"Preparing for Harvest"

Produced by The Fire Time Network & The Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association

Available at the 2026 HPBExpo

Wed, March 18

- **7:30 AM** – **HPBExpo Early Badge Pick-up, Registration, and Welcome Gift—the 2026 *Fire Time Journal***
  Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
- **4:00 PM** – **Travel to New Orleans**
- **4:45 PM** – **Get ready for the Retailer Roundtables.**
- **5:00 PM** – **Retailer Roundtables**
  LIMITED SPACE
  Exclusive to HPBA Member Retailers and HPBA Member Service Companies
  New Orleans Convention Center (2nd Floor)
- **6:45 PM** – **Go to hotel and clean up for the night.**
- **5:30 PM** – **Mid-Atlantic HPBA Reception**
  Mulate's
- **5:30 PM** – **SCHPBA Expo Reception**
  Annunciation Restaurant
- **6:00 PM** – **MSHPBA & MWHPBA Kick-Off Reception**
  Hard Rock Cafe
- **6:30 PM** – **Northeast HPBA "Beer in the Bathtub" Reception**
  Lucy's Retired Surfer's Bar
- **6:00 PM** – **Western States Reception NWHPBA, HPBA Pacific, OHPBA, & RMHPBA**
  Sidecar Patio & Oyster Bar
- **6:00 PM** – **Southeast HPBA Reception**
  Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, Room 285
- **7:00 PM** – **HPBAC Canadian Reception**
  The Chicory
- **10:00 PM** – **Go to bed you wild child!**

Thu, March 19

- **7:30 AM** – **Breakfast**
- **8:30 AM** – **Opening Session**
  Hosted by Jill McClure & Kris Richardson
  Featuring: Jessica Voss-Kehl, Tim Reed, & More
  Fueling Our Future: People, AI, and the Next Era of Our Industry
  Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
- **10:00 AM** – **Show Opens**
  Grab a copy of the 2026 *Fire Time Journal*
- **10:30 AM** – **"Stop Quoting, Start Selling"**
  Gideon Honeycutt
  Exhibit Hall Classroom
- **11:45 AM** – **Fireside Chat: Karen Smeltz & Dane Harman**
  HPBA Membership Booth
- **12:00 PM** – **"5 Principles of a Winning Showroom"**
  Kenneth Walker
  Exhibit Hall Classroom
- **12:45 PM** – **Quick Lunch** (15 minutes)
- **1:00 PM** – **"Rate Installations to Maximize Revenue—and the Schedule"**
  Tim Reed
  Exhibit Hall Classroom
- **2:00 PM** – **Walk Around the Show and Meet with Vendors**
- **2:30 PM** – **Biergarten Opens**
  Outdoor Burn Area
- **4:00 PM** – **Indoor Show Closes**
- **4:00 PM** – **Industry Street Party**
  Biergarten & Log Spitting Contest
  Outdoor Burn Area
- **4:00 PM** – ➜ ➜ ➜ ➜ ➜
- **6:45 PM** – **Go to hotel and clean up for the night.**
- **7:30 PM** – **Get dinner with one of your key suppliers and enjoy a night together downtown.**
- **10:00 PM** – **Connect with other retailers for night on the town in New Orleans.**

Fri, March 20

- **7:30 AM** – **Breakfast**
  Debrief from yesterday
- **7:30 AM** – **Women's Industry Networking**
  RSVP Here
- **10:00 AM** – **Show Opens**
  Walk around the show
- **10:30 AM** – **"From Leads to Lifelong, Happy Customers: Optimizing Marketing That Pays You Back"**
  Carter Harkins and Taylor Hill
  Exhibit Hall Classroom
- **11:45 AM** – **Walk Around the Show and Meet with Vendors**
- **12:45 PM** – **Lunch**
  Debrief (30 minutes)
- **2:00 PM** – **Walk Around the Show and Meet with Vendors**
- **2:30 PM** – **"Operations & Customer Experience Excellence"**
  Rob Cackowski
  Exhibit Hall Classroom
- **2:30 PM** – **"Hiring & Inspiring Gen Z"**
  Matt Bradley
  Exhibit Hall Classroom
- **3:00 PM** – **"From Capitol Hill to State Capitols: How Policy Decisions Impact your Showroom Floor"**
  Jason Tolleson
  Exhibit Hall Classroom
- **3:00 PM** – **Walk Around the Show and Meet with Vendors**
- **4:00 PM** – **Show Closes**
- **4:30 PM** – **The Ultimate Awards Show**
  Hosted by Jill McClure & Kris Richardson
  Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
- **6:45 PM** – **Drop your stuff off at the hotel and head over to the Karaoke after party.**
- **7:00 PM** – **Fire Time Karaoke After Party**
  Early Entry Must Have Golden Ticket to Get In
- **7:30 PM** – **Fire Time Karaoke After Party**
  MAX CAPACITY OF 100 ATTENDEES
  The Den
  901 S Peters St, New Orleans.
  Click Here to Get Golden Ticket for Guaranteed Entry
  Full Bar, Full Kitchen, Limited Number of Drink Tickets Available

Sat, March 21

- **7:30 AM** – **Breakfast**
  Debrief from yesterday
- **8:30 AM** – **Get ready for the final day of the show.**
- **9:00 AM** – **Show Opens**
  Walk around the show
- **9:30 AM** – **"Future Proofing Your Business"**
  Kyle Titsworth, Daniel Hammer, & Barbara Brennan
  Exhibit Hall Classroom
- **11:00 AM** – **"Master the Sales Process in Your Company"**
  Tim Reed
  Exhibit Hall Classroom
- **11:30 AM** – **Final Walk Around the Show**
- **12:00 PM** – **Show Closes**
- **12:00 PM** – **Offsite Lunch & Final Debrief**
- **1:00 PM** – **Travel Home from New Orleans**