

NEOEADAY 2026



Join us for
NEOEADay on
Friday,
October 9, 2026!



NEOEADay—Lifelong Learning

By Andrew Smith, NEOEA President

Lifelong learning is a phrase we have heard many times, but it is worth pausing to reflect on its meaning. As educators, we continue to gain knowledge through traditional learning, professional experiences, and opportunities to grow. Many of you have participated in NEOEA workshops, from Megaconference and Summer Leadership to committee webinars, ESP Conference, college coursework through one of our higher education programs, or our flagship professional development event—NEOEADay. Please take time to explore the variety of NEOEA Day workshops available throughout the district, in multiple formats and lengths, including virtual options. We look forward to seeing you continue your educational journey with us.



Using This Catalog

NEOEa Day represents your dues dollars at work: those dollars pay for the preparation, production, and distribution of this catalog, and some programs receive grants paid from your dues dollars. Attending NEOEA Day programs, most of which provide growth opportunities at lower-than-usual prices, is an excellent way to get some of your NEOEA dues dollars back!

Organization. This catalog is divided into two main sections:

- professional development (pages 1-4);
- personal development (pages 4-6).

“Professional development” refers to things that make us more effective on the job. This was one of the original purposes of our organization when it was founded as NEOTA back in 1869, and it still comprises the largest portion of our NEOEA Day offerings.

“Personal development” refers to items intended to enrich the lives of members both on and off the job.

Registration. Each program description identifies a chairperson, along with a phone number for contacting that chairperson and an address for sending in registration forms and payment. A few programs are independently funded so that they have no registration fee; however, **almost all programs require registration.** You register for NEOEA Day programs by using the registration form below. **Do not send registration forms or fees to NEOEA; send them to the address listed in the program description.**

Lunch. Please note luncheon arrangements which will be indicated in the program description. Some programs include lunch; some provide a lunch break during which you can eat a “bag lunch” or purchase lunch onsite; others provide a lunch period in which you eat offsite.

Children. We asked chairpersons to identify “family-friendly”  programs that would be appropriate for children 12 and above accompanied by parents or guardians. Most programs are designed for an adult audience, but some programs are thoroughly appropriate for and enjoyable by children. By NEOEA policy, “the presence or absence of children at any NEOEA Day program will be at the discretion of the person or persons planning the program.” **Children are not permitted at NEOEA Day programs unless the program description uses the family-friendly logo or otherwise states that children are permitted to attend;** if you have any questions about bringing children to the program you plan to attend, please contact the chairperson.

Professional Development Credit. Since implementing local professional development committees (LPDCs), Ohio no longer certifies CEU (continuing education unit) providers. Your LPDC determines whether it will recognize a particular activity for professional development credit on your own individual professional development plan (IPDP). To facilitate that process, NEOEA provides presenters with certificates of participation. Presenters distribute those certificates at the end of the program; please don’t ask for them earlier. You will need to work with your own LPDC to determine whether a program is appropriate for your IPDP, and you will need to comply with any deadlines that your LPDC may require.

Virtual Sessions. Sessions marked with a “V” may/will be held virtually. Please contact the chairperson if you have any questions.

Graduate Credit. For NEOEA members who participate in any NEOEA Day workshop, two semester hours graduate credit (\$390) is available through Ashland College. Registration information and course assignment is available at neoea.org/files/GraduateCredit.pdf.

NEOEa Day Committee

NEOEa Day is a project of the Board of Directors’ NEOEA Day Subcommittee. Members in 2025-26 included Chairperson Jason Scherer, Field Local TA; Checole Andrews, Painesville City TA; Crystal Boyd Funderburk, Hudson EA; Sharron Callahan, Cardinal EA; Trish Duncan, Bedford EA; Amanda Fehlbaum, YSU-OEA; Julie

Garcia, Lorain EA; Bridget Heiss, Mentor Class. Emp.; Marchell Josie, East Cleveland EA; Dennis Lewis, Parma EA-R; Dawn Magnasco, East Cleveland EA; Jasmine Monacelli, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake TA; Laura Ponsart, Fairview Park EA; Angela Savinda, Liberty ASE; Jerry Turillo, Boardman EA; and Angela Wojtecki, Nordon Hills EA.

NEOEa DAY REGISTRATION FORM

You must register by mail, email, or weblink. The information on this form should be used for registration for your NEOEA Day selection. Please note the deadline for each program and if your chosen program requires additional information to be noted on this reservation form.

Name _____

Home address _____

Cell phone _____

Non-work email address _____

Name of local association _____

COST: Cost of each program is listed in the reservation information. All must pay. \$ _____
Additional fee for non-NEOEa members. \$10.00
Make payment for non-member fee on a separate check payable to NEOEA.

Make reservation fee payable to the person indicated in the workshop reservation information. Send both checks (if you are a non-member) to the address indicated in the reservation information in the program of your choice.

Name and code number of the session you will attend _____

Mail or email this form to the address listed in the reservation information of the workshop you have chosen.

DO NOT MAIL REGISTRATION FORMS TO NEOEA.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

THE ARTS

See also

Popular Music and Orff Schulwerk in Music, Program #8, Page 2.

BUSINESS EDUCATION

See also

Environmental Practices in Brewing in Environmental/Outdoor Education, Program #2, Page 1.

Taste and Tour: Cleveland's Urban Farm Experience in Science, Program #10, Page 3.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Program #1

Virtual

Prevention to Partnership: Building Strong Behavior Supports

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Presenter: Sarah McFarland,
Scho Behavior Academy



AGENDA

This session supports educators in moving from reactive behavior management to proactive, relationship-centered practices. Participants will explore how behavior is shaped by environment, communication, and experience, and learn practical strategies to prevent escalation, respond skillfully, and support student regulation. Through real-world examples and reflection, educators will leave with tools to build calm, predictable classrooms and stronger partnerships with students.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Register at <https://forms.gle/cidGLzLqdrPYDvNY6>. For further information, contact Sarah McFarland at together@schobehavioracademy.com. **Deadline:** Oct. 2, 2026. (Limited to 100 participants.)

See also

Effective Approaches to Reduce and

Replace Challenging Behaviors in K-12 Students in Special Education, Program #13, Page 4.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

See also

Picture This! Growing Young Readers and Writers through Art, in Language Arts, Program #6, Page 2.

ENVIRONMENTAL/ OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Program #2

Central

Environmental Practices in Brewing

Place: begin at Great Lakes Brewing, 2526 Market Ave., Cleveland 44113 and end at Market Garden Brewing, 1849 West 24th Street, Cleveland 44113

Time: 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Ben Beukeman, NEOEA Environmental Concerns Committee

AGENDA

Join us for a tour of two local breweries. We will learn about sustainable environmental practices and learn about the beer-making process and how these businesses work with local suppliers to limit the carbon imprint.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$20 (lunch on your own). Send registration form and check to Ben Beukeman at 1853 Empire Road, Wickliffe, OH 44092-1136. For further information, contact Ben Beukeman at bbeukeman@gmail.com. **Deadline:** Sept. 25, 2026. (Limited to 40 participants.)

Program #3

West

Guided Naturalist Hike at George Jones Farm and Nature Preserve

Place: George Jones Farm, 44333 St. Rt. 511, Oberlin 44074

Time: 10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

Chairperson: Anna Kiss
Mauser-Martinez



AGENDA

Join the farmers and naturalists who work at the farm on a guided hike

through the GJF property. We are home to many biomes, landscapes, flora, fungi, and fauna. Prepare to hike at a moderately-brisk pace, venture off-trail, and discuss environmental topics impacting our farm, watershed, and local communities.

Materials: Participants should come prepared to hike, in appropriate layers and footwear.

Prep: Participants can expect to walk up to three miles. Hikes will continue on as scheduled, rain or shine, and will only be canceled for severe weather.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$5-\$10 donation (no lunch break). Send donation and registration form to City Fresh, PO Box 357, Oberlin, OH 44074. For further information, contact Emma Miner at emma@cityfresh.org or 720.320.6367. **Deadline:** Oct. 9, 2026. (Limited to 25 participants.)

Program #4

Central/East

Unwind and Explore: Celebrate NEOEA Day at Holden Forests & Gardens!

Place: Cleveland Botanical Garden, 11030 East Blvd., Cleveland 44106 OR Holden Arboretum, 9550 Sperry Road, Kirtland 44094

Time: Cleveland Botanical Garden from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. OR Holden Arboretum from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Beck Thompson



AGENDA

Treat yourself to a day of relaxation and inspiration at Holden Forests & Gardens on Friday, October 9, with free admission exclusively for educators in celebration of NEOEA Day.

At Holden Arboretum, you can climb the Emergent Tower for breathtaking views of Lake Erie, enjoy the Canopy Walk, collect colorful leaves on the Leaf Trail, and stroll through serene Woodland Walks.

At Cleveland Botanical Garden, marvel at vibrant butterflies in the Costa Rica Glass-house, explore the unique spiny desert in the Madagascar Glasshouse, delight in interactive activities at Hershey Children's Garden, and find peace in the Japanese Garden.

Continued on page 2

Educators will receive a 20% discount on membership purchases as a token of appreciation. Don't miss this opportunity to relax, recharge, and explore the beauty of Holden Forests & Gardens!

RESERVATIONS

Cost: Educators must present a school ID or other proof of eligibility for free entry. Non-teachers and family members are required to pay regular admission. Visit www.holdenfg.org for more information about our campuses and directions.

GUIDANCE/PSYCHOLOGY/ PUPIL SERVICES

Program #5

Virtual

NAMI's Ending the Silence for Staff

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Presenter: Matthew Selker,
Executive Director of NAMI

AGENDA

"Ending the Silence for Staff" is an evidence-based, engaging mental health and suicide prevention presentation for school staff, educators, and administrators. Led by a trained presenter and a young adult with lived experience, the program covers warning signs, key mental health and suicide facts, how to support students, and how to work effectively with families. Participants receive practical resources and connections to local and national supports. The program helps reduce stigma, build confidence, and ensure students, staff, and families know they are not alone.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Register at info@namilake.org. For further information, contact Matt Selker at matt@namilake.org or 440.639.1200, Ext. 104. **Deadline:** Sept. 30, 2026. (Limited to 50 participants.)

See also

Prevention to Partnership: Building Strong Behavior Supports, in Classroom Management, Program #1, Page 1.

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

See also

NAMI's Ending the Silence for Staff, in Guidance/Psychology/Pupil Services, Program #5, Page 2.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Program #6

Virtual

Picture This! Growing Young Readers and Writers through Art (Pre-K through Grade 2 and Art)

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Presenter: Angela Steve,
Cleveland Museum of Art

AGENDA

Join us for a two-hour interactive workshop that uses creative art experiences to strengthen early literacy development. PRE-K, KINDERGARTEN, 1ST and 2ND GRADE, and ART educators will explore how visual art can help learners to express ideas, retell and create stories, expand vocabulary, and make deeper connections to texts. Through these standards-aligned experiences, students can build oral language and writing skills, expand vocabulary, and increase comprehension. Help your students develop creativity, communication, and confidence!

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Register at <https://forms.gle/1Si9drBHURRyo2yE9>. For further information, contact Angela Steve at ASteve@clevelandart.org. **Deadline:** Sept. 21, 2026. (Limited to 50 participants.)

See also

Creating Space for Every Story: Addressing Soft Censorship in Education in Library/Media, Program #7, Page 2.

LIBRARY/MEDIA

Program #7

Virtual

Creating Space for Every Story: Addressing Soft Censorship in Education

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Presenter: Tara Cooper,
School Librarian

AGENDA

This session will explore the subtle impact of soft censorship, where external pressures, self-censorship, and unconscious biases influence the resources, perspectives, and learning opportunities available to students. While often unintentional, concerns about controversy, community expectations, limited resources, or potential challenges can lead educators to avoid certain topics, voices, or materials. Participants will examine how soft censorship can affect teaching and learning across educational settings including the school library, and will explore practical strategies for fostering inclusive, student-centered environments that support intellectual freedom, diverse perspectives, and equitable access to information.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Register online at <https://tinyurl.com/NEOEADAY>. For further information, contact Angela Wojtecki at Angela.Wojtecki@gmail.com or 330.908.6030. **Deadline:** Oct. 9, 2026. (Limited to 100 participants.)

See also

City Beautiful in Social Studies, Program #11, Page 3.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY

See also

Soap Box Derby Racing to STEM (Grades 3-12) in STEAM, Program #15, Page 4.

MUSIC

Program #8

Central

Popular Music and Orff Schulwerk with Martina Vasil, PhD, and David Dockan, PhD, and the Greater Cleveland Chapter of the American Orff Schulwerk Association

Place: Cleveland State University, Music and Communication Bldg., 2001 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland 44115

Time: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Chairperson: Angela Perrine Andreatta

AGENDA

This program is geared toward elementary music educators, but offers

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connections for music and movement educators with students of all ages. Through this active and engaging session, participants will gain insight into the connections between Orff Schulwerk and Popular Media, bringing our students' most valued cultural materials into the music and movement classroom. Participants will experience how lessons with popular music and media can go beyond what is being taught to how things are taught. Please bring a recorder and ukulele, if available.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$30 (lunch included). Visit our website at clevelandorff.org/store.html to preregister. Make check payable to Greater Cleveland Chapter of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association. Send check and registration form to Scott Roether, 3716 Latimore Road, Shaker Hts., OH 44122. For further information, contact Angie Perrine Andreatta or Scott Roether at clevelandorff@gmail.com or 216.280.3613. **Deadline:** Oct. 9, 2026. **(Limited to 60 participants.)**

SCIENCE

Program #9 *Central*

Rovers, Rubber Bands & Regolith: Engineering across Surfaces (Grades 5-10)

Place: Ohio Aerospace Institute, 22800 Cedar Point Road, Cleveland, 44142

Time: 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Jill Marconi, Ohio Space Grant Consortium

AGENDA

What does it feel like to drive across the moon? In this hands-on professional development, educators will explore the science of surface locomotion by investigating how traction and terrain affect movement on sand and loose regolith. Teachers will connect these physics principles to force, motion, and engineering design standards before tackling the centerpiece challenge: designing, building, and testing a rubber band-powered moon rover on a simulated lunar surface. Using the engineering design process, participants will iterate on their designs and leave with classroom-ready materials they can use immediately. This experience is perfect for educators looking to bring authentic,

curiosity-driven engineering challenges into their classrooms. We also will get a tour of the NASA Slope lab at NASA Glen Research Center.

Contact hours are available upon completion.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (lunch included). Register at <https://forms.gle/cTTM1oPonLko2iQT7>. For further information, contact Jill Marconi at Jill.Marconi@ParallaxResearch.org or 330.717.6191. **Deadline:** Sept. 18, 2026. **(Limited to 20 participants.)**

Program #10 *Central*

Taste & Tour: Cleveland's Urban Farm Experience

Place: Rid-All Green Partnership, 8129 Otter Avenue, Cleveland 44104

Time: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Chairperson: Karen Winston-Carpenter, Chairperson of NEOEA Minority Organizing Committee 

AGENDA

Discover Cleveland's Urban Farm, Rid-All Green Partnership, on a guided tour that showcases sustainable farming practices, seasonal crops, and the impact of urban agriculture on the local community. Learn how fresh produce is grown while exploring gardens, green spaces, aquaponics for fish, and innovative growing techniques. After the tour, enjoy a delicious farm-to-table lunch (for an additional fee, menu options: <https://ridall.org/98-2/>) prepared with fresh, seasonal ingredients. This educational and flavorful experience is perfect for groups, food enthusiasts, and anyone looking to connect with local agriculture.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (lunches available at noon to buy on your own). Send registration form to Karen Winston-Carpenter at kwsweets78@yahoo.com. For further information, contact Karen Winston-Carpenter at kwsweets78@yahoo.com. **Deadline:** Sept. 25, 2026. **(Limited to 20 participants.)**

See also

Elevating Learning: Integrating Indoor Drones into STEM Education (Grades 6-12) in STEAM, Program #14, Page 4.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Program #11 *Central*

City Beautiful

Place: meet at Starbucks/Convention Center Atrium, 1 St. Clair Ave., NE, Cleveland

Time: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Chairperson: Steve Rossa, See CLE Tours

AGENDA

The downtown Cleveland walking tour is a wonderful way to add informative steps to your day. This stroll will focus on the Cleveland Group Plan of 1903 which was inspired by the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. It is one of the earliest and most fully-realized plans for a major city outside of Washington DC and remains one of the best existing examples of the City Beautiful Movement. Elements of the plan that remain vital parts of Cleveland's cityscape today include the Federal Building, Cuyahoga County Courthouse, Cleveland City Hall, Public Auditorium, Cleveland Board of Education Building, Cleveland Public Library, and The Mall. Along the walk we will stop in and see the grandeur and details of a few of these buildings. The walk will conclude with a tour of the Cleveland Public Library.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$20 (no lunch break). Make checks payable to See-Cle Tours. Mail check and registration form to Steve Rossa, 402 Creekside Drive, Mayfield Hts., OH 44143. For further information, contact Steve Rossa at seecletours@gmail.com. **Deadline:** Sept. 30, 2026. **(Limited to 20 participants.)**

Program #12 *Central*

Walk the Beat with Cleveland's Heroes: Veterans, Firemen, and Policemen of the 1890's

Place: Western Reserve Fire Museum, 310 Carnegie Ave., Cleveland 44115

Time: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Greg Palumbo, Executive Director of the Cuyahoga Co. Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument

AGENDA

Explore how three of Cleveland's premier public history institutions—the Western Reserve Fire Museum, Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors'

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Monument, and the Cleveland Police Museum—collaborated to develop a modular yet connected educational tour program aligned with Ohio state curriculum standards.

Participants will experience a walking tour that weaves together the story of the largest fire in Cleveland history while guiding visitors through all three institutions. Along the way, each museum will showcase an interactive learning experience specifically designed for student and school-group engagement, offering educators practical ideas for interdisciplinary, standards-based programming that brings local history to life.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$10 (bring your lunch). Make checks payable to Western Reserve Fire Museum. Mail check and registration form to Cuyahoga Co. Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, Attn: Greg Palumbo, 401 Euclid Ave., Suite 46, Cleveland 44114. For further information, contact Greg Palumbo at Gpalumbo@CuyahogaCounty.gov. **Deadline:** Sept. 25, 2026. (Limited to 40 participants.)

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Program #13

Virtual

Effective Approaches to Reduce and Replace Challenging Behaviors in K-12 Students

Place: Will be held by videoconference
Time: 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Presenter: Monica Fisher,  V
 M.Ed., BCBA, COBA, Monarch School Assistant Director, Safety-Care® Trainer

AGENDA

Throughout the presentation, participants will learn concepts, tools, and techniques related to Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). They will leave with a toolkit of behavioral strategies that can be applied in both school and home settings. Agenda items will include:

- Define and discuss key behavioral terms including antecedent, consequence, and reinforcement.
- Identify functions of challenging behaviors (e.g., gaining attention, avoiding work) that help determine why children engage in different types of behavior.
- Learn about antecedent interventions and reinforcement-

based interventions that help to reduce challenging behaviors.

- Discuss how to respond to challenging behaviors using de-escalation techniques.
- Time will be provided for Question & Answer.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Send registration form to Lauren DeMinico at Monarch School, 22001 Fairmount Blvd., Shaker Hts., OH 44118. For further information, contact Lauren DeMinico at DeminicoL@bellefairejcb.org. **Deadline:** Oct. 7, 2026. (Unlimited number of participants.)

STEAM

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics)

Program #14

East

Elevating Learning: Integrating Indoor Drones into STEM Education (Grades 6-12)

Place: 8399 Tippecanoe Road, Canfield 44406

Time: 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

Chairperson: Michelle Channing, Youngstown State University

AGENDA

"Elevating Learning: Integrating Indoor Drones into STEM Education" is a professional development experience designed to help teachers bring innovative, hands-on technology into their classrooms. The session focuses on using indoor drones to enhance STEM instruction through engaging, real-world applications. Teachers learn how to design and implement safe, standards-aligned lessons that build student skills in problem-solving, coding, and engineering. By the end of the training, educators gain the confidence and practical strategies needed to integrate drone-based activities effectively, preparing students for future careers in technology and related fields while increasing classroom engagement and curiosity.

At the end of the class there will be a drawing for a PITSCO Echo Drone (\$194 value).

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Make reservations at ysu.edu/williamson-

innovation-park. For further information, contact Michelle Channing at mlchanning@ysu.edu or 330.941.2132. **Deadline:** Oct. 2, 2026. (Limited to 30 participants.)

Program #15

Central

Soap Box Derby Racing to STEM (Grades 3-12)

Place: International Soap Box Derby, 1000 George Washington Blvd., Blue Building, Akron 44312

Time: 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

Chairperson: Linda Hubbell



AGENDA

Experience first-hand the "Thrill of the Hill" at historic Derby Downs and discover exciting Soap Box Derby STEM programs designed to impact students' learning and skill development through engaging, PBL activities that provide active learning structure, make real-world connections, and support 21st Century life and career skills.

Workshop presenters, long-time educators, Linda Hubbell, SBD Education Director, and Michael Farren, Barberton High School Educator, will deliver informative and memorable STEM, cross-curricular activities for participants which include:

- Investigating SBD STEM programs and possible funding, community service, and other opportunities available for educators and students.
- Touring and learning the historical aspects of the museum and Derby Downs.
- Utilizing math and physics applications to test, fine-tune, and compete in a Mini Car Race.
- Having the opportunity to test drive a full-size adult SBD car down Derby track where youth worldwide have been racing since 1936 at the All-American Soap Box Derby.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Register at linda@soapboxderby.org. For further information, contact Linda Hubbell at linda@soapboxderby.org or 330.733.8723, Ext 12. **Deadline:** Oct. 1, 2026. (Limited to 50 participants)

See also

Rovers, Rubber Bands & Regolith: Engineering across Surfaces in Science, Program #9, Page 3.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Program #16

Virtual

I Wish Someone Had Told Me...What to Do before Heading for the Exit

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

Chairperson: Dennis Lewis,
NEOEA Personal Welfare &
Financial Planning Chairperson



AGENDA

Education personnel receive pensions that provide basic income in retirement. But these benefits only provide 60-70% of active workplace compensation. Advance planning will enable us to supplement income to maintain or enhance standards of living in retirement and live comfortably during our careers. This presentation will address the general topic of financial and investment planning, supplemental retirement and how it can help employees—from an educational—not marketing—perspective. A special program segment will be devoted to things members a few years from retirement should consider to enhance financial security in their next career-retirement. The program is also appropriate for newer educators as everyone should think about retirement as soon as they set foot in a school.

Attend this program and learn:

- Why financial planning is so important
- Basic steps in the planning process
- How to use the power of compounding to your best advantage
- What benefits you will provide on your own
- Things to set in place before walking out of a school for the last time

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Register online at <https://neoea.condohome.net/> or send registration form to Dennis Lewis, PO Box 360426, Strongsville, OH 44136. For further information, contact Dennis Lewis at utp@condohome.net or 440.572.3472. **Deadline:** Oct. 6, 2026. **(Limited to 100 participants.)**

Program #17

Tennessee

NEOEA Day Nashville Trip

Place: Nashville, TN

Time: Thursday, Oct. 8, at 5:00 p.m.

to Sunday, Oct. 11, at 7:30 p.m.

Chairperson: Brian Nowak with Nowak Tours, and Andrew Smith, NEOEA President

AGENDA

Get ready to experience the best of music, culture, and connection with your fellow members on NEOEA's Nashville Trip, October 8-11, 2026! From a guided tour of the city and free time to explore vibrant downtown, to unforgettable highlights like the Country Music Hall of Fame and a live performance at the iconic Grand Ole Opry, this trip offers the perfect mix of fun and relaxation.

Travel comfortably with motor coach transportation, enjoy included meals and hotel stays, and make lasting memories with colleagues or family and friends. Whether you're a first-time visitor or a Nashville regular, this is your chance to unwind, connect, and experience something special—don't miss out!

Our tour is being provided by Nowak Tours. Itinerary, pricing, and reservation information at <https://neoea.org/files/NashvilleItinerary.pdf>.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$1,535 for single occupancy and \$1,038 per person for double occupancy. Includes four meals, motor coach transportation, three nights lodging, and all attractions and admissions as stated in itinerary.

For questions about the tour, please contact Nowak Tours at 877.293.4900 or support@nowaktours.com.

Program #18

Central

Service Day—Kids' Book Bank

Place: 13913 W. Parkway Road, Cleveland 44135

Time: 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Chairperson: Nancy Wonson,
NEOEA Retired Organizing Committee



AGENDA

Have lots of fun and meet wonderful people! You can also expect to handle hundreds of books as you check them for condition, sort them by reading level, sticker them, and box them for distribution to our partner organizations.

A brief training is provided at the start of every shift. Sorting and packing books requires standing for extended periods

of time. Some tasks may be completed while seated. Volunteers will be assigned tasks upon arrival and will work among other volunteers.

We welcome individuals 13 and up accompanied by a registered adult to sort, sticker, and box books during the scheduled shifts.

You'll enjoy reminiscing with other volunteers about your favorite childhood books as you dig through hundreds of books and prepare them for young readers to discover.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Send registration form to Nancy Wonson at ne2wonson@aol.com. For further information, contact Nancy Wonson at ne2wonson@aol.com or 440.777.0628.

Deadline: Sept. 28, 2026. **(Limited to 40 participants.)**

Program #19

East

Wellness and Fiber Crafting

Place: Austintown Public Library, 600 S. Raccoon Road, Youngstown 44515

Time: 9:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Chairperson: Tammy LaPlante



AGENDA

This session will show you everything you need to get started with the basics of knitting or crocheting. We'll also cover common beginner mistakes and how to fix them. Finally, we'll introduce beginner patterns and a roadmap for what to create next along with helpful hints and videos. Knitting and crocheting engages various brain functions, potentially boosting mental well-being by reducing stress, enhancing memory, and stimulating creativity. The repetitive, rhythmic movements of knitting and crocheting can induce a relaxation response, while the focus required for intricate patterns helps sharpen cognitive functions. So why not join us as you learn a new skill with so many positive outcomes to show for it?

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Send registration form to Tammy LaPlante at laplante.aacse@gmail.com. For further information, contact Tammy LaPlante at laplante.aacse@gmail.com or 440.563.6229. **Deadline:** Oct. 1, 2026. **(Limited to 12 participants.)**

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PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Program #20

Central

Your Favorite New Farm Day

Place: Majestic Meadows Alpaca Farm and Boutique, 4195 Abbeyville Road, Medina, 44256

Time: 11:00 a.m. (must check in by 11:15 a.m.)

Chairperson: Suzie Neff



AGENDA

Step into a world of wonder where learning comes naturally on a self-guided tour at Majestic Meadows Alpaca Farm.

Set on a peaceful, nature-filled farm, guests are invited to explore at their own pace and connect with more than 70 friendly alpacas along with a wide variety of fascinating animals.

Along your journey, in addition to alpacas, you'll meet and learn about:

- Miniature donkeys, miniature horses, goats, sheep, llamas, rabbits, and miniature cows.
- Unique and exotic animals including kangaroos, wallabies, potbellied pigs, tortoises, camels, and turkeys.

Educational signage throughout the farm shares fun facts, habitat details, and animal care insights—turning every stop into a chance for discovery, curiosity, and hands-on learning.

A relaxed, outdoor experience designed for all ages, **this event will go on rain or shine**—no refunds will be issued due to weather.

Tours are self-guided; farm staff can answer questions or direct you to the next location/activity.

****Private encounter animals** are capybaras, Asian small-clawed otters, prehensile-tailed porcupines, and Artie the Armadillo, are an additional charge, and need to be booked in advance.

In addition, you can enjoy browsing in the beautiful farm boutique and gift shop and a friendly, helpful farm staff is happy to answer your questions and share their love of these special animals!

There is a concession stand on-site for anyone wishing to purchase ice cream treats, snacks, drinks, and grain (to feed the animals).

RESERVATIONS

Cost: Members: \$10, non-member adults: \$15, children 3-18: \$15,

NEOEa Day 2026: See inside and below for the professional and personal development topics—chosen for you!

North Eastern Ohio Education Association
6001 Landerhaven Drive, Suite D
Mayfield Heights, OH 44124-4190

children 2 and under: free, grain (to feed the animals): \$3.50/bag (optional). No lunch break. All reservations (<https://forms.gle/xsfUKVhD1u2spqdW6>) and payments must be received by Sept. 21, 2026. Payment can be sent via Venmo to Suzie-Neff-16 or mailed to Suzie Neff, 945 Hickory Grove Ave., Medina, OH 44256. For further information, contact Suzie Neff at suzieneff916@gmail.com. **Deadline:** Sept. 21, 2026. **(Limited to 50 participants.)**

Program #21

Virtual

Your Life, Your Legacy

Place: Will be held by videoconference
Time: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Presenter: Michael Feldman, Dignity Memorial



AGENDA

Participants will learn who Dignity Memorial is, as we walk through the key decisions families often face, from burial and cremation choices to how costs work and ways to protect your loved ones from future stress. There won't be pressure and no sales pitch—just clear, straightforward information so you can

make decisions on your own terms. Many people attend simply to get their questions answered and leave with a sense of relief knowing they're more prepared. Whether you're ready to take the next step or just starting to explore, the goal is simple: give you clarity, confidence, and a plan that reflects your wishes.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Send registration to Michael Feldman at Michael.Feldman@DignityMemorial.com. For further information, contact Michael Feldman at Michael.Feldman@DignityMemorial.com or 216.245.9523. **Deadline:** Oct. 7, 2026. **(Limited to 500 participants.)**

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NEOEa news,
visit our website at
neoea.org.