



# NHSA EXPO

**May 13th-19th, 2018**

Only NHSA Members are eligible to participate in the activities and showcases

Member price \$15/family    Non-Member Price \$35/family

The National Home School Association (NHSA) has chosen to do a **Virtual** Expo so that people from all 50 states can participate without the travel expense or complications of being away from home for a week. The Virtual Expo also provides "Exhibitors" with huge savings assuring greater participation by the vendors and organizations that you, as an attendee, will want to see. Best of all, the virtual environment allows for full interaction between you and other attendees, exhibitors, seminar presenters, conference moderators and participants in the film festival, science fair, solutions debate and MAD V's (Make-A-Difference Videos).

As an attendee you will be greeted by a virtual host after which you can participate in a variety of activities and sessions, ask questions, view and download supporting material and be in full control of when and how you connect with others.

To become an attendee you will register online just as you would for any other conference or Expo. Then you can use the "agenda builder" to select exactly what sessions and activities you want to be involved with. The convenient event map allows one-click access to different event areas. Each attendee will have their own "virtual briefcase" to download important information, messages, contacts, etc.

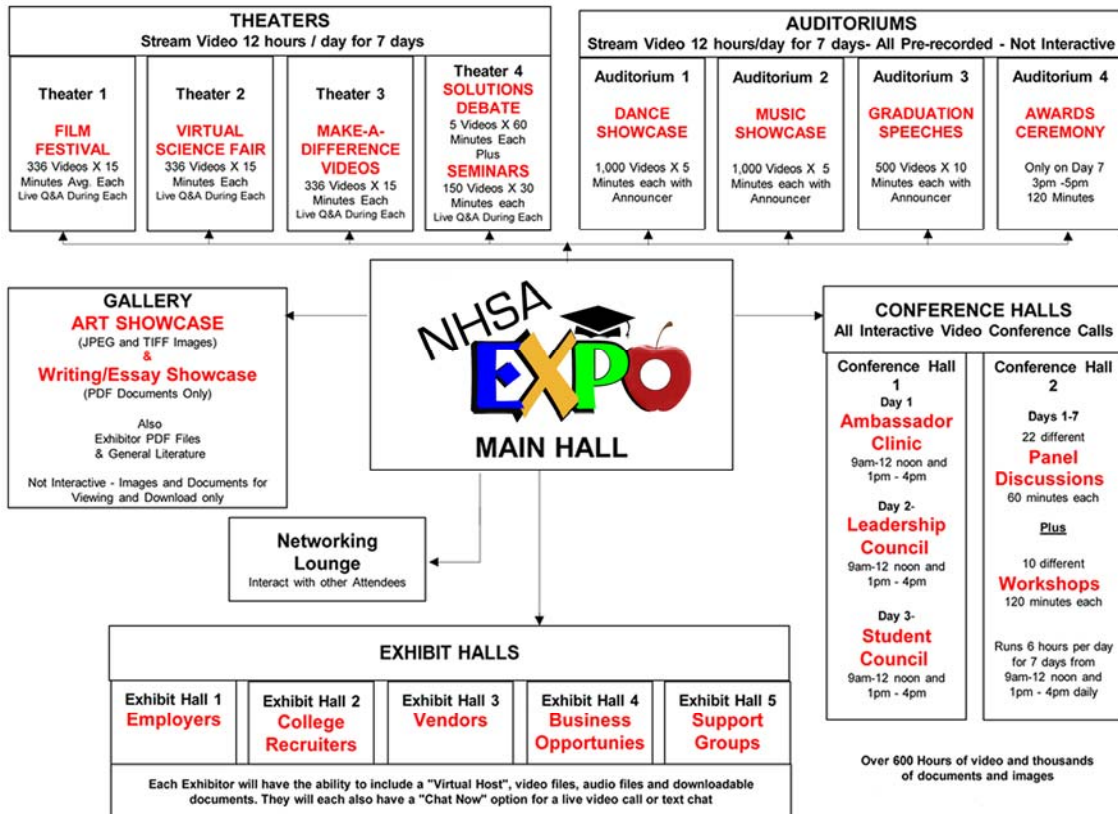
This Virtual Expo is actually much more than just a trade show with vendors selling the products and services that homeschoolers need. This Expo is also each of the following:

- National Film Festival/Showcase
- National Art Showcase
- National Science Fair
- National Dance Showcase
- National Music Showcase (Singing, Bands, Instruments)
- National Writing and Essay Showcase
- National Solutions Debate Results
- Workshops, Panel Discussions and Seminars
- Job Fair (Employers looking for Terra Scholars)
- National Conference for Student Council Members from all 50 States
- National Conference for Leadership Council Members
- National Conference for all NHA Ambassadors
- College Fair (Opportunity to meet College Recruiters looking for Terra Scholars)
- Home Business Fair (Opportunity to learn about home based business opportunities)
- Support Group Round-up (Opportunity to learn about Support Groups in your area)
- Awards Ceremony for the National Showcase Participants
- Graduation Ceremony for 500 of the most accomplished Graduates

**ALL OF THESE ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES ARE INCLUDED IN YOUR TICKET PRICE.**

**THE SMALL DIAGRAM BELOW SHOWS THE LAYOUT OF THE VIRTUAL EXPO.  
CLICK [HERE](#) TO DOWNLOAD A FULL SIZE PDF COPY OF THIS DIAGRAM FOR PRINTING**

**EXPLANATIONS FOR EACH ACTIVITY SHOWN ON THE DIAGRAM ARE DETAILED BELOW THE DIAGRAM**



## NETWORKING LOUNGE

This is the area of the Expo where attendees can meet and chat with each other privately or participate in group chats or forums. Attendees will be able to search for other attendees with similar interests or that are from their same community. Virtual business cards can be exchanged and networks can be built.

## EXHIBIT HALLS

### **EXHIBIT HALL 1** - FOR **EMPLOYERS** (JOB FAIR AND APPRENTICE/INTERN OPPORTUNITIES)

It is one of the NHSA's missions to cause employers (both large and small) to gain awareness of the many benefits of hiring homeschooled individuals to join their teams. Typical Terra Scholars have out-of-the-box critical thinking abilities far beyond the norm. They also typically are self motivated, able to work independently or in groups (even groups of various ages) and are generally happier since they were not exposed to the many damaging influences of the government school system.

This Expo will give employers the opportunity to introduce Terra Scholars to their companies and identify job openings, apprenticeship opportunities and intern positions that are available for which Terra Scholars would be welcome to apply.

Here, like with the booths in the other Exhibit Halls, attendees will be able to review videos and literature from each potential employer without having to interact until they're ready. Then attendees can engage in an immediate video chat or text chat with a live representative, or transfer a job application to their virtual briefcase or submit a resume on the spot. It makes for a perfect solution for the employer and job seeker alike.

### **EXHIBIT HALL 2** - FOR **COLLEGE RECRUITERS**

More and more Colleges, Universities, Tech Schools, etc. are seeking out Terra Scholars to pursue degrees at their facilities because they now understand how unique, smart, successful and talented the majority of these children are. The NHSA will invite those institutions, that have this understanding, to present their opportunities to NHSA members including any scholarship and other opportunities that they might offer for which Terra Scholars would be eligible.

At the booths with the College Recruiters, attendees will find promotional materials about the institutions that are actively seeking applications from Terra Scholars. They will also find information about what requirements those institutions have that specifically relate to homeschoolers.

### **EXHIBIT HALL 3** - FOR **VENDORS**

Suppliers of all products and services of interest to homeschoolers will be invited to have a virtual booth at the Expo. Each booth will include the ability to let attendees play video and audio files about what the vendor has to offer and to download literature, images and business cards to their "virtual briefcase".

In a virtual booth an attendee can take all the time they want to watch the promotional video, read signs and literature and fully explore the booth before either moving to the next booth or clicking the chat now button to allow for immediate personal interaction face to face or via texting. Either way it is a stress free opportunity to find out

what is available and it's good for the vendors because they only have to converse with those attendees who are genuinely interested in the product or service they are offering.

Virtual booths also eliminate the problem with small crowded spaces and the attendees anxiety of being approached by vendor after vendor who are trying to sell what they have to offer.

#### **EXHIBIT HALL 4** - FOR BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

(Home Based Businesses)

One big challenge for some families wanting to homeschool is finding a way to replace lost income from time spent helping the children learn rather than working. The NHSA believes that home based businesses (large or small) can be wonderful learning experiences for the whole family and a great way to replace any such lost income.

Consequently companies that offer home based business opportunities or instructional material and/or support for new home business start-ups will be invited to present their opportunities and materials to NHSA members in Exhibit Hall 4.

#### **EXHIBIT HALL 5** - FOR SUPPORT GROUPS

One critical element to the success of home learning can often be the access to like minded individuals in their local areas to support each other as well as collaborate on how best to expose their children to the infinite opportunities open to Terra Scholars.

Support Groups are also instrumental in organizing field trips and shared learning opportunities. Shared learning opportunities are where one parent, (who is particularly knowledgeable in a difficult subject), can work with a few kids in the neighborhood on occasion to help them over the rough spots as they teach themselves a particular subject.

The NHSA hopes that every support group in America will want to become an affiliate of the NHSA so that their members will can be consistently up to date with all of the programs and opportunities that are available to them through the NHSA. To make sure that no support group is denied the opportunity to provide this information to their members, support groups that have become affiliates of the NHSA will have the opportunity to have a free booth at the Expo.

## **CONFERENCE HALLS**

#### **CONFERENCE HALL 1** - FOR THE AMBASSADOR CLINIC, LEADERSHIP COUNCIL CONFERENCE AND THE STUDENT COUNCIL CONFERENCE

##### **Ambassador Development Clinic**

This Clinic/Conference will be for those members who have joined or would like to join the ranks of an NHSA Ambassador. Ambassadors reach out and make presentations to groups in their communities to help people become aware of the benefits of homeschooling and serve as examples of what kind of fine young men and women come from homeschool environments. At this conference Ambassadors will hear short presentations from real "Goodwill Ambassadors" and then will receive tips on how to improve their own presentations.

Existing NHSA Ambassadors will be encouraged to send in tapes of themselves making presentations. Clips will be taken from some of them, that exemplify what the NHSA is looking for, to be shown to the whole group. Special recognition will be given to a

few Ambassadors who have gone above and beyond any expectations and tools will be made available via download to help those just starting out or those that want to refine their presentations. The Ambassador Clinic will run for 6 hours (9am-Noon and 1pm-4pm) on Day 1 of the Expo.

### **Leadership Council - (Annual Meeting of Affiliates)**

Each Support Group, that becomes an Affiliate of the NHSA, will have the right to select one individual to serve as a member of the NHSA Leadership Council. Through the year the Council will be active in helping direct where the NHSA focuses its efforts to help promote homeschooling and to solve problems facing the homeschool community.

At this Annual Meeting the esteemed members of the "American Council on Home Learning" will be asked to join and lead the discussions on the most pressing issues facing homeschoolers at that time. These will include, among other issues:

- \* Legislative measures that threaten the movement and what can be done,
- \* Causes and community efforts that can be implemented nationwide with the help of the thousands of support groups, and
- \* Ways to improve the public's perception of homeschoolers.

The Leadership Council Conference will run for 6 hours (9am-Noon and 1pm-4pm) on Day 2 of the Expo.

### **Student Council Conference**

The seven NHSA Student Council representatives for each state and the seven representatives for the National NHSA Student Council take their positions on November 1st of each year. Together they will help to coordinate the activities of the NHSA Terra Scholars throughout the year and then they will all come together at the National Conference during the Expo to discuss the accomplishments and challenges of the year.

At this conference Council representatives will work together to propose solutions to problems faced by homeschoolers everywhere. These Council representatives will also directly interact with the members of the "American Council on Home Learning" which is part of the "Home Learning Foundation" (the non-profit arm of NHSA).

Recognition will be given to those that made special efforts and there will be special guest presentations to provide inspiration and encouragement to those that participated in this years Student Council. The Student Council Conference will run for 6 hours (9am-Noon and 1pm- 4pm) on Day 3 of the Expo.

### **CONFERENCE HALL 2 - FOR THE PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND THE WORKSHOPS**

Over the 7 days of the Virtual Expo the NHSA will offer attendees access to dozens of Panel Discussions and Workshops. Attendees need only review the list of what is being offered and then select those that they want to add to their Agenda along with the various other activities and presentations that they don't want to miss.

Below is a very small sampling of what will be available. All workshops and panel discussions will be fully interactive online. Check back as we get closer to the date of the Expo to see what additions have been made to this list.

**Workshops - 2 hours each:**

- \* Raising Funds for Home Education
- \* Home Business for Education and Profit
- \* Community Projects for Fun, Education and PR

**Panel Discussions - 1 hour each:**

- \* The Future of Homeschooling
- \* Legislative Challenges Facing Homeschoolers and What Can Be Done
- \* Can Public School Teachers Be Rescued From the System
- \* Should Homeschoolers Attempt to Save Children Who Hate Going to Public School
- \* Documentaries that Need to be Made and How Terra Scholars Can Help

## THEATERS

**THEATER 1 - FOR THE FILM FESTIVAL**

Terra Scholar Filmmakers from across the country will submit "Full Length" and "Short Films" (under 40 minutes) in the following genre's: Action; Animated; Comedy; Documentary; Family; Historical; Mystery; Sci-fi; Adventure; Fantasy; Film-noir; Musical; Biography; Drama; and Romance.

Approximately one week before the start of the Expo a schedule will be posted showing the times and dates when the selected films will be shown.

After the airing of each film the respective filmmaker(s) will make themselves available for a live Q & A session over a video call service so that attendees can discuss the films with their creators.

**THEATER 2 - FOR THE VIRTUAL SCIENCE FAIR**

Children have repeatedly proven themselves to have some of the most innovative and useful ideas when it comes to scientific breakthroughs. The out-of-the-box thinking demonstrated so often by Terra Scholars makes a science fair for homeschoolers to be an especially exciting proposition.

With the focus more on collaboration than competition this Virtual Science Fair (VSF) will encourage both "Solo" and "Small Group" entries.

The objective of the VSF is to help emerging scientists to hone and develop their skills while providing them encouragement and offering them deserved recognition for their efforts.

Each completed project will be submitted by April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year and a schedule will be posted at least one week prior to the beginning of the Expo showing which projects have been selected for the VSF Showcase and at what time each project presentation can be seen.

Participants will submit a video presentation of up to 10 minutes in length describing their projects in detail. The videos of the selected projects will be shown during the Expo in Theater 2. Each video presentation will be followed by comments by the experts who evaluated the project. That will then be followed by a 5 minute live Q&A session, via audio or video call, with the solo scientist or team captain responsible for the submission of the project.

### **THEATER 3** - FOR THE [MAD V's \(MAKE-A-DIFFERENCE VIDEOS\)](#)

Many children are very passionate about problems facing the world as a whole. Some even contemplate possible solutions to those problems and a few hit upon ideas that actually have a chance of "making-a-difference". In this event individual students or small groups of students select a problem that makes them "MAD" and then they devise a solution or approach that they feel could really "make-a-difference". They then can then develop a website, create a slide show, power point presentation, animation, public service announcement, video, interactive application or game, or some combination of these, to get across their message or propose their solution.

To participate in the Expo each individual or team must submit a video that incorporates what they have created to show how they would like to make-a-difference with regards to the problem.

Each completed video (MAD V) will be submitted by April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year and a schedule will be posted at least one week prior to the beginning of the Expo showing which videos have been selected for the MAD V Showcase and at what time each video can be seen.

Each MAD V will be up to 10 minutes in length. The selected videos will be shown during the Expo in Theater 3. Each video presentation will be followed by a 5 minute live Q&A session, via audio or video call, with the individual or team captain responsible for the submission of the MAD V.

### **THEATER 4** - FOR THE [SOLUTIONS DEBATE RESULTS AND SEMINARS](#)

#### **Solutions Debate**

From October to mid-May of each year visionary Terra Scholars from all over the United States will be cooperatively working using their debate, research and analysis skills to solve one of the problems facing the world today.

In this Theater you will find 5 separate video presentations of the best solutions arrived at by the group including the one, that was selected by all of the participants , that needs to be implemented.

#### **Seminars**

The NHSA will be striving to provide its members with access to as much useful information as possible to help them succeed at their homeschooling adventures.

Consequently, dozens of pre-recorded seminars will be run during the 7 days of the Expo. All seminars will run approximately 30 minutes and will have live Q & A sessions with the speakers at the end of each one. Below is a very small sampling of the seminars that will be available. Check back as we get closer to the date of the Expo to see what additions have been made to this list:

- \* Inspirational Speaker with Powerful Message on how to be Successful
- \* "Nontraditional Navigation Through High school"

## GALLERY

### **THE GALLERY IS FOR** - FOR THE [ART SHOWCASE](#) AND THE [WRITING/ESSAY SHOWCASE](#)

#### **Art Showcase**

The object of this Showcase is to encourage NHSA Terra Scholars to dig deep within themselves to awaken the most creative parts of their minds and then demonstrate that creativity and talent through photography, painting, drawing, sculpture, graphic design, the creation of inspirational "Home School Posters" or by making jewelry or other items fashioned out of metals.

Once their work of art has been created they must take pictures of it and submit them to the NHSA Art coordinator. All images will be submitted in digital (jpeg or tiff) format.

Attendees to the Expo will be able to browse through the images of the works of art that were selected for the Showcase or they will be able to search for a specific entry by the name of the artist.

#### **Writing / Essay Showcase**

Like in the Art Showcase Terra Scholars will demonstrate their creativity and talent. In this Showcase that demonstration will be in the form of writing in the form of non-fiction, general fiction, science fiction, poetry, activist writings, investigative reporting or through the submission of what we call a "Fix -it Essay" that discusses one or more solutions to a problem that the student is interested in fixing.

All entries will be submitted in PDF format. Attendees at the Expo will be able to browse through the documents submitted for the Showcase or they will be able to search for a specific document by the name of the author or the subject of the document itself.

## AUDITORIUMS

### **AUDITORIUM 1** - FOR THE [NATIONAL DANCE SHOWCASE](#)

NHSA Members who are Dancers are encouraged to submit videos of their dance performances to the NHSA for review. The National Dance Showcase will select dances in the categories of Jazz, Tap, Ballet and an "Open" category for any dances that do not fit the other categories.

The submissions can also be solo performances, small group performances with seven or fewer team members and large group performances with more than seven participants.

Submissions are also categorized by the age of the performer or the average age of the dancers in the group. Categories will include: under 7; 7-11, 12-16, and 17+ .

Full details of the rules and requirements for entries can be found in the section of the NHSA website entitled "National Talent Showcase".

Dancers are encouraged to film their performances as many times as they want to assure that they can submit the best representation of their ability rather than work hard for weeks or months only to have something happen on the day of some kind of competition to ruin the performance.



Those performances selected to be in the National Dance Showcase will be listed on the schedule for Auditorium 1 within 1 week prior to the start of the Expo so that the dancers can know when to tune in to see their performance.

## **AUDITORIUM 2** - FOR THE [NATIONAL MUSIC SHOWCASE](#)

NHSA Members who are Musicians are encouraged to submit videos of their music performances to the NHSA for review. The National Music Showcase will select performances in the categories of any musical instrument that the musician wants to play. Singing performances and performances by bands (Battle of the Bands) will also be included in the Music Showcase.

The submissions can be solo performances, small group performances with 5 or fewer musicians and large group performances with more than 5 musicians.

Except for the Battle of the Bands, submissions will also be categorized by the age of the performer or the average age of the performers in the group. Categories will include: under 7; 7-11, 12-16, and 17+ .

Full details of the rules and requirements for entries can be found in the section of the NHSA website entitled "Talent Showcases".

Musicians, Bands and Singers are encouraged to film their performances as many times as they want to assure that they submit the best representation of their ability.

Those performances selected to be in the National Music Showcase will be listed on the schedule for Auditorium 2 within 1 week prior to the start of the Expo so that the performers can know when to tune in to see their performance.

**Note:** There will be a separate song writing contest for a Homeschool Anthem song. Submissions can take the form of either written lyrics or audio and/or video files of the anthem being performed. The winning song will be produced and will have its debut presentation at the Awards Ceremony at the Expo. Thereafter the song will be showcased on the NHSA website

## **AUDITORIUM 3** - FOR THE [GRADUATION SPEECHES](#)

A presentation by a guest celebrity speaker start off the Graduation Ceremony on the 1st day of the Expo. This will be followed by special recognition of up to 500 graduating Terra Scholars who stand out in one way or another.

For the most part every graduating Terra Scholar will be the valedictorian of their class and therefore should have the opportunity to give a speech at their graduation. Unfortunately with an estimated 100,000 or more yearly homeschool graduates it would be impossible to offer them all the opportunity to address our members. However over the 7 days of our Expo we will have time for 500 graduates to each provide a 10 minute presentation (running from 9am to 9pm daily).

Each presentation will include a slide show of the graduates accomplishments and/or an optional speech by the graduate. Each Graduate will be allotted 10 minutes which can be broke up in any way desired.

Graduates wanting to be considered for inclusion in the NHSA Graduation proceedings must prepare and submit their 10 minute videos to the NHSA by April 15th for consideration. Those selected will be notified by May 5th and informed as to the exact time and date that their presentation will be aired at the Expo.

It is expected that younger students and parents may find inspiration from graduates with similar interests or aspirations so attendees will be able to search for

graduate presentations by the topic of their speech, interests that motivated them and future aspirations.

#### **AUDITORIUM 4** - FOR THE **AWARDS CEREMONY**

After reading "No Contest: A Case Against Competition" by Alfie Kohn. (See <http://www.angelfire.com/or/sociologysshop/myths.html>) it became clear that collaboration is a far better objective to pursue than the winning of competitions.

Furthermore, the NHSA believes that people should do the things they do for the love of doing them, not for the potential rewards they may receive. Most of the people in the world are unhappy most of the time and they do things day in and day out that they hate doing. Most believe that they have no choice and life simply is the way it is. This is a side-effect of government schooling where children are trained from a very early age to believe that they have no right to be happy and that life is all about doing what you are told when you are told to do it. Homeschoolers can escape this programming and have the opportunity to pursue doing the things they love and thus have the opportunity to be happy throughout their lives.

Consequently there will be no trophies, medals or pins given to the participants of the Expo. However, an inescapable fact is that, because there is limited time in which to present the videos and presentations that are submitted, some will not be selected for the Showcase. Unfortunately this suggests that those selected have "won" and those not-selected have not.

The NHSA recognizes and will attempt to make it clearly understood that there will be submissions made that will not be selected for the Showcases but they still represent tremendous effort and brilliance of their own kind.

The NHSA has therefore spent a considerable amount of time to find unique and better ways, than trophies and medals, to give special recognition to those that deserve it.

This Awards Ceremony will last 2 hours and will take place on the final day of the Expo. It will be unlike any awards ceremony ever seen before and there will be many surprises. Some of which will even relate to entries that were not selected for the Showcase.

It is the hope of the NHSA that the unique incentives and encouragement that will be given at the awards ceremony will inspire the NHSA Terra Scholars to pursue their dreams and do what they love to do. The NHSA believes that there can be no greater wish of a parent than to have their children live long, healthy, happy and fulfilling lives.

We hope that everyone will thoroughly enjoy the  
NHSA VIRTUAL EXPO.

For complete details about how each of these events will be run or to learn how to participate in them, please go to the NHSA website and look for the directory headings for the event(s) that are of interest.