

IFEA Timeline

1956	Festival Managers Association (FMA) Founded, October 31st, Park Sheraton Hotel, New York City	1982*	Logo changes to black circle with gold globe inside	1992	IF(E)A / Miller Brewing Company Hall of Fame Created
1956	Robert E. Meyer serves voluntarily as Association Managing Director, with office in New York City	1983	CFE (Certified Festivals Executive) Professional Certification Program Approved, in Association with Purdue University	1992	IF(E)A Europe Founded
1957	Red, White and Blue Logo with IFA Letters in Diamonds Used	1984	Herb Melleney becomes first full-time, paid Executive Director, with office in St. Petersburg, Florida	1992	International Festivals Education Association Incorporated (Foundation)
1957	FMA <i>Closed Circuit</i> and <i>Festival News</i> Membership Bulletins Created	1984	First CFE (Certified Festivals Executive) Seminar Held at Convention	1993	IF(E)A Foundation Officially Founded
1957	FMA is renamed as the International Festivals Association (IFA) with the addition of Pierre Trombley of the Quebec City Winter Carnival in Canada	1986	First Convention outside of North America held in London, England	1993	IFA Professional Resource Library established
1960	John Geisler serves voluntarily as Association Managing Director with office in St. Paul, Minnesota	1987	IFA Silent Auction created	1994	U.S. State Chapters formed
1963	Madeline Neupert, IFA's first female member, becomes IFA's first female President	1988	Don Lunday becomes IFA Executive Director, with office in Pasadena, CA	1994	<i>IF(E)A Today</i> Chapter Newsletter introduced
1969	Ken Walstad runs IFA office from Minneapolis, Minnesota in volunteer capacity as Executive Director	1988	IFA Board Votes to Recognize Commercial Organizations / Suppliers as Full Members, with No Differences in Membership	1994	<i>Festivals</i> newsletter upgraded to magazine format
1976*	Logo changes to circle with IFA diamonds inside	1989	First Dixie Flag Hospitality Suite hosted at IF(E)A Convention	1994	IF(E)A takes lead role in IRS Sponsorship Taxation Lobbying Effort
1979	First non-U.S. Convention held in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada	1990	Bruce Skinner, CFE(E), takes over as IF(E)A President, with office in Port Angeles, Washington	1995	IF(E)A / Haas & Wilkerson Pinnacle Awards Created
1981	IFA Board Votes to have Commercial Organizations / Suppliers become Associate Members	1990	Association CEO position title changed from Executive Director to President; Board President title changes to Board Chair	1996	Association name changed to International Festivals & Events Association (IFEA) to reflect evolving industry make-up
		1990	<i>Festivals</i> newsletter founded	1996	Logo changes to blue tone elongated globe with red swoosh mark
				1996	IFEA Australia Founded
				1996	IFEA goes On-Line with first Web Presence
				1997 1998	IFEA Board undergoes restructuring process, cuts numbers from 52 to 18, institutes new policy governance system

- 1998** Eric Martin, Esq., CFEE, becomes IFEA's first minority Board Chair
- 2001** Steven Wood Schmader, CFEE, selected as new IFEA President & CEO, with office in Boise, Idaho
- 2001** *Festivals* magazine upgraded to new name and format - *ie: the business of international events* to better reflect the global industry
- 2001** IFEA Annual Convention, scheduled for Boston, is postponed for first time ever in response to September 11th terrorist attacks on the United States, and moved to January of 2002 in Las Vegas, Nevada
- 2001** IFEA / Zambelli Fireworks Internationale Volunteer of the Year Award Created
- 2001** IFEA Singapore Founded
- 2002** IFEA web site upgraded and in-house Webmaster position added
- 2002** Logo modified to current version, adding dimension and green color to global continents
- 2002** IFEA *Affiliate Connection*, 24/7 on-line newsletter, replaces *IFEA Today*
- 2003** Thérèse St-Onge, CFEE, of Canada becomes IFEA's first non-U.S. Board Chair
- 2003** CFEE (Certified Festival & Event Executive) Professional Certification Program Updated and Renamed
- 2003** IFEA Academy of Event Education Created to oversee education and certification program
- 2004** IFEA *Weekly Update*, on-line news format, introduced
- 2004** U.S. Regional Directors and Affiliate Partners replace chapter management system
- 2004** IFEA commits as Founding Sponsor of new e-SAFE On-line Safety and Security Program in association with Temple University
- 2004** Industry Association Alliance formed with IFEA, IAAM, IAFE, IAAPA and OABA as founding members
- 2005** "ie" Magazine available on-line for faster and easier access by international members
- 2005** IFEA China Founded
- 2005** IFEA Asia Founded
- 2005** IFEA Middle East Founded
- 2005** IFEA Latin America Founded
- 2005** IFEA Celebrates 50th Anniversary as "The Premiere Association Supporting Festival & Event Professionals Worldwide"
- 2007** IFEA Africa Founded
- 2007** IFEA Korea Founded
- 2007** Association Alliance launches new "Venue Safety & Security" Magazine
- 2007** IFEA Web-Site 2.0 re-launched
- 2007** IFEA Global Roundtable formed
- 2007** "Who's Who in Festival & Events" IFEA Membership Directory and Buyers Guide moves to a new electronic format
- 2007** IFEA Board plants flag of Global Industry Leadership Vision

* Estimated Dates