The Los Angeles Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors has a long history of providing quality continuing professional education to its members. That tradition continues with our first Annual Conference to be held at Universal Studios Hollywood on Sunday, October 4th to Tuesday, October 6th, 2015. We invite you to attend what will be the marquee IIA event on the West Coast!

Although this is our first year, we expect to double the average attendance of our one-day, monthly meeting held at the Los Angeles Athletic Club. Thus, we expect over 200 participants, in our first year.

Our schedule of events will be composed of both general and concurrent sessions. In the general sessions, world-class speakers such as COSO’s Bob Hirth will address the attendees. We have also arranged for Joanne Fox Phillips, the author of Revenge of the Cube Dweller to address our attendees. We will have various concurrent sessions covering topics related to governance, risk, and compliance, fraud and leveraging technology. The event will provide the opportunity to gain 16 hours of CPE and will include a welcome breakfast, luncheon, and conference networking reception.

The Hilton at Universal Studios Hollywood has a spacious exhibitor area positioned with access to the attendees as they transition between the Conference sessions where they will enjoy breakfast, breaks and a networking reception. Sponsors will receive direct exposure to members of one of the largest IIA Chapters in the country – consisting of 800+ internal auditors from over 250 organizations.

Please click this LINK to check out our website. In addition to the IIA Conference in October, we have some fantastic events later this year and early 2016 and look forward to seeing you at all of our events this year!

Arnold Jenner Blanshard, CPA/CRMA/MBA
President
IIA Los Angeles Chapter
Joanne Phillips is the Director of Internal Audit for SemGroup Corporation, a midstream oil & gas company located in Oklahoma. She served as a member of the Internal Audit Standards Board of the IIA from 2008 to 2011 and has published Revenge of the Cube Dweller, the first in a series of internal audit fiction novels.

John Tonsick is a forensic accountant and a leading expert on fraud. He has over 30 yrs of experience as a “Big 4” auditor, consultant and Fortune 50 executive. John has published numerous articles on fraud & corp governance and he is a contributing author to “Fraud Casebook: Lessons from the Bad Side of Business”.

Danny M. Goldberg is a well-known speaker on internal auditing and People-Centric Skills. Danny is accredited as the professional commentator on the publication BNA Tax and Accounting Portfolio, Internal Auditing: Fundamental Principles (Accounting Policy and Practice Series).

Bob Hirth serves as COSO Chair and was unanimously elected by the board of its sponsoring organizations to serve a three year term beginning June 1, 2013. His experience includes all of COSO’s mission disciplines; Enterprise Risk Management, Internal Control and Fraud Deterrence.

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Top Reasons to Attend The 2015 IIA Los Angeles Conference

- Earn up to 16 CPEs in our GRC, Fraud and Technology tracks
- Attend our 3-day CIA prep workshop to prepare for the CIA Exam
- Learn about Fraud Risk, Detection and Prevention
- Gain valuable internal audit tools
- Learn more about Governance, Risk and Compliance
- Learn more about how to leverage technology
- Come early and enjoy Universal Studios Hollywood which is steps from our conference site
- Student Night & Case Study feature some of the top Universities in the area
- Sponsors will receive direct exposure to members of the one of the largest IIA Chapters in the country
- Network with your peers, while sharing and discussion cutting edge ideas and concepts
- Win an iPad mini (one lucky attendee will win; must register for the full conference to be eligible)

Upcoming Events For The 2015-2016 Year

Be on the lookout for more information regarding the exciting events below:

- **11/18/15** – Fall Fraud Joint Meeting w/ACFE; 3/4 Day, 7.5 CPEs
- **12/9/15** – IIA & ISACA Holiday Dinner Event; 1.5 CPEs
- **1/13/16** – Data Mining, Analytics & Security; Full Day; 9.5 CPEs
  - CAE Meeting
- **2/10/16** – Governmental Auditing; Lunch & PM; 5.5 CPEs
- **3/9/16** – Risk Conference & Emerging Risks; Full Day; 9.5 CPEs
  - CAE Meeting
- **4/6/16** – Fraud Conference; Full Day; 9.5 CPEs
  - CAE Meeting
- **5/4/16** – Excel and Visio Training; Full Day; 9.5 CPEs

The LA Athletic Club in Downtown LA will be the location for all of the above events.

Join the IIA Los Angeles Chapter

If you would like to join The IIA, please click here, and then, click on "join or renew" and complete the application. Enter "Los Angeles" in the optional field that says chapter affiliation.

Are you already a member of the IIA, but a different chapter? Or, don't know to which chapter you belong? In order to officially join the Los Angeles chapter, you must update your chapter affiliation. To update a chapter affiliation, call the IIA HQ at (407) 937-1100.

If you have recently changed jobs or moved, you can update your IIA profile by clicking here, and then, clicking on "Update Your Profile" to access your account. Also use this link to make any name, address or other data change to your information.

Call For Volunteers

The IIA Los Angeles Chapter is seeking enthusiastic volunteers who are committed to make a difference and advancing the profession. Volunteering is the perfect opportunity to interface with a vast diversity of internal audit professionals. Members, students, and individuals interested are encouraged to contact volunteers coordinators at: VP-membership@theiia-la.org
IIA Leadership Team Highlight: Sonia Luna, Board of Governors, IIA Los Angeles Chapter

Can you give us a quick overview of your wonderful background?
I started my public accounting experience at Arthur Andersen in their downtown Los Angeles Office. I had a great set of mentors and work colleagues and was exposed to both private, public and even internal audit clients. The work was both intense yet very gratifying, especially my experience providing internal audit services to clients such as hotels and TV production companies.

What do you feel makes the IIA-LA 2015 Fall Conference a headliner event when compared to other conferences?
This fall conference offers participants exclusive educational tracks and speakers in a wide variety of areas such as IT cybersecurity, Fraud, Ethics and several soft skills training. We’ll have the chairman of COSO join us as well to provide insight on how the transition to the new framework has been throughout the US, North America and around the globe. He’ll also cover the next series of changes for an update to the ERM framework.

Are there any particular areas right now you feel are audit hot topics as it pertains to the conference/list of speakers?
Cybersecurity seems to be in the news constantly and internal audit has a major role in governing our IT security. Our fall conference has several speakers that will touch upon our role in IT corporate governance and what board members are looking to gain from internal audit. Board member reporting and dashboards are other top issues facing internal audit departments especially when there’s so much data we have access to and can share with both executive management and board members. Picking the right dashboard or set of reports is becoming a bigger task for internal audit groups, because we don’t want to provide too little yet we don’t want to give information overload either. Striking the right balance will be necessary for the next generation of Board members as they are becoming more diverse and younger. Thirdly, internal audit groups are seeing more software usage in their departments for both operational and compliance issues. Topics surrounding how to select the right software for the internal audit department, and what reporting tools are available in software products we’re seeing more and more during our quarterly Chief Audit Executive roundtables.

Can you give us an idea of the types of participants that usually attend and who would benefit as far as being new or experienced auditors?
The type of participants that usually attend are those that want to stay ahead of the curve and network with other larger internal audit departments to pick up best practice ideas and work on them when they are back in the office. Our sessions will include mobile device security issues, cybersecurity, board level reporting and fraud, which is a lot for most internal audit departments to implement in any given year. Therefore, participants that join this year’s conference will be those that want to network with others and gain insight on how to best implement several initiatives in an internal audit department with limited resources. Lastly, participants will feel they have created a long-term network with their peer group which they can stay connected after the conference using social media platforms such as LinkedIn.

With a rating scale of from 1 to 10 (with 10 being the greatest), how would you rate the IIA-LA networking sessions?
I would rate it a 9. There are several opportunities in the morning, afternoon and evening to network.

With the theme being “Reaching New Heights“, what should the participants expect to gain from this conference that you personally are looking forward to?
I’m looking forward to seeing new and of course familiar faces at the conference. It’s a networking “health-check” that I go through when I attend conferences because those that are true to our profession will come to this and other future conferences. The SOX 404 hay days are over and therefore, those that love our profession are still sticking to it and coming to our conference and this networking health-check allows me to regroup with professionals that are so busy, and yet we can catch up for 15 minutes during the conference.

Since the conference is being held in the beautiful Universal Hilton Hotel, we wanted to know would you be taking advantage of the amenities in the area or will it be all work and no play?
I’m hoping to grab a few dinner & drinks with some of my peers and take in the wonderful architecture at City Walk.

Do you have any final comments to our members?
The IIA Los Angeles Chapter, Board and Officers are working really hard to create a wonderful learning and enriching environment for our peers and we look forward to seeing you all there this coming October.