

# SIIA Endeavors

## 2016 International Conference in San José is the Center of All That is Costa Rica

SIIA's will hold its annual International Conference at the Costa Rica Marriott Hotel San José April 5th-7th. This event will be focused on helping U.S.-based companies identify and understand potential business opportunities related to self-insurance/captive insurance in key countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, the event will provide a truly unique networking environment designed to connect U.S. attendees with attendees from Latin America for purposes of exploring partnerships and/or business development opportunities.



Join us early and participate in the pre-conference excursion to the La Paz Waterfall Gardens on April 5th. The Gardens are the #1 most visited, privately-owned ecological attraction in Costa Rica and features the best hiking trails near San José, the most famous waterfalls in Costa Rica, rescued wildlife preserve with more than 100 species of animals and an environmental education program. There will be a networking welcome reception to kick off the conference upon returning to the host hotel.

The educational program begins Wednesday April 6th, with welcome remarks from SIIA President **Mike Ferguson** and Costa Rican Ambassador **Roman Macaya, Ph.D.** There will be a full day of sessions, covering topics such as Latin American Business Culture – Do's, Don'ts and Other Essential Tips, Self-Insurance Business Opportunities in the Caribbean, a Carrier/General Managers Session and Latin America Medical Travel Trends.

The program continues Thursday, April 7th with sessions discussing Captive Insurance Opportunities in Latin America and Self-Insurance Business Opportunities in South America.

At the conclusion of the conference attendees have the option of participating in a tour of local medical travel facilities. Costa Rica has established itself as a leading international hub for medical travel. This hosted tour will show what the country has to offer by visiting of some of its top medical facilities that cater to international patients. ■

*For more information on the program, tours, sponsorship opportunities and registration, please visit [www.siaa.org](http://www.siaa.org).*



The Self-Insurance Educational Foundation, Inc. (SIEF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization affiliated with the Self-Insurance Institute of America, Inc. (SIIA). Its mission is to raise the awareness and understanding of self-insurance among the business community, policy-makers, consumers, the media and other interested parties. SIEF has been very active in promoting their mission over the last few years.

SIEF has launched a new website, [www.siefonline.org](http://www.siefonline.org), held their always popular golf tournament during SIIA's Self-Insured Health Plan Executive Forum, hosted an educational summit in London, and held numerous briefings on Capitol Hill to educate Hill staffers on the benefits of self-insurance.

None of these projects would be possible without the generous contributions received from people like you. At this time, the SIEF Board of Directors, comprised of **Heidi Leenay**, (based in London UK) and several SIIA

past-Presidents, including **Freda Bacon**, **Alex Giordano**, **Les Boughner** and current SIEF Chairman, **Nigel Wallbank**, would like to thank the following people who recently made important contributions:

**Cathy Dunn**

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Excess Risk Solutions

**Mary Claire Goff**

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**Kevin Larson**

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*>>> There are many exciting opportunities coming in 2016 for you to help support this great organization, including a pub crawl at the SIIA National Educational Conference & Expo, a raffle of vacation home, producing a self-insured video with ART emphasis and holding more briefings on Capitol Hill. Look for more information soon on how you can participate!*

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