



TEXAS OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY ASSOCIATION, INC.

90TH ANNIVERSARY

**LEARN.
EDUCATE.
COLLABORATE.**

**90 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE.
ONE UNFORGETTABLE CONFERENCE.**

*Be a part of the next chapter...
Registration opens September 4.*

REGISTRATION INFO >

Contents

- 3 | President's Message
- 4 | Conference Committee Chair Message
- 5 | Thank You to Our Sponsors & Exhibitors
- 6 | Exhibit Floorplan
- 7 | Conference Committee
- 8 | Whova App Info
- 9 | Important Conference Updates
- 9 | 2026 Agenda Link
- 10 | Conference Schedule Highlights
- 11 | 2026 Conference Registration
- 12 | Conference Info
- 13 | Special Events
- 14 | Student Networking Event
- 15 | Student Challenge Bowl
- 16 | SOTA Tables
- 17 | Award Recipients
- 18 | Service Recognition
- 24 | Day at the Capitol
- 25 | TOTA PAC
- 26 | Conference Center Map

2026 Important Deadlines

REGISTRATION OPENS:	SEPTEMBER 4
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS:	OCTOBER 25
HOTEL RESERVATIONS CUTOFF DATE:	OCTOBER 29
INVOICE PAYMENT DEADLINE:	NOVEMBER 2
FRIEND OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (F.O.O.T.) - GUEST PASS DEADLINE:	OCTOBER 25

This guest pass is for spouses, significant others, and other non-OT professionals/students who want to attend the keynote address and/or the awards ceremony and one additional session, provided space is available. F.O.O.T Guest Pass Registration (award recipients contact [Judi Joseph](#))

NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION

Thank you to our TOTA Organization Members



Texas Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference President's Welcome

John S. Luna, OTR, OTD – TOTA President



John S. Luna, OTR, OTD

Well, it is that time of year again, our Texas Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference.

Conference is always a special time when occupational therapy practitioners, students, educators, researchers, and leaders from across our great state come together. At conference we celebrate our profession, reconnect with colleagues, and stand together with Texas pride in support of occupational therapy.

Conference is about capturing the moment; the moment to celebrate the incredible works being done in our communities, to renew our passion for the profession, and challenge ourselves to grow. These moments may seem small, but they have the power to change careers, strengthen our profession, and ultimately improve the lives of the people we serve.

The value of this conference is not limited to the moments occurring in these meeting rooms: it extends to what happens when you return home. You take knowledge back to your schools, hospitals, clinics, universities, community programs, and workplaces. You create a ripple effect with every evaluation you complete, treatment session you provide, student you mentor, family you encourage, and every person whose life you touch. Those ripples continue long after the conference ends, reaching communities across Texas in ways we may never fully realize.

This ripple effect is part of a legacy that TOTA celebrates this year. For 90 years, the Texas Occupational Therapy Association has served our profession and advocated for occupational therapy across our state. Ninety years of leadership, service, joining professionals together to learn, lead, and strengthen occupational therapy in Texas.

On behalf of the Texas Occupational Therapy Association Board of Directors, our incredible staff, our dedicated volunteers, and everyone who worked tirelessly to make conference possible, thank you. Thank you for your membership in TOTA and the work you do every day to improve the lives of Texans.

Welcome to the Texas Occupational Therapy Association's 90th Annual Conference.

It is a time to celebrate our past, embrace the opportunities before us today, and continue building an even brighter future for occupational therapy in Texas.

Thank you, and have an outstanding conference!

**90 Years of Excellence.
One Unforgettable Conference.
REGISTER NOW >**



TOTA 90th Anniversary

Evie Harness, OTR, Conference Committee Chair



Evie Harness, OTR

We hope everyone has enjoyed the summer, perhaps with some travel and time to relax. The weeks and months pass quickly, and the conference will be here before we know it, so we encourage you to make a reminder in your planner to register for the conference.

We are excited to celebrate 90 years as an association. You can look forward to browsing through some great historical pictures and information describing the association's journey from the beginning to where we are today as we celebrate this milestone.

Conference returns this year to the Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos on November 13th and 14th. Attendees who joined us last year should find it easy to locate sessions and exhibit space. New attendees are warmly welcome, and we are happy to help you become familiar with the venue. As a reminder, Embassy Suites offers a daily happy hour and breakfast, both of which are always crowd favorites.

Attendees may choose from a comprehensive schedule on both Friday and Saturday, with up to nine concurrent sessions offered during each breakout period throughout the day. Due to the strong response from colleagues who submitted proposals, the program includes a broad range of presentation categories available to attendees when developing their schedules for the weekend.

The keynote address will take place on Friday morning, with the schedule adjusted to allow attendees sufficient time to check in before the presentation begins. This unopposed session will feature Shirley Wells, DrPH, OTR, FAOTA, and all attendees are encouraged to participate. For convenience, lunch is included with registration this year. Attendees are encouraged to visit with the exhibitors when they pick up lunch in the exhibit hall. Friday will conclude with the annual Awards Ceremony and reception, where we will recognize and celebrate this year's award recipients.

A few additional reminders: Early Bird Registration opens September 4th and closes October 25th, and the hotel booking deadline is October 29th. We encourage each of you to register and reserve your room early, so you do not miss the convenience of staying at the conference hotel. Attendees are also encouraged to take advantage of the Thursday conference check-in, available from 5 to 8 p.m. This is an excellent way to avoid long lines on Friday morning and enjoy the complimentary breakfast before sessions begin.

We look forward to welcoming you to our 2026 conference, celebrating 90 years as an association. See you soon!

Thank you to our 2026 Sponsors & Exhibitors

PLATINUM



UNIVERSITY of
ST. AUGUSTINE for
HEALTH SCIENCES

SILVER



TEXAS STAR



SONRISAS + THERAPIES



EXHIBITORS

Aveanna Health Care, LLC
Active Development Therapies, LLC
Baylor Scott & White Institute for Rehabilitation
Healthcare Providers Service Organization (HPSO)
Kids Developmental Therapy & Clinic
KidsCare Home Health
MD Anderson
MGA Homecare

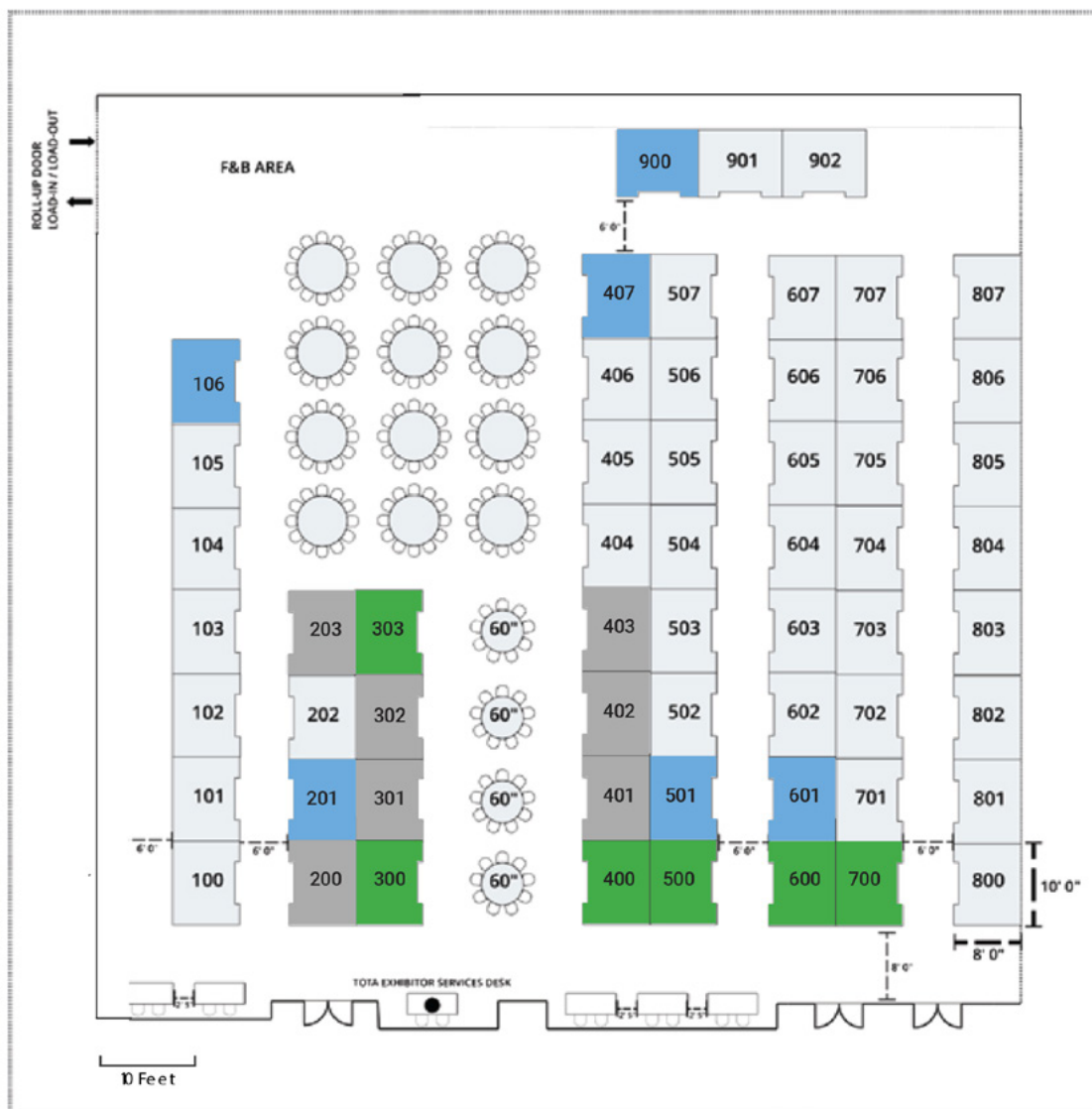
MedCare Business Solutions
MedTech International Group
MGA Homecare
Milestone Therapy Services
Monkey Mouths Pediatric Therapy
NBCOT
Real OT SOLUTIONS
Texas Tech Health Science Center Health Professions

SOTA TABLES

Abilene Christian University - SOTA
Baylor University - SOTA
Del Mar College- Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
San Jacinto College - SOTA
Tarleton State University (OSTA)
Texas Tech University Health Science Center - SOTA
Texas Woman's University - SOTA - Denton

Texas Woman's University - Houston (SOTA, COTAD, Phi Theta Epsilon)
The University of Texas Rio Grand Valley (SOTA)
University of the Incarnate Word - SOTA Chapter
University of St. Augustine, Austin Campus - SOTA
University of St. Augustine - Dallas (SOTA)
University of Texas, Mary Hardin-Baylor – SOTA

Exhibitor Floor Plan



Exhibitor Booth Times & Registration Deadlines

Thursday, November 12 5pm - 8pm
Friday, November 13 11am - 4pm
Saturday, November 14 10am - 2pm

Booth registrations received after October 1, 2026, will incur a \$200 late fee. Cancellations of booth space after this date will not be eligible for a refund.

PLATINUM (6)
 300, 303, 400
 500, 600, 700

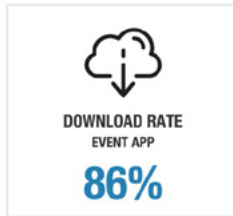
SILVER (7)
 200, 203, 301
 302, 401, 402, 403

TEXAS STAR (6)
 106, 201, 407,
 501, 601, 900

REGISTRATION OPENS SEPTEMBER 4, 2026!

2025 By the Numbers

EVENT APP USAGE



SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS



ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY BOARD
MSG TOTAL

1596

ATTENDEE PROFILE
VIEWS TOTAL

4691

EVENT MARKETING

AGENDA WEBPAGE
VIEWS TOTAL

1413

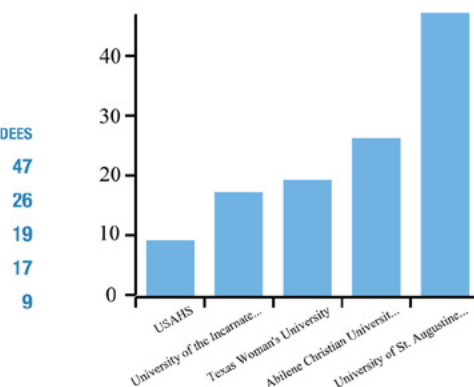
ATTENDEE DEMOGRAPHICS

ATTENDEE AFFILIATION

TOP 5 ATTENDEE AFFILIATION

University of St. Augustine for Health Scienc...
Abilene Christian University
Texas Woman's University
University of the Incarnate Word
USAHS

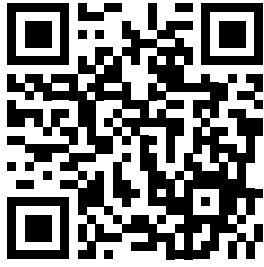
ATTENDEES



TOTA extends a special THANK YOU to all our Conference Committee members who have helped make the 2026 TOTA Conference possible.

Judith Joseph
Evelyn Harness
Eileen Garza
Megan Taylor
Janette Cantu
Paula Cook
Theresa Powers
Sarah Stevens

TOTA Executive Director / Overall Organizer
TOTA Conference Committee Chair
Whova Conference App Organizer
Conference Schedule
Student Events Coordinator
TOTA Continuing Education Coordinator (Conference Schedule)
Check-In and volunteers
TOTA Client Relations Manager (Exhibitors/Sponsors)



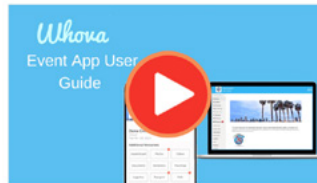
WHOVA

Attendee Guide

<https://whova.com/pages/attendee-guide/>

Page URL: <https://whova.com/pages/attendee-guide/>

Copy URL



▶ **Watch the guide video 6 minutes**

🔊 **Or watch it muted with captions**

Maximize Your Conference Experience

Pre-Recorded sessions
will be available
on demand through
February 11, 2027
on the whova app.

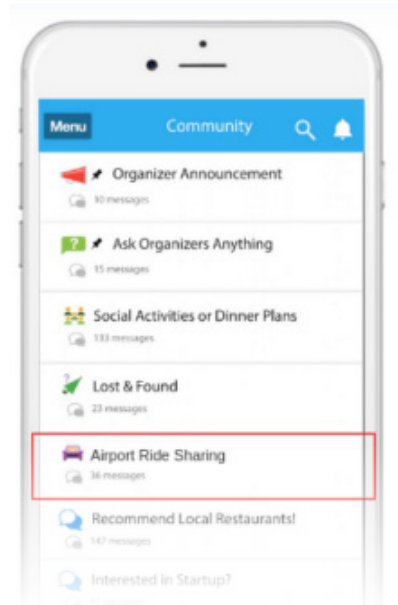
THE APP WILL BE PUBLISHED OCT. 31, 2026

AIRPORT RIDE SHARING

We have enabled Whova ride sharing for you to share rides with each other between airports and the Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos Hotel Conference Center.

The Ride Sharing feature is one of many helpful tools that can be found in the [Community Board](#).

https://whova.com/webapp/carpool/tota_202611/



SIGN IN TO WHOVA

Participating a Session?

- View the agenda and plan your schedule
- Access live stream and the session videos
- Use session Q&A

USING WHOVA TO NETWORK

- See who is attending the event
- Join discussion on community board
- Start or join a virtual meetup

Important Conference Updates

Where Can I Find the Conference Agenda, Speaker Info, Poster Presentations and Exhibitors/Sponsors?

This year, the complete conference agenda is moving online, giving you access to the most up-to-date schedule before and during the conference. **CLICK OR SCAN the QR codes on this page and sign in to Whova to view the entire agenda and plan your schedule.**

Your conference agenda, at your fingertips. The complete schedule is available as a downloadable and printable PDF, making it easy to plan your sessions and events before and during the conference.

AGENDA



Register for classes early to secure your seat.

Whova

We've streamlined registration for your convenience. Simply register and select the special events, meetings, and courses you wish to attend.

You'll build your personalized conference schedule using the Whova app. Please note that some sessions may overlap, so plan accordingly to make the most of your experience.



SPEAKERS



EXHIBITORS/SPONSORS



**DON'T GO HUNGRY,
REMEMBER TO REGISTER
FOR YOUR LUNCH>**

Lunch Registration Reminder

LUNCH IS INCLUDED WITH ALL 2026 CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS.

To ensure we have an accurate meal count, please make sure you selected **"Yes, I will be joining for lunch"** during registration.

If you did not select the lunch option, please note:

- The hotel bar/restaurant does not open until **5:30 PM**.
- The onsite Starbucks offers **limited food options** and closes between **11:00 AM and noon**, depending on customer traffic.

We encourage all attendees to confirm their lunch selection so you can enjoy the full conference experience without interruption.





Conference Schedule Highlights at a Glance

Thursday, November 12

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Check-In booth open

Friday, November 13

7:00 am – 6:00 pm Check-In
 8:00 am – 9:00 am **Educational Sessions**
 9:15 am – 10:15 am **Keynote Address**
 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Exhibit Hall Open
 10:30 am – 12:30 pm **Educational Sessions**
 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm Lunch in the Exhibit Hall
 12:45 pm – 1:45 pm OTA Program Chair's Meeting
 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm **Poster Session 1: Children & Youth, School-Based Practice**
 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm **Research Forum**
 2:00 pm – 5:30 pm **Educational Sessions**
 5:45 pm – 7:00 pm Awards & Recognition Ceremony

Saturday, November 14

7:00 am – 11:00 am Check-In
 8:00 am – 9:00 am **Poster Session 2: Academia and Research & Documentation**
 9:15 am – 10:15 am **Poster Session 3: Rehabilitation & Disability & Productive Aging**
 10:30 am – 11:30 am **Poster Session 4: Health and Wellness, Mental Health**
 8:00 am – 12:30 pm **Educational Sessions**
 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Exhibit Hall Hours
 11:30 am – 12:30 pm Student Networking
 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm Lunch in the Exhibit Hall
 12:45 pm – 1:45 pm **OT Program Chairs' Meeting**
 12:45 pm – 1:45 pm **TX Chapter NBOTC Meeting**
 2:00 pm – 5:30 pm **Educational Sessions**
 3:15 pm – 4:15 pm **Student Knowledge Challenge Bowl**

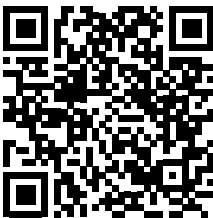
On-Demand Posters and Educational Sessions are available from November 13, 2026, to February 11, 2027.

These sessions are listed on the schedule as Sunday.

Note: For the complete program, conference, and session information, please download the conference App (Whova).

TOTA 2026 Annual Conference Registration

Join us for the TOTA 2026 Annual Conference on November 13 – 14, 2026, in San Marcos Texas
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPENS SEPT. 4 [CLICK OR SCAN TO REGISTER](#)>



Experience two inspiring days filled with engaging educational sessions, meaningful networking opportunities, and professional development designed to support and strengthen occupational therapy practitioners across Texas. Connect with practitioners, educators, and students, explore current trends and evidence-based practice, and leave energized with new ideas to enhance your professional journey!

Key Dates

- **Registration Opens:** September 4, 2026
- **Early Bird Registration:** September 4 – October 25, 2026
- **Invoice Payment Deadline:** November 2, 2026

Conference Schedule:

8:00 AM - 5:30 PM each day

Registration Price Structure

Lunch is included with ALL registration types during early bird registration.

[Reserve your hotel today!](#)

**Reservations must be secured by
October 29, 2026.**

Registration OT Practitioners, Associates, and Non-member Students

Registration Type	Early Bird Price Through 10/25	Regular Registration Price Begins 10/26 through 11/08
TOTA Member Full Conference	\$300	\$350
Non - Member Full Conference	\$400	\$450
TOTA Member Daily (Fri or Sat)	\$170	\$220
Non - Member Daily (Fri or Sat)	\$220	\$270

Registration for TOTA Student and Retired OT Practitioner Members

Registration Type	Early Bird Price Through 10/25	Regular Registration Price Begins 10/26 through 11/08
TOTA Member Full Conference	\$250	\$300
TOTA Member Daily (Fri or Sat)	\$150	\$200

Additional Registration Details

- **\$50 Discount Eligibility**
A \$50 discount on **full conference registration** is available for conference volunteers, session presenters, and TOTA state or district board members. The discount code will be provided within the registration form.
Note: Student and retired member registration rates are already discounted and do not qualify for additional discounts.
- **Invoice Payment Deadline:** All open registration invoices must be paid in full by November 2, 2026 to avoid cancellation.
- **No Onsite Registration:** Registration must be completed in advance. Onsite registration will not be available.
- **Membership Status:** Individuals whose TOTA membership is currently in renewal or has lapsed must renew their membership to receive member pricing.
- **Accessibility Needs:** If you require the use of a power mobility device (e.g., scooter) during the conference, please email sarahstevens@tota.org for assistance.

Conference Volunteers

A volunteer sign form will be available when registration opens on Sept. 4 ([click or scan to register](#))



Attending from another State?

Are you planning to attend the 2026 TOTA Annual Conference from out of state? We want to encourage membership in state OT associations. Out of state attendees can email info@tota.org with proof of membership to their own state's OT association and get member pricing for this year's TOTA conference!

Friend Of Occupational Therapy (F.O.O.T.) – Guest Pass – Deadline Oct 25, 2026 Cost: \$40 each day.

This guest pass is for spouses, significant others, and other non-OT professionals/students who want to attend the keynote address and/or the awards ceremony and one additional session provided space is available. F.O.O.T Guest Pass Registration.

Please direct registration questions to help@tota.org.

Cancellations must be received in writing to membership@tota.org by October 24, 2026. Cancellations received before the deadline are eligible to receive a full refund of registration fee, less a 10% administrative fee. Cancellations received after the stated deadline will not be eligible for a refund. Refunds will not be available for registrants who are “no shows.”

Conference Info

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Hotel Reservations must be made by Thursday, October 29, 2026, to secure this block rate.

Rate of \$190.84 per night for single or double occupancy

**Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos
Hotel Conference Center**
1001 E. McCarty Lane
San Marcos, Texas, 78666

Hotel Reservation Link: <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/tota-2026-annual-event/>

Group Name: TOTA 2026 Annual Event

Booking Dates: To adjust your stay, click edit & update

Conference sessions end at 5:30 pm on Saturday; please consider this when booking your hotel.

PARKING:

\$5 per day for overnight guests.

\$15 per day self-parking for non-hotel guests

GENERAL HOTEL INFORMATION

The hotel suites are located right off Interstate 35, halfway between San Antonio and Austin. Tanger Outlets, San Marcos Outlets, and Texas State University are all within a 10-minute drive. Unwind with a swim in our heated outdoor pool or work out in the fitness center featuring a Peloton® Bike with toe cages. Enjoy free breakfast and a complimentary evening reception.

CURRENT PROPERTY OPERATIONS (Subject to change):

- Check-In: 4:00PM
- Check-Out: 11:00AM
- Complimentary Evening Reception (Lobby Lounge): 5:30PM - 7:00PM
- Lobby Lounge Bar: 5:00PM – 11:00PM
- Lobby Lounge Food Service: 5:00PM – 10:00PM
- Breakfast:
 - o Monday - Saturday: 6:00AM – 9:00AM
 - o Sunday: 7:00AM – 10:30AM
- Caffenias Coffee Shop: 7:00AM – 12:00PM
- Restaurant & Spa: Currently Closed
- Pool: 6:00AM - 12:00AM

DRESS

Business Casual is recommended for all sessions and receptions. Please bring a sweater or jacket as the temperature in the meeting rooms may be cool.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CONTACT HOURS

The 2026 TOTA Annual Conference agenda is officially live, and it's packed. You'll find 87 live education sessions, 56 live poster sessions, and a robust library of 13.25 on-demand CE contact hours to support your professional growth.

Please note: On-demand sessions are labeled in the 400s and will appear under Sunday in the app due to a technical limitation. These sessions will be pre-recorded and available for viewing until February 11, 2027.

ACCOMMODATIONS

We want to provide the best learning experience for everyone. Should you require any accommodation to fully participate in this conference, please email help@tota.com

CONFIRMATIONS/REFUNDS

Registration confirmation and payment receipts are emailed to the attendee. All cancellations for courses, workshops, and conferences must be made in writing to the TOTA Executive Office before October 24, 2026; a 10% handling fee will be charged. Refunds will not be issued after October 24, 2026, or for "no-shows." Substitutions are accepted with a written notice provided that the replacement meets the same registration fee criteria. If an additional fee structure applies to the substitute registrant, all additional fees must be paid at the time the substitution is made. Partial refunds will not be granted. Payments for lunch are not refundable. TOTA reserves the right to cancel seminars due to unforeseen/unavoidable circumstances at any time.

TOTA is not responsible for nonrefundable airline and hotel reservations that a participant incurred due to cancellation. All complaints relative to the content, instructor, facilities, and registration procedures are to be directed to the TOTA executive office: 2323 Clear Lake City Blvd. Suite 180-197. Houston. Texas. 77062

TOTA reserves the right to use any photograph/video taken at any event sponsored or co-sponsored by TOTA, without the expressed written permission of those included within the photograph/video. TOTA may use the photograph/video in publications or other media material produced, used, or contracted by TOTA.

TOTA includes but is not limited to brochures, invitations, books, newspapers, magazines, television, websites, etc. No person or organization may use, copy, alter, or modify TOTA photographs, graphics, videography, or other similar reproductions or recordings without the advance written permission of an authorized designee from TOTA

2026 Special Events

FRIDAY
November
13

Keynote Address – Session 108

FRIDAY – 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM
Shirley A. Wells, DrPH, OTR, FAOTA
**Leading with Inclusion,
Empathy, and Knowledge**

Dr. Shirley A. Wells, OTD, MPH, FAOTA, is a distinguished occupational therapist, educator, scholar, and advocate whose career spans more than four decades of clinical practice and academic leadership. She has served the profession in numerous roles, including administrator, researcher, program developer, consultant, department director, and clinician in acute care, pediatric, and school-based settings.

Dr. Wells contributions have been recognized with numerous honors, including designation as a Fellow of AOTA and Roster of Merit of TOTA, inclusion among AOTA's 100 Influential People in Occupational Therapy's 100-Year History, the Texas Occupational Therapy Association Academic Educator of the Year Award, and the inaugural Dr. Lela A. Llorens Award of Excellence for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion.

An accomplished author and international presenter, Dr. Wells has written extensively on ethics, leadership, culture, and diversity, including the widely used Culture and Occupation book series.

Dr. Wells is currently Professor Emeritus in the Department of Occupational Therapy at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, where her legacy continues to shape the profession and inspire future generations of practitioners and leaders.

SPONSORED BY



**Protecting Our
Profession: Ethical
Practice and
Professional Integrity
in Occupational
Therapy-Strengthening
Ethical Decision-making
and Professional
Accountability in
Clinical Practice**



Session 110 - SPONSORED BY OTBE
FRIDAY – 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**TOTA Legislative Update
and Advocacy Efforts**

Session 119
FRIDAY - 3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

**Awards and
Recognition Ceremony**



SPONSORED BY TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY
FRIDAY - 5:45 PM - 7:00 PM

OTA Program Chair's Meeting

Special Meeting
FRIDAY - 12:45 PM - 1:45 PM

Special Meeting

OTA PROGRAM CHAIRS MEETING
FRIDAY - 12:45 PM - 1:45 PM

**Make Functional Recovery Part of Early Postpartum Care
Enhanced Recovery After Delivery® CEU Training Course**

SEPARATE REGISTRATION REQUIRED - SPONSORED BY



Course Format: Hybrid with self-paced didactic coursework and a full-day, in-person lab at the TOTA Annual Conference

Registration is open (limited to 20 participants)
TOTA Member Discounted Rate - \$997
Non Member Price is \$1297
Last day to register is October 15, 2026.

CLICK OR
SCAN TO
REGISTER



This registration will be separate from the TOTA conference and is limited to 20 participants. Email Judith Joseph, If you need to pay with a PO.

↓ student zone ↓

**NBCOT® National Certification Exam:
Information You Need to Know**

*Get Exam
Ready with
NBCOT!*

SESSION 118
FRIDAY – 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Student
Networking
Event**

SATURDAY
10:30 – 11:30 AM

SPONSORED BY:
ICDL

Landing Your First Job and More

SATURDAY – 10:30 AM -11:30 AM

Student Knowledge Bowl Challenge **START FORMING YOUR TEAMS!**

SATURDAY – 3:15 PM -4:15 PM

First Place = \$1000
Second Place = \$500
Third Place = \$250

Special Meetings

OT PROGRAM CHAIRS MEETING
SATURDAY - 12:45 PM - 1:45 PM

TX CHAPTER NBOTC MEETING
SATURDAY - 12:45 PM - 1:45 PM

SATURDAY
November
14

STUDENT ZONE

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO

Break the ICE. Build your NETWORK.

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 14
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

HOSTED BY THE TOTA STUDENT REPS

SPONSORED BY



Make new friends, exchange ideas, and connect with graduate students from across the state while enjoying games and interactive activities.

QUESTIONS?

Contact

txotstudentrep@tota.org and

Kennady: txotastudentrep@tota.org



SPONSORED BY:



Student Knowledge 2026 Challenge Bowl!

SCAN OR CLICK
TO REGISTER



First Place = \$1000
Second Place = \$500
Third Place = \$250

Date: Saturday, November 14
Time: 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm
Location: Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos Hotel Conference Center
1001 E. McCarty Lane. San Marcos, Texas, 78666

THE RULES ARE GOING TO BE RATHER SIMPLE

1. Kahoot app will be the scorekeeper
2. No cell phones
3. The maximum size of the team is 5 members.
4. Encourage your classmates to come and cheer for the team.
5. Team members must also be members of TOTA
6. Team members must be registered conference attendees

Note: Team members do not have to be in the same cohort.
Start forming your teams. Registration opens on September 4th.

TOTA 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

STUDENT ORGANIZATION TABLES



**STOP BY THE
SOTA STORES!**
STUDENT TABLES WILL BE LOCATED
IN THE VERAMENDI BALLROOM FOYER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Set up begins no earlier than 7:00 am

Store Hours: 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Set up begins no earlier than 7:00 am

Store Hours: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Abilene Christian University - SOTA
Baylor University - SOTA
Del Mar College- Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
San Jacinto College - SOTA
Tarleton State University (OSTA)
Texas Tech University Health Science Center - SOTA
Texas Woman's University - SOTA - Denton
Texas Woman's University - Houston (SOTA, COTAD, Phi Theta Epsilon)
The University of Texas Rio Grand Valley (SOTA)
University of the Incarnate Word - SOTA Chapter
University of St. Augustine, Austin Campus - SOTA
University of St. Augustine - Dallas (SOTA)
University of Texas, Mary Hardin-Baylor – SOTA

NOTE: All participants of the Student Organization Store
must be registered for the TOTA Annual Conference

- Please check in with Sarah Stevens at the TOTA Desk located in the exhibit hall upon arrival.
- Tables will be assigned to participating schools.
- Each student organization will be provided with one skirted table and two chairs.
- Please limit table staffing to two attendees at a time.
- As tables are located in the hallway outside meeting rooms, we ask that all participants maintain a low noise level.
- All students staffing tables must be registered for the conference and wear their conference badge at all times.
- Any additional inventory must be stored out of sight beneath your table.
- Please ensure that all inventory is removed or securely stored at the close of store hours on Friday.

2026 Award Recipients

Texas OT of the Year

Laurie Stelter, OTR, PhD

Roster of Merit Awards

Kira Elizabeth Beal, OTR, Ed.D., OTD, CPAM, CLT

Dahlia Castillo, OTR, OTD, FAOTA

Evelyn Harness, OTR

Honorary Life Member

Dwain "Bubba" Klostermann, OT

Judith Joseph, OTR, MA, FAOTA

Academic Educator of the Year

Justine Faghihifar, OTR, OTD, LSVT

Award for Clinical Excellence

Chris Lasek, OTR, MOT

Clinical Fieldwork Educator of the Year

Dana Maass, OTR

Distinguished Service Awards

Dwain "Bubba" Klostermann, OT, CEAS II

Angela Renee Shepherd, COTA, Ed.D

Dickson Rodriguez, OTR, PhD, MA-VRT

Donna Walls, OTR, OTD, CHT

Horizon Award

Natalie Pravinkumar, OTR, OTD

Interdisciplinary Team

Laura Novak, OTR, OTD, BCG, and

The Central Texas Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging,

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Arts Academy

OT Student Leadership Award

Maya Landgrebe

2026 Service Recognition

State Board of Directors

Emily Navarro OTD, OTR, DPAM – Legislative and Political Affairs Committee Chair
Megan Taylor, OTR, OTD, CLT – State Education Committee Chair
Maya Landgrebe, eOTD Student – OT Student Representative
Leena Lozano - OTA Student Representative

Capital Centex District

Precious Osuoha, OTR, PHD, ECHM - Vice Chair

Great Plains West District

Chris Lasek, OTR, MOT - District Chair
Dina Warren, OTR, MA – Standards & Practice Committee Chair
Carolina Sanchez - TTUHSC SOTA student rep

Trinity North District

Gretchen Johnson, OTR, OTD – District Vice Chair
India Williams, COTA – District OTA Representative

Gulf Coast East District

Kira Beal, OTR, Ed.D., OTD, CPAM, CLT – District Vice Chair
Sheryl Bourque, COTA – District Secretary

Rio Grande District

Grisel Contreras, OTR, OTD – District Chair

Texas Occupational Therapy Association PAC

Amanda Frias, OTR, OTD, DRS, CBIS
India Williams, COTA

Standing and Adhoc Committees

2026 Nominating Committee

Chair: Tiffany Green, COTA, M.Ed. (Gulf Coast East)
Molly Amlung, OTR (Great Plains West)
Amber B. Armstead, OTR, DrPH BCPR (Gulf Coast East)
Elizabeth DeLuca-Berg, OTR, OTD, CAPS (Capital Centex)
Natalie Pravinkumar, OTR, OTD (Rio Grande)
Cindi Tiongco, OTR, Ph.D. (Great Plains West)

Pelvic and Postpartum Health Ad Hoc Committee Members

PJ Bhakta, OTR, OTD, PCES, CSOT
Haydee Medrano, OTR, MOT, CBS
Jessica Peterson OTR, OTD, IBCLC, PMH-C, CEIM
Aidee Rosado, OTR, MOT, PHS-C, PCES
Diana Sally Theodore, OTD Student



LAGSHIP

Leading a Therapy Movement

- ✓ **Leadership opportunities and training programs**
- ✓ **Programs focused on the advancement of clinical skills**
- ✓ **Growth from within**

Scan the QR code to learn more about how we're innovating Post-Acute care in over 350 Ensign-Affiliated facilities across the US.





"It's not what we do,
it's **WHY** we do **IT!**"

OTS & COTAS

TAKE BACK YOUR SCHEDULE



Choose your own
treating area



Personalized approach
to building a caseload



PTO for full-time
& part-time



Free CEUs



A CREW culture
you'll actually feel



NOW HIRING ACROSS TEXAS!



HOUSTON

AUSTIN

DFW

SAN ANTONIO

EL PASO



Scan to
apply in
seconds!

WE LOVE OTS, OTAS AND NEW GRADS!



Working at Therapy 2000 is not just a job, but an opportunity. We want you to be more than just a valuable team member, we want you to love what you do!

**FULL TIME, PART TIME AND
PRN POSITIONS AVAILABLE
THROUGHOUT TEXAS**

BENEFITS AVAILABLE:

- Income Stabilization Period
- Ongoing Support and Mentoring
- Free CEU's
- Paid Mileage
- Therapist friendly EMR
- Quick turnaround times from eval to start of care
- Specialized programs: HRI, AAC, Feeding
- And much, much more!

APPLY NOW!



www.t2000.com/careers

 **JOIN US**



Great
Place
To
Work®

Certified

MAR 2026-MAR 2027

USA

Careers you can have faith in.



Explore
therapy careers



ICDL is proud to be a Silver Sponsor at TOTA's 2026 Conference

BECOME A DIRFLOORTIME® PRACTITIONER

Join the thousands of professionals becoming
DIRFloortime Practitioners around the world.

30%
OFF

Begin Your DIR® Journey

Register for a DIR 101 in
2026 and Receive 30% off!

Use Code: **TOTA26**



Scan the QR code to view upcoming DIR 101s

[OR CLICK HERE!](#)



www.icdl.com



[@icdl_dirfloortime](#)



[ICDL - Home of DIRFloortime](#)

ICDL is the Official Home of DIR® and DIRFloortime®



NOW AVAILABLE @ TOTA

ERAD[®] CEU Certification Training

15 Contact Hours

Make Functional Recovery Part of Early Postpartum Care
Open to OT & PT Practitioners

Learn how to support recovery during hospital admission and the first 6 weeks postpartum using a model adopted by 120+ hospitals.

What's Included:

- ✓ Clinical pathways for maternity unit consults and early recovery
- ✓ 1:1 consultation to support your program or initiative

Training Details: Only \$997 (Non Member \$1297)

📅 November 13, 2026
 ⌚ 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM 📍 San Marcos, TX
 🔄 Hybrid Format (Online + In-Person Lab)

Limited to 20 Participants

Register by October 15, 2026

REGISTER NOW ➔

AOTA American Occupational Therapy Association
 Approved Provider

Approved by the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

This registration will be separate from the TOTA conference and is limited to 20 participants.

Email [Judith.Joseph](mailto:Judith.Joseph@erad.com). If you need to pay with a PO.

Eligibility and CE Approval

Enhanced Recovery and Wellness, LLC is an AOTA Approved Provider of the professional development activity: Enhanced Recovery After Delivery® Grow an OB Rehab Program in the Hospital and Home After Birth. Activity approval ID# 05406. The live, blended/hybrid, distance learning-interactive, and distance learning-independent activity is offered at 1.5 CEUs, (Texas 15.0 contact hours) intermediate level, OT Service Delivery. The assignment of AOTA CEUs does not imply endorsement of specific course content, products, or clinical procedures by AOTA.

This activity has been approved by the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners for 15.00 CCUs for PTs and PTAs.

[Click here](#) for Course Schedule and Curriculum
 Please review the Cancellation and Refund Policy before submitting payment.

SONRISAS THERAPIES

PEDIATRIC HOME HEALTH

APPLY NOW

At Sonrisas Therapies, we are committed to sustaining and growing our presence as one of the leading pediatric therapy providers in Central and South Texas by delivering high-quality, evidence-based services. We offer physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy from birth to 21 years old.

NOW HIRING IN AUSTIN, SAN ANTONIO AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Benefits:

- Medical, dental, vision, and disability insurance
- 401(k) with company match
- Paid time off and seven paid holidays
- Caseloads close to home, minimal drivetime
- Competitive Pay
- CEU reimbursement
- License/Material reimbursement
- Employee referral program
- Home ownership benefit program

📞 512-900-7934
<https://sonrisastherapies.com>



Changing Little Lives in Big Ways

Serving families in 24 locations throughout Texas, North Carolina, Washington, and Washington D.C.

EXPLORE OUR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Cole Pediatric Therapy
 SPEECH | OCCUPATIONAL | PHYSICAL



TOTA Day at the Capitol: Elevating the Voice of Occupational Therapy in Texas

March 2,
2027

TOTA Day at the Capitol is more than a scheduled advocacy event; it's a powerful moment of unity for our profession. Each year, occupational therapy practitioners, educators, and students from across Texas come together in Austin to champion the value of OT and ensure our voice is heard where it matters most.

This day offers a unique opportunity to:

- **Protect essential funding** that supports the services Texans rely on
- **Advocate for policy changes** that strengthen our practice and expand access to care
- **Educate legislators** about the critical role occupational therapy plays in health, education, & community participation
- **Show the strength of our profession** through collective presence and shared purpose

By standing together, we demonstrate that occupational therapy is not just a service; it's a vital component of a healthier, more inclusive Texas. Whether you're a seasoned practitioner or a student just beginning your journey, your participation helps shape the future of our profession and the lives of those we serve.

TOTA Day at the Capitol is your chance to make a meaningful, lasting impact. When we show up, speak up, and advocate together, we move our profession forward.

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (Depending on visit schedule)

Location: Capitol Extension Auditorium

Mandatory Virtual Orientation: February 23, 2027



TEXAS OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY ASSOCIATION, INC.



★ IN CELEBRATION OF TOTA'S
90TH ANNIVERSARY ★

\$90 FOR 90
Campaign

The purpose of TOTA PAC is to
provide a voice **FOR OUR FUTURE**
and occupational therapy
in the state of Texas.



YOUR DONATION HELPS:



ADVOCATE
for our profession
at the state level



SUPPORT
policies that
strengthen
OT in Texas



PREPARE
for the Texas
legislative
90th session

LET'S GET
90
TOTA MEMBERS
TO DONATE
\$90

**PREPARE TODAY.
MAKE AN IMPACT TOMORROW.**



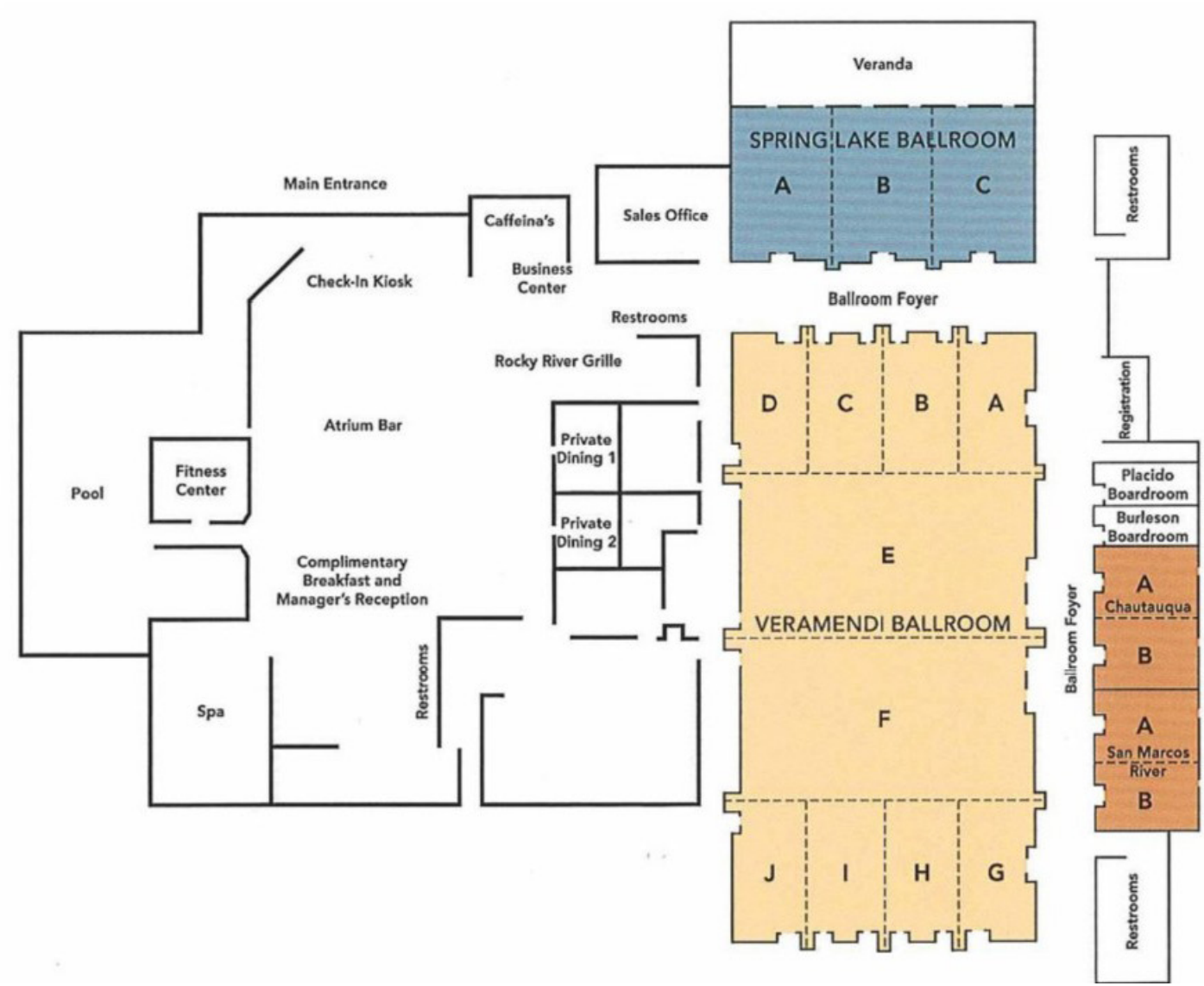
**INVEST IN OUR PROFESSION.
INVEST IN OUR FUTURE.**



**DONATE
TODAY!**

TOTA.ORG/PAC

Conference Center Map



The Texas Occupational Therapy Association extends our heartfelt gratitude to the outstanding sponsors who helped make this year's conference exceptional. Because of their generosity, we were able to offset costs for special events, SWAG, coffee breaks, and lunch, keeping our conference affordable while elevating the experience for every attendee.

Thank you to our 2026 Conference Sponsors:

CHRISTUS Health – for bringing joy and connection through our *Conference Photo Booth*.

Cole Health – for supporting *Friday Lunch*, helping us gather and connect as a statewide OT community.

Ensign Affiliates – Flagship Therapy – for energizing our students and supporting the *Student Knowledge Bowl Challenge*.

International Council on Development and Learning (ICDL) – for sponsoring *The Student Networking Event*, strengthening pathways for future practitioners.

Occupational Therapy Benevolence Endowment (OTBE) – for sponsoring *Session 110* and advancing meaningful professional learning.

RiverKids Pediatric Home Health – for providing our *Conference Lanyards* and helping us welcome attendees with style.

Sonrisas Therapies – for fueling Saturday with the much loved *Coffee Break*.

St. Catherine University – for supporting the *Enhanced Recovery After Delivery® CEU Training Course*, expanding access to high value education.

Texas Woman's University – for sponsoring the *Awards Ceremony and Reception*, celebrating excellence across our profession.

Therapy 2000 – for supplying our *Conference Bags* and helping attendees carry home resources that will shape their practice.

University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences – for sponsoring our *Keynote Address*, inspiring our profession's continued growth.

Winter Pediatric Therapy – for providing *Friday's Conference Lunch*, creating space for connection and community.

Your partnership strengthens the occupational therapy profession in Texas. Because of you, we continue to offer a conference that informs, inspires, and brings our community together. We are deeply grateful for your support and commitment to advancing OT across our state.



90TH ANNIVERSARY

**TEXAS OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY ASSOCIATION, INC.**

JOIN US

***TOTA 2026 Annual Conference and
90th Anniversary Celebration***

Date: November 13-14

Time: 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM both days

***Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos Hotel Conference Center
1001 E. McCarty Lane. San Marcos, Texas, 78666***