

“HOMESCHOOLING: AN ENDLESS ADVENTURE!”

Spring is...well, almost here. We don't look forward to the end of a school year in quite the same manner as schools do. After all, for homeschoolers, the learning process never ends whether in textbooks, at play, in the field, or on the road – it's an endless adventure! Spring does, however, mean it's time to get ready for inspiration, relaxation, information, recharging, conviction, practical helps, fellowship with the larger homeschool community, hands-on inspection of curriculum materials and more at the MassHOPE convention. We think it's the best deal around.

We're excited to present all that will be at the DCU Center in Worcester April 26-28. Israel Wayne is here for the first time. He was being homeschooled before almost any of the modern homeschool pioneers started and now homeschools his own brood. Want your friends to be convicted and encouraged about education? Bring them to hear Israel. Need to be reminded why you do this? Come and hear Israel. Bring your teens to be challenged. Bring skeptical spouses and grandparents. Need help with math, English, science, foreign language, literature, and more? Come and talk to those who wrote the curriculum. There are so many reasons to attend, not least of which is to support the entire movement. By attending, you not only get to enjoy all that is there for your family. Your support enables us to provide other services to the homeschool community and to be vigilant in safeguarding the freedom of homeschoolers from increasing threats.

Last but not least is an exciting new option for online pre-registrations. MassHOPE bucks can be purchased at a 10% discount! Use them at any vendor in the exhibit hall and it's like getting a 10% discount on your purchases. Don't miss it! See you there.

Keynote Speakers

(Please visit www.masshope.org for full bios of all speakers.)

Israel Wayne

Israel Wayne is a homeschool graduate and father of nine who is passionate about defending the Christian faith and developing a Biblical worldview. He is a popular conference speaker who desires to see God's people learn to think and live Biblically. Israel is the author of the books *Homeschooling from a Biblical Worldview*, *Full-Time Parenting: A Guide to Family-Based Discipleship*, *Questions God Asks*, *Questions Jesus Asks*, *Education: Does God Have an Opinion? A Biblical Apologetic for Christian Education & Homeschooling*, and co-author of *Pitchin' A Fit! Overcoming Angry & Stressed-Out Parenting* (with his wife Brook). Learn more about Israel at www.familyrenewal.org.

Dr. Jay Wile

Dr. Jay Wile holds an earned Ph.D. in nuclear chemistry and a B.S. in chemistry, both from the University of Rochester. He has won several awards for excellence in teaching and has presented lectures on the topics of Nuclear Chemistry, Christian Apologetics, and Homeschooling. He is best known for his award-winning K-12 science textbooks, which are sold by Berean Builders publishing. Dr. Wile and his wife of more than 30 years, Kathleen, homeschooled their daughter, Dawn, from the time they adopted her until she graduated high school. To learn more about Dr. Jay, please visit www.drwile.com.

Convention Schedule

(Please visit www.masshope.org often for updated info)

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

FREE! at the Hilton Garden Inn, 2nd floor, 6:30 PM
“The History of the Homeschooling Movement” - Israel Wayne
“The Compelling Case for Home Education” - Mike Donnelly
“Homeschooling: The Solution to Our Education Problem” - Dr. Jay Wile

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

| | |
|----------|---|
| 7:30 AM | Doors Open for Pre-Reg'd Only |
| 8:00 AM | Doors & Exhibit Hall Open |
| 8:15 AM | Opening General Session Keynote by Israel Wayne “ <i>Education: Does God Have an Opinion?</i> ” |
| 9:30 AM | Session 1 Workshops |
| 10:30 AM | Session 2 Workshops |
| 11:30 AM | Session 3 Workshops |
| 12:15 PM | Lunch Break |
| 1:30 PM | Session 4 Workshops |
| 2:30 PM | Session 5 Workshops |
| 5:30 PM | Exhibit Hall Closes General Session Graduate Recognition Ceremony Keynote by Dr. Jay Wile “ <i>Reasonable Faith: The Scientific Case for Christianity</i> ” |
| 7:00 PM | General Session Ends |

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

| | |
|----------|---|
| 7:30 AM | Doors Open for Pre-Reg'd Only |
| 8:00 AM | Doors Open |
| 8:15 AM | Opening General Session Keynote by Israel Wayne “ <i>Homeschooling: Preference or Conviction?</i> ” |
| 8:30 AM | Exhibit Hall Opens |
| 9:30 AM | Session 6 Workshops |
| 10:30 AM | Session 7 Workshops |
| 11:30 AM | Session 8 Workshops |
| 12:15 PM | Lunch Break |
| 1:30 PM | Session 9 Workshops |
| 2:30 PM | Session 10 Workshops |
| 5:00 PM | Exhibit Hall Closes/Convention Ends |

Workshops

All workshops listed are tentative and subject to change. Workshop details and schedule additions and revisions will be updated and posted on our website (www.masshope.org) prior to the convention start date. Children ages 5-9 with 1st floor wristbands may attend workshops marked with a heart (♥) when accompanied by an adult.

THURSDAY (FREE)

Take place in a conference room on the 2nd floor of the Hilton Garden Inn, beginning at 6:30PM.

The History of the Homeschooling Movement
The Compelling Case for Home Education
Homeschooling: The Solution to Our Education Problem

FRIDAY

Friday Morning General Session - 8:15

Education: Does God Have an Opinion? ♥

Elites to Homeschooling Families: We're Coming for You ♥
Creation vs. Evolution: Religion vs Science or Religion vs Religion? (teens)
Identifying and Correcting Blocked Learning Gates
The Writing Process: Inch by Inch, It's a Cinch!
My Kids Hate School! Setting Them Free with Passion-Driven Learning
Homeschooling: Seven Steps to a Great Start
Pitchin' a Fit: Overcoming Angry and Stressed-Out Parenting ♥
Tinker Toys and God's Higher Ways (teens)
Home Business Education 101
Teaching Mathematics as a Language
Clutter, Clatter, and the Things That Matter
Teaching Elementary Science Using History as a Guide ♥
When You Feel Like Calling Fire Down from Heaven (teens)
Teaching the Right Brain Child
How We Brought Our Dad Home from Corporate America in Just 3 Years
Writing: Make It Relevant! Make it Fun!
Homeschooling and Preschoolers Too?
Foreign Language Learning at Home: Is It Achievable and If So ... How?
Taming the Hydra ♥
Smart Kids Who Hate to Write
Sons and Daughters: Helping Them Thrive After They Leave the Nest
101 Ways (and Reasons) to Use Journaling in Your Homeschool
Homeschooling Math without a Plan
Homeschooling from a Biblical Worldview ♥
Why I'm Glad I Homeschooled through High School
Online Courses - Best Practices to Success

Friday Evening General Session - 5:30

Reasonable Faith: The Scientific Case for Christianity ♥

SATURDAY

Saturday Morning General Session - 8:15

Homeschooling: Preference or Conviction? ♥

What About K-6 Science? ♥
Training the Photographic Memory
How to Motivate and Nurture Young Writers
Juggling on a Tightrope
Homeschooling: Seven Steps to a Great Start
Being Salt and Light Families ♥
What You Plant Is What You Get (teens)
Home Business Projects That Teach Financial Literacy and Create Income
Divinely Inspired Mathematics
Got Kids? Get Character!
The Most Exciting Science Related to Creation ♥
Givers and Takers, Movers and Shakers (teens)
The Biology of Behavior
The Knock at the Door
Stretching Your Gifted Writer
In the Valley of "How Long?"
What Foreign Language Courses Will Pass the College Admissions Process?
Is Homeschooling Just for Women? ♥
Writing Skills: More Important Than Ever!
WOW! You Mean THAT's History!
Are Your Children's Smartphones Making Them Dumb as Dirt?
"Teaching" the Junior High and High School Sciences at Home ♥
Singled Out

Workshop Speakers

Marilyn Boyer

Rick Boyer

Tom Clark

Mike Donnelly

Dale Gamache

Pamela Gates

Walt & Glenda

Grayum

Kim Kautzer

Rhea Perry

Mike Shrock

Israel Wayne

Jay Wile ... and more!

PLEASE REMEMBER...

...to visit www.masshope.org often for further workshop additions, speaker updates, speaker bios, workshop descriptions, a workshop schedule, and workshop handouts (for you to print before coming to the convention).

2018 Teen Track

Teens in the Teen Track this year will be hearing from Mike Shrock of Fired Up Youth, Dr. Jay Wile of Berean Builders, and Andy Frye of Worldview Academy. Teens will be challenged on many counts to be sure. (Parents are welcomed to sit in on any of the teen sessions.)

Vendors

View the list of vendors at our website and visit their websites so you can be an informed shopper in our exhibit hall.

http://masshope.org/index.php?sub=Convention_Vendors

Location

Once again, we will be enjoying the lovely facilities of:

The DCU Center, 50 Foster Street,
Worcester, MA 01608

Directions: <https://goo.gl/maps/XjWXd474d2A2>

Hotels

Blocked room count is limited and most rates apply **only through April 5**, so call early. Be sure to mention "MassHOPE Convention" to ensure discounted rates.

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT: 72 Grove Street, **Worcester;** 508-363-0300; \$149/night; free parking, free wifi, exercise room, indoor salt water pool, and free shuttle to DCU Center (upon request, if available)

HAMPTON INN & SUITES: 65 Prescott Street, Worcester 508-886-9005; \$159/night; free parking, free wifi, free breakfast, exercise room, indoor salt water pool, and free shuttle to the DCU Center (upon request, when available)

HILTON GARDEN INN: 35 Major Taylor Blvd, **Worcester;** 508-753-5700; \$127/night; indoor pool, fitness center

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS: 10-12 Johnson Street, **Auburn;** 508-832-2500; \$139/night; free parking, free wifi, and free hot/cold buffet breakfast

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS: 110 Summer Street, **Worcester;** 508-757-0400; \$139/night; free parking, free wifi, free hot breakfast bar, free shuttle to the DCU Center (upon request, when available)

HOMEWOOD SUITES (new for 2018): 1 Washington Square, **Worcester;** 508-755-1234; \$159/night; free parking, free wifi, free breakfast buffet, indoor salt water pool, fitness center, free shuttle to the DCU Center (upon request, when available)

RESIDENCE INN: 503 Plantation Street, **Worcester;** 508-753-6300; \$140/night (studio or 1 BR suites); free wifi, free parking, free deluxe breakfast, and shuttle to DCU Center (upon request, when available)

Recordings

Not able to attend all the workshops you would like? Wish your spouse was with you to hear what you're hearing? Perhaps other prospective homeschoolers you know, or even grandparents, also need to hear. Recordings of all keynotes and most workshops will be available both at and after the convention.

ONSITE RECORDING SPECIAL - Buy 5 CD's get one free on all recording purchases made and orders placed onsite.

Parking

There are several parking lots and garages near the DCU Center. Most, if not all, charge for parking. We encourage you to visit:

www.en.parkopedia.com/parking/attraction/dcu-center-worcester/ for nearby parking and the rates. It is best to familiarize yourself with the possibilities before you arrive.

Handicap-accessible parking spaces are located around the facility at designated areas. Daily parking rates are in effect.

Important Notes! Please read!!

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: Pre-registration is required for the Children's Program and is not available at the door. Please plan accordingly!

HANDOUTS: Be sure to check our website often as we continue to upload handouts for the various workshops. Not all workshops will have handouts, but for those that do, you will want to print them ahead of time and bring them with you. Handouts will NOT be available onsite.

FOOD: DCU Center security will NOT allow any food or beverage to be brought into the building without a note from a health care provider explaining your need due to a health condition. There will be concessions inside the DCU Center for those who don't want to leave the building. Some pack lunches and either go back to their cars to eat or, in good weather, picnic on the grassy knoll across the street from the convention center. There will also be a list of nearby restaurants in the convention program.

Support MassHOPE while you eat!

After a successful 2017, UNO (right across the street from the DCU Center) will once again be hosting a "Dough Raiser" to benefit MassHOPE. Show your support for MassHOPE by using our coupon when you dine at UNO's, and 15-20% of the diners' sales will be donated back to MassHOPE. Coupons will appear on our Facebook page and will also be available in the registration area at the convention.



Silent Auction

Returning this year is our silent auction! JOIN THE FUN!

Vendors, support groups, local businesses, and friends have been asked to donate items for this event.

These donations will be on display in the exhibit hall, so be sure to check them out and place a bid if there's something of interest to you!

Bids will be accepted until 2:00 PM, Saturday, with winners announced by 3:00 PM.

Items are to be collected by 4:30 PM.

We need your help! Want to donate something? Know a business, attraction, or museum that would? Please email silentauction@masshope.org for details.

Any uncollected items will become MassHOPE property.

Children and Teens

We love children and want to include them whenever possible. Our convention, however, is geared for parent/teacher enrichment and learning, so we encourage you to make childcare arrangements for your children. Understanding that this is not always possible, we do offer a children's program - something not all states do. Please be aware that this program does fill up quickly and will NOT be available to those registering onsite.

Infants under 24 months are free and must be with their parents or caregivers at all times. No wristband or name badge will be issued for children in this category. Please step out of sessions if your child becomes noisy (even happy sounds) as our recording equipment is very sensitive. An area for nursing moms is located in the exhibit hall.

Children ages 2-4 years old may attend workshops with their parents, assuming they will remain quiet and not become a distraction to other paying adults. Name badges will be provided for these children.

Children ages 5-9 years old (with paid adult registration) have two options:

- 1) **Children's Program** (Name badge) **OR**
- 2) **1st floor wristband** - restricted to the entire first floor and 2nd floor lounge area (between escalators); must be accompanied by an adult or responsible sibling at all times.

Children ages 10-18 may register (with an accompanying adult registration) and attend the Teen Track or any other workshops.

Young adults (18 years and up) still living at home, not married, and not homeschooling any children are welcome to register at the teen price and attend any sessions they would like.

Registration

There are **three registration options**:

- 1) **By mail** - Use the registration form included in this brochure (checks or money orders only)
- 2) **Online** - Visit www.masshope.org..... (VISA or MasterCard only)

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!

Do either of the above
by April 2nd and save
\$10 off onsite pricing!

- 3) **Onsite** - At-the-door registration (cash, check, or VISA/MasterCard accepted)

Name badge(s) for preregistrations will be ready for you to pick up onsite in the registration area.

If your preregistration has a postmark after April 2, you will need to pick it up onsite at the Exceptions booth in the registration area for onsite pricing and to obtain your name badge(s).

Requests for refund of registration must be made in writing **PRIOR** to the start of the convention and emailed to convention@masshope.org.

FREE! FREE! FREE! The Thursday evening sessions and Friday evening session are FREE and open to the public! Invite your interested friends and family to learn more about home education. (Exhibit hall will be closed during these times.)

FIRST TIME ATTENDEES (individual or married couple, first time for both) can pre-register at a reduced fee. See registration form. **NOT** available onsite!

GRANDPARENTS - We understand the value of grandparents in the homeschooling process. **NON-HOMESCHOOLING** grandparents are always free if they attend with their adult children who are paying the registration fee. Grandparents who are still homeschooling one or more of their own children must register separately and pay the registration fee.

Social Media

Don't miss out on any convention information!

"Like" MassHOPE on **Facebook** (MassHOPE).

"Share" our posts with friends and family.

"Follow" us on **Twitter** (@MassHOPE).

Do we have your **email** address? Don't miss out on our bi-weekly *MassHOPE Messenger*, providing convention updates as well as other items of interest for homeschoolers.



Box Tops for Education

You can earn **FREE** admission to next year's (2019) convention AND support MassHOPE at the same time! Bring your Box Tops for Education tabs (found on LOTS of products you already buy) with you to the convention. There will be a collection box at the MassHOPE booth. They will also be collected at the used curriculum sale in June or they can be mailed to MassHOPE through the postmarked date of December 31. You may choose either of the following options:



1. Simply donate them. Proceeds will be used for MassHOPE scholarships.
2. Receive credit for 50% of the value of your Box Tops toward registration for next year's convention. The remainder will be used for MassHOPE scholarships.

In either case, if you designate a MassHOPE affiliated support group, one half of the MassHOPE portion will be donated to that group.

Submissions for credit must be in a sealed envelope with the following information either on the **outside** of the envelope or on an enclosed note: name, address, phone number, email address, number of Box Tops enclosed, and support group, if applicable. Please be mindful of expiration dates! Box Tops need to be at least **two months** from expiration at time of submission. If mailed, they should be addressed to Anne Smith, 85 Liberty Street, Haverhill, MA 01832.

Want to bless someone? Any credit earned is transferable, but cannot be held over from year to year.

SPECIAL FOR 2018

**Pssst – Pass it on! WOW! What a deal!
Discounted MassHOPE bucks for sale!**

Pre-register online to take advantage of a special offer – Purchasing MassHOPE bucks at a 10% discount! Use MassHOPE bucks at any vendor in the exhibit hall and it's like getting a 10% discount on your purchase, in addition to any other convention specials that vendors may offer.

Children's Program volunteer discount

Here's another opportunity for discounted or free admission. We need volunteers, especially experienced ones, to assist Marilyn and Lanny with the Children's Program. Please email convention@masshope.org for details.

Graduation Opportunities

MassHOPE offers two opportunities for graduates. A graduate may participate in either or both.

The **GRADUATE RECOGNITION CEREMONY** will take place during the evening general session on Friday, April 27, 2018 at the DCU Center. Deadline to sign up for this ceremony is April 20. Contact Anne Smith at 978-372-1339 or ewsjfamily@juno.com.

The **FORMAL GRADUATION CEREMONY** will be held at Holden Chapel on June 9, 2018 at 2 PM. The first deadline of March 31 is quickly approaching, so don't delay! If interested, contact Susan Jacobsen by email - graduation@masshope.org.

We need YOU...CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

We can't run a convention of this size alone. It takes a LOT of volunteer help. And because many of our loyal teens may be attending the Teen Track this year, we'll need many more adult volunteers.

Come greet, meet, and help fellow homeschoolers. Provide a break or a cup of water for a vendor. And earn a small reward for yourself: two MassHOPE bucks for every hour you volunteer. Each buck is worth one dollar at the recording table and all of our vendor booths.

To sign up, go to masshope.org and fill out the online volunteer form. If you do not have internet access, call Ed or Anne Smith, our volunteer coordinators, at (978)372-1339. Volunteers must be at least twelve years old at the time of the convention.

Needed: Specialized Volunteers

MassHOPE has a great need for very specialized volunteers in three areas of our convention. If you are skilled and willing, or willing to be trained, would you please prayerfully considering helping us? If you know someone who might be willing (friend, young adult, relative, neighbor, etc), please pass this along to that person, with instructions to contact us at:

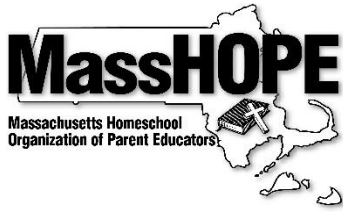
volunteer@masshope.org

The three areas in need:

- 1) Children's Program
- 2) Recording booth
- 3) Audio-visual set-up/break-down

Thank you!

Address Incorrect? Moving? If so, please notify us with your information by e-mail to newsletter@masshope.org, or by writing or calling. "The Voice of HOPE" is published quarterly by Massachusetts Homeschool Organization of Parent Educators (a non-profit corporation), 46 South Road, Holden, MA 01520, telephone 508-829-0973. Subscriptions are free upon request. Permission is granted to reproduce articles in their entirety, as long as it's clearly stated where the information originated, the author is credited, and no profit is derived from reprinting. Material bearing individual copyright may not be reprinted. Copyright © 2018 MassHOPE, Inc.



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Address Service Requested

For more information about the contents herein or about homeschooling, contact...

MASSACHUSETTS HOMESCHOOL ORGANIZATION OF PARENT EDUCATORS

Phone: 508-829-0973 E-mail: info@masshope.org Website: www.masshope.org

HOMESCHOOLING: AN ENDLESS ADVENTURE!

"For we walk, by faith, not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

**29th Annual MassHOPE
Christian Homeschool & Family
Discipleship Convention
in cooperation with TEACH-CT
April 26-28, 2018
The DCU Center, Worcester,
Massachusetts**



OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER:

June 9, 2018 - MassHOPE Graduation Ceremony - Holden Chapel, Holden

June 16, 2018 - MassHOPE Used Curriculum Sale - Chapel of the Cross, Westborough