

Thursday, November 16, 2023

9am to 12:30pm CST



2023 Event Guide

High School Attendees

University of Houston-Clear Lake - Bayou Building

2700 Bay Area Blvd, Houston, Texas 77058



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Welcome

Dear Educators,

Welcome to Houston Area GIS Day! We are thrilled to have you and your students here to celebrate the fascinating world of Geographic Information Science.

Today is about exploration, inspiration, and learning. It's a day where we come together to discover the power of GIS, the technology that's transforming the way we see and understand the world.

Our carefully curated program is designed to ignite curiosity, foster learning, and inspire the next generation of geospatial leaders. We're certain that your students will leave today with new insights, excitement, and a deeper appreciation for the world around them.

We encourage you to actively engage with the activities, connect with our GeoMentors, and take full advantage of this unique learning opportunity. The world of GIS is vast and filled with endless possibilities, and we hope to provide you with a glimpse of the incredible work being done in this field.

As we embark on this GIS adventure together, we extend our gratitude to the teachers and educators who guide and nurture the curious minds of our youth. Your role is instrumental, and your dedication is abbreviated.

Thank you for joining us at Houston Area GIS Day. Let's make this day a memorable and enriching experience for your students.

Enjoy the day!

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Schedule

To ensure you make the most of your time here, we've outlined the schedule for the day's events.

| Time | Activity |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 8:30am | Arrival |
| 9:00am | Welcome & Keynote |
| 10:00am | Session 1 |
| 10:25am | Session 2 |
| 10:50am | Session 3 |
| 11:15am | Session 4 |
| 11:40am | Session 5 |
| 12:05pm | Lunch |
| 12:25pm | Closing & Award Ceremony |

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Activity Details

We have an exciting day planned for you and your students. Get ready for an enriching day full of learning, fun, and connections!

| Activity | Description | Location |
|--------------------|---|------------------------|
| Academic Spotlight | College and university representatives will showcase their GIS programs, courses, and resources, providing valuable insights to the students and helping them make informed decisions about their academic and career paths. | Atrium II |
| Keynote | Start your day with an inspiring Morning Keynote session presented by a prominent figure in the GIS world. You'll gain insights into the incredible world of GIS and its real-world applications. | Theater 2nd Floor |
| Emergency Vehicles | Step outside to explore a real emergency vehicle exhibit and tour the Houston METRO bus. Get up close and personal with the technology that helps keep our communities safe and running. | Outside, Bus Stop Area |
| Drone Display | This activity features FAA certified drone pilots! Witness the future of GIS technology in action with our Drone Display. See how drones are transforming mapping and data collection. | Outside, Alumni Plaza |
| GeoCache Game | While some students enjoy the thrilling Drone Display, four representatives from each school group will engage in a high-tech scavenger hunt. Guided by volunteers, students will use GPS devices to locate hidden GeoCaches. | Outside, Alumni Plaza |

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Activity Details (continued)

| Activity | Description | Location |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| GeoQuest | It's time to have some fun with GeoQuest! Join your fellow students in an engaging geospatial challenge, and put your knowledge to the test in an exciting quest. | Atrium I |
| Jeopardy Game | Are you ready for a quiz show with a GIS twist? Participate in our Jeopardy Game (inspired by Jeopardy) and showcase your geography and GIS skills. | Room 1313 |
| GeoMentor Discussion with Teachers | Teachers, this is your chance to connect with our GeoMentors. Explore new educational opportunities, ask questions, and discover how to integrate GIS into your teaching. | Room 1130 |
| Catered Lunch | Enjoy a delicious catered lunch with your students and fellow teachers. | Atrium II |
| Closing Ceremonies | Our Closing Ceremonies are a time for recognition and celebration. Join us as we honor the day's achievements, award winners, and show appreciation to our volunteers and sponsors. | Atrium II |

Keynote Speaker

We invite you to get to know the person who will ignite inspiration, curiosity, and passion in our students and educators through their words and experiences. This year's keynote speaker embodies the essence of GIS and the power of knowledge. We hope this journey inspires you and your students and paves the way for countless adventures in the world of geospatial technologies.

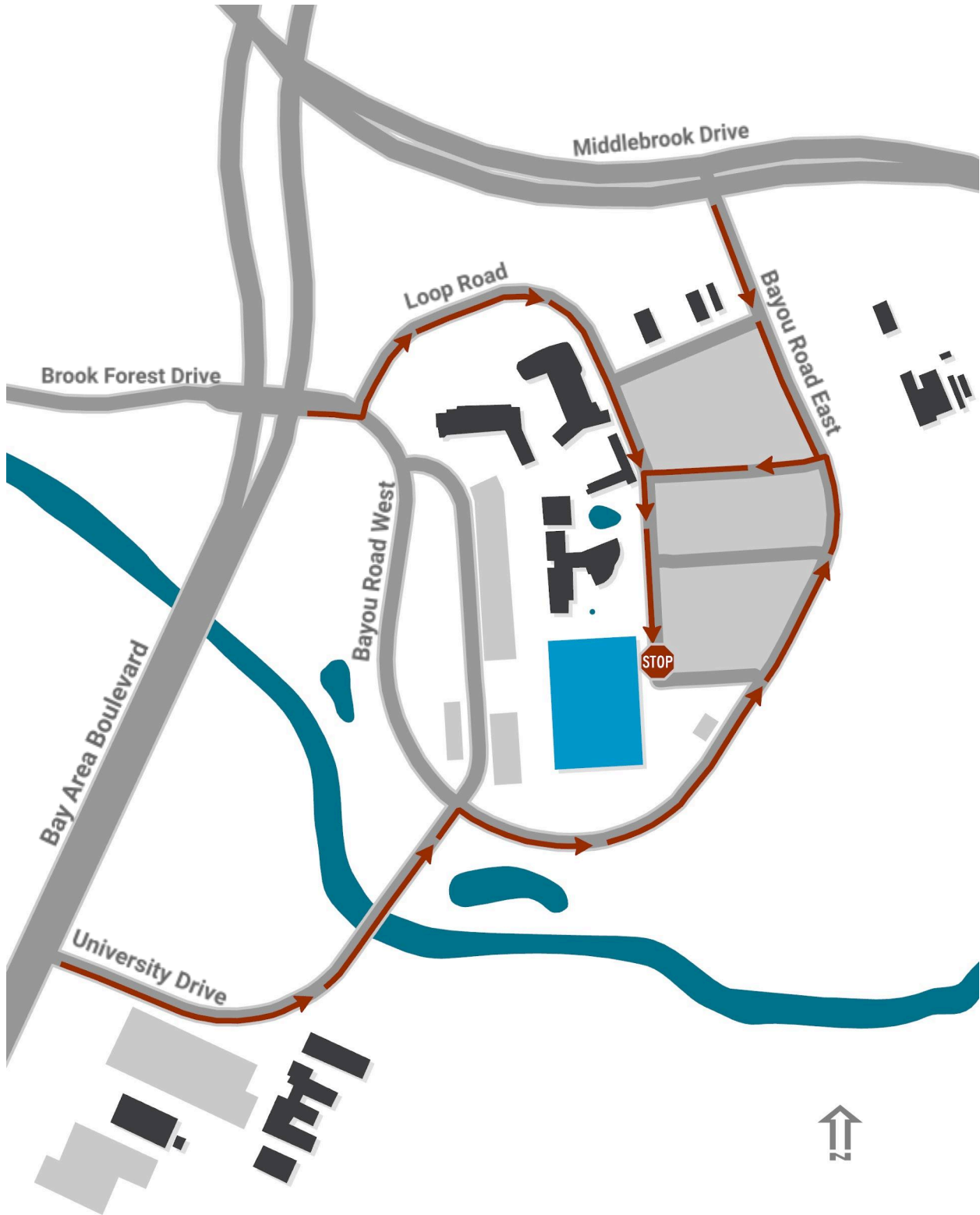


Keynote Speaker - Dr. David Retchless:

Dr. David Retchless is a distinguished expert in the field of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). He serves as a professor at Texas A&M University at Galveston, where he imparts his extensive knowledge in GIS to aspiring professionals. With a career spanning several decades, Dr. Retchless has been at the forefront of GIS applications for disaster resilience, offering invaluable insights into leveraging geospatial technology to address complex challenges. His keynote presentation, "GIS for Disaster Resilience," promises to provide a comprehensive perspective on the transformative power of GIS in ensuring communities' preparedness and resilience in the face of adversity.

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Directions

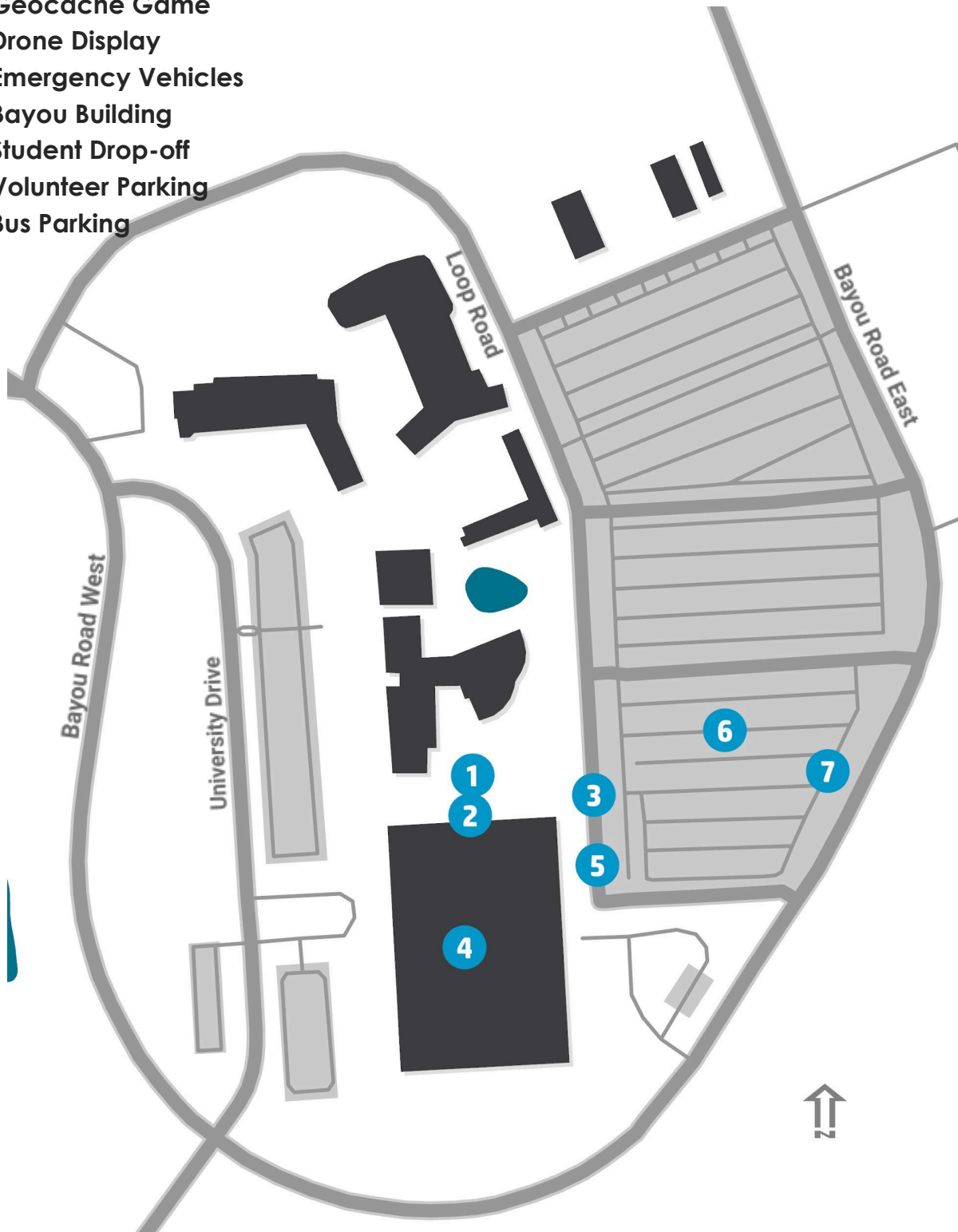


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Site Map

- 1) Geocache Game
- 2) Drone Display
- 3) Emergency Vehicles
- 4) Bayou Building
- 5) Student Drop-off
- 6) Volunteer Parking
- 7) Bus Parking



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Floor Plan



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Frequently Asked Questions

What day is Houston Area GIS Day?

Houston Area GIS Day is an annual event celebrating Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and geospatial technologies. It provides an opportunity for students, professionals, and the community to learn more about GIS, participate in hands-on activities, and network with fellow GIS enthusiasts.

When and where is the event being held?

Houston Area GIS Day will take place on Thursday, November 16th, at the University of Houston Clear Lake (Bayou Building, 2700 Bay Area Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77058). The event begins at 9:00am.

How do I register for the event?

High school student attendance is by invitation only and is now closed due to reaching our 300-student capacity. If teachers are interested in having their students attend future events, they should visit www.HoustonAreaGISDay.org for updates.

Thanks to our sponsors, the event is free to students and teachers.

What should I bring to the event?

Bring your eagerness to learn and engage with the GIS community.

Is lunch provided at the event?

Lunch is provided for high school students, teachers, presenters, exhibitors/sponsors, and volunteers.

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Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

When should I arrive?

- High school students and teachers, please arrive by 8:30am. Please contact our Logistics Coordinator once you arrive at the University of Houston Clear Lake Campus.
 - **Logistics Coordinator: Grant Garrison**
 - **Mobile Phone: 832-891-3157**

Where do I park?

High school buses should refer to the Directions Map included in the Event Guide. School buses are asked to use the designated student drop-off location identified in the Directions Map. School bus parking location is identified in the Site Map.

Is there a dress code for the event?

Dress comfortably, but remember that you are representing your school.

Who is managing this event?

This event is managed by the Houston Area GIS Day Planning Committee as part of the Houston-Galveston Area Council's Geographic Data Workgroup. Visit www.HoustonAreaGISDay.org for more details.

How many attendees are expected?

We anticipate 300+ high school students and 150+ general attendees for the event throughout the day.

Will there be media coverage?

UHCL may have some coverage for their social media, but we do not anticipate mainstream media coverage at this event.

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

Where can I find additional event information?

Additional event details, including maps, presentation descriptions, speaker bios, and more can be found in the Event Guide provided to all attendees.

How do I stay connected with Houston Area GIS Day?

Stay connected with us on social media. Share your experiences, tag us in your posts, and use the official event hashtags: #HoustonAreaGISDay #GISDay #TxGISday

Who can I contact if I have questions on the day of the event?

If you have any questions or need assistance during the event, please locate one of our friendly volunteers or event staff members who will be happy to help.

Please note that event details are subject to change, so stay informed by referring to the Event Guide and the event's official website.

We hope this FAQ section provides the information you need for Houston Area GIS Day. If you have additional questions, feel free to ask a volunteer or event staff member for assistance. We're here to ensure you have a great experience at the event. Enjoy your day of GIS learning and networking!

Acknowledgements

1. Sponsors

We are immensely grateful to our generous sponsors whose contributions have allowed us to provide this event to the community for free. Your commitment to the geospatial field and its professionals is deeply appreciated. Our event wouldn't be the same without your support.

| Level | Organization | Website |
|-------------|---|--|
| GUID | iSpatial Techno Solutions | www.ispatialtec.com |
| LiDAR | Walter P Moore | www.walterpmoore.com |
| Polygon | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AllTerra Central ● City of Houston ● CSRS ● Harris Central Appraisal District ● Nearmap ● NV5 ● Sanborn ● Williams | www.allterracecentral.com www.houstontx.gov www.csrinc.com www.hcad.org www.nearmap.com www.nv5.com/geospatial www.sanborn.com www.williams.com |
| Line | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cyclomedia ● Eagleview ● EHRA Engineering ● Public Management ● Surdex | www.cyclomedia.com www.eagleview.com www.ehra.team www.publicmgt.com www.surdex.com |

2. Houston Area GIS Day Planning Committee

A special recognition goes out to the hardworking and passionate members of the Houston Area GIS Day Planning Committee. Your tireless efforts in organizing, promoting, and executing this event make it possible.

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Acknowledgements (continued)

3. Volunteers

Our dedicated volunteers are the lifeblood of Houston Area GIS Day. Your time and dedication ensure that the event runs smoothly and successfully. We are grateful for your contributions.

4. Houston-Galveston Area Council's (H-GAC) Geographic Data Workgroup (GDW)

We extend our appreciation to the H-GAC Geographic Data Workgroup, a dynamic consortium of public, private, non-profit, and educational organizations. Their ongoing commitment to the geospatial community is integral to the success of this event.

5. Our Host, University of Houston-Clear Lake (UHCL)

A huge thank you to our host, UHCL. Your dedication and commitment to accommodating our event have gone above and beyond our expectations. Your unwavering support is instrumental in making Houston Area GIS Day a success.

6. Last but not least, Educators

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the educators and teachers who attended Houston Area GIS Day alongside their students. Your tireless commitment to education and geospatial learning is inspiring, and we deeply appreciate the time and effort you've invested in bringing your students to this event.

Your dedication to nurturing the next generation of geospatial professionals is invaluable to our community, and we applaud your ongoing work in the classroom. Thank you for making this event an enriching experience for your students.

Once again, a massive 'Thank You' to all those who've contributed to making Houston Area GIS Day a premier event in the geospatial calendar. Your dedication fuels our passion for the geospatial field.

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