Yankee Dental Congress 36 will be held at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center Jan. 26 to 30, Wednesday through Sunday. The exhibit hall will be open Jan. 27–29, Thursday through Saturday.

YDC is the annual conference and exposition of the New England dental profession. The conference features advanced programming presented by leading experts in the field. More than 26,000 dental professionals come to gather the latest information, network with colleagues, see product demonstrations, learn cutting-edge techniques and earn continuing education credits. Strong alumni attendance comes from the many area dental schools: Boston University, Harvard University, Tufts University and the University of Connecticut.

The event provides education for the entire dental team. Specialties represented at YDC include endodontics, forensics, oral pathology, oral surgery, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics and prosthodontics.

Innovative technology, products and services are introduced on the exhibit floor. YDC completes the experience with special events where dentists can interact with peers and entertain the whole family.

New this year, preregistration is required for all no-charge courses, except High-Tech Playground, student table clinics and student lecture. Your seat will be held for 10 minutes after the start of the course. When the room is filled, no additional people will be admitted and no standing is allowed, per order of the fire marshal.

The exhibit hall will allow meeting attendees the opportunity to connect with more than 450 exhibitors and discover the latest trends and technologies. Meeting participants will be able to see product demonstrations and compare products and services.

The exhibit hall will be open Thursday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Free lunch will be available on Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the exhibit hall floor. It’s become a tradition at Yankee. New this year, receive a voucher for your choice of lunch as a registered attendee.

On Friday, a beer and wine reception will be held on the exhibit floor from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Also available in the exhibit hall will be a networking lounge, a retreat for all to relax, meet with fellow attendees and catch up on the day’s events. Complimentary refreshments will be served at various times throughout the three days.

A number of special events will be held during the meeting.

The Fab Four, a Beatles tribute band, treats you to an experience unlike any other. With uncanny, note-for-note performances of Beatles songs and attention to detail that captures the complete essence of the greatest band in rock history, The Fab Four will make you think you are watching the real thing. Their incredible stage show includes music and costume changes covering the entire range of the Beatles’ career. The Fab Four have amazed audiences around the world.

Yankee’s Fat Thursday Carnival will be held Thursday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Come experience the excitement of Mardi Gras. Yankee brings you the fun and flavors of this world-class party with attractions, games, music, giveaways, surprises and all the fun of the fair.

A fashion show and luncheon will be held Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event will feature lights, cameras and beautiful models gracing the runway. Fashion shows are one of the most glamorous events in the fashion world.

It’s one of the many ways designers showcase their labels to the public. The Plaza Ballroom in the Seaport Hotel is the setting for this fun and entertaining event. The cost is $55.

Cocktails with Clinton Kelly will be held Friday from 5 to 5 p.m.

Kelly, an American fashion consultant and media personality, is best known for the warm humor and style advice he brings each week to TLC’s top-rated show, “What Not to Wear.” Since 2003, he has starred in more than 250 hourlong episodes of the series, in addition to several specials for TLC, including “Miss America: Live,” “Fashioning a Home With Clinton Kelly,” “Mind Your Manners” and “Redo My Spouse.” Follow Clinton through the seven steps to healthy style esteem. The cost is $25.

Here are some additional highlights of the meeting:

Get ready for Yankee Dental Congress 36
Dental Office Design Pavilion
New to Yankee this year is the Dental Office Design Pavilion. Are you thinking about building a new office, opening a second office or starting a new practice? Then you won’t want to miss the Dental Office Design Pavilion, a central source for ideas, displays, and information on designing your dental office.

Live dentistry
Due to the overwhelming response, there will be live dentistry instruction at Yankee again this year. You can learn from some of the best clinicians while they are actually performing live procedures. This interactive format will allow attendees to ask questions and receive answers firsthand. This unique educational experience will be conducted on the exhibit hall floor and will feature cutting edge procedures and products.

C.E. on the exhibit hall floor
Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in innovative courses held right on the YDC exhibit hall floor. This is a great opportunity to take a high-quality, hands-on course or lecture at a significantly reduced rate.

High-tech playground
Take an up-close look at the high-tech products available for your practice. This is your chance to try out various tools and state-of-the-art gadgets and ask questions. This informal setting on the exhibit hall floor will give you the opportunity to learn and play at the same time. There will also be C.E. presentations running each day. Plan to stop by the playground and have some fun.

Restaurant reservation service
You can make dinner reservations quickly and conveniently with the service located in the convention center. This service includes a list of restaurants by cuisine and neighborhood and their menus.

Internet Café
The Internet Café will feature computer terminals offering complimentary Internet access and e-mail retrieval for attendees. Specific instructions and limitations will be posted in the area.

Children’s conference care
Are you wondering what to do with your children during Yankee? Whether you are attending classes or perusing the exhibit hall, Children’s Conference Care Inc. (CCCI) is there for you — offering on-site childcare for ages 6 months to 12 years.

Snacks and drinks will be provided. Full day (7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) is available for $40.  Four consecutive hours are $25, and any additional hour is $10. Walk-ins pay additional $15 on-site registration fee, if space allows; pre-registration is encouraged. Subject to cancellation if sufficient enrollment is not achieved.