

Fundraising gala timeline

Date: July 23, 2026

Timeline

17:30 – 18:00 VIP Arrival and Red Carpet Photos

Distinguished guests and major sponsors arrive at the venue to walk the red carpet and take official portraits. Event staff welcome attendees and provide table assignments.

Location: Grand Ballroom Foyer

18:00 – 19:00 Cocktail Reception & Silent Auction Opening

Guests enjoy signature cocktails and tray-passed hors d'oeuvres while browsing the silent auction items. Bidding opens officially via mobile app and printed bid sheets.

Location: Mezzanine Lounge

19:00 – 19:15 Call to Seats & Welcome Address

The Master of Ceremonies invites guests into the main dining hall and delivers the opening welcome. The evening program and core fundraising targets are formally introduced.

Location: Grand Ballroom Main Stage

19:15 – 19:30 Opening Musical Performance

A featured musical ensemble performs an inspiring set to set an elegant mood for dinner. Attendees settle into their assigned tables.

Location: Grand Ballroom Main Stage

19:30 – 20:30 Gourmet Plated Dinner

A three-course dinner prepared by executive chefs is served to all attendees. Ambient background music plays while guests converse and dine.

Location: Grand Ballroom Dining Area

20:30 – 20:50 Keynote Speech & Impact Video

The executive director presents a video highlight showcasing community beneficiaries and delivers a keynote presentation. The talk highlights how tonight donations directly support the cause.

Location: Grand Ballroom Main Stage

20:50 – 21:30 Live Auction Segment

A professional auctioneer leads energetic bidding for exclusive luxury travel packages and unique experiences. Guests compete to raise substantial funds for the foundation.

Location: Grand Ballroom Main Stage

21:30 – 21:45 Donor Honor & Award Presentation

Outstanding community champions and longtime corporate sponsors are called to the stage to receive special recognition. Custom award plaques are presented by leadership.

Location: Grand Ballroom Main Stage

21:45 – 21:55 Celebratory Toast

Glasses of champagne are poured across the room as the board chair leads a collective toast to community generosity. Event sponsors receive a final note of thanks.

Location: Grand Ballroom Dining Area

21:55 – 22:10 Closing Remarks & Fundraising Reveal

The hosts unveil the preliminary fundraising totals achieved throughout the evening and officially close the silent auction. Warm closing remarks conclude the formal stage program.

Location: Grand Ballroom Main Stage

22:10 – 23:00 After-Party & Dancing

A live band opens the dance floor for guests wishing to celebrate into the night. Attendees can pick up winning silent auction items at the checkout desk in the foyer.

Location: Ballroom Dance Floor & Foyer