

10th Annual Harvest Gala

Celebrating 56 years of creating Moments that Matter.

November 23, 2024

Dear Friends of The Leadership Center,

We invite you to join for our 10th annual Harvest Gala on Saturday, November 23rd, 2024 at The Leadership Center. Join us in our celebration of 56 years of *creating moments that matter* with delicious food, friends, and of course, great music.

This year we have plenty to celebrate.

We have hosted over **1,000 FFA officer leaders** at COLT in May, over **33,000 other guests** from January to August through family reunions, birthday parties, and other gathering, brought our food truck to numerous events, brewed countless coffees, and hosted over **1,193 students in our own summer camps** and leadership trainings, served almost **3,000 free meals** to youth in 3 different communities. We believe the founders of The Leadership Center would be so delighted to see the vision they risked their mortgages for would still be serving their original group, but now also their families, the surrounding communities, and guests from across the world in a way probably greater than they ever imagined.

Here are just a few other highlights from this year:

- Our community **coffee shop** idea worked! We host weekly events like book clubs, craft clubs, and chess club, and also educational workshops and house concerts
- D4LC brought back its **Junior High programming** in both a mobile workshop and summer camp
- We partnered with Opportune Acres to host swimming and numerous sports teams for their team retreats.
- Our first 15 year old hires, Spencer and Kim have graduated. They set the bar high for the **20 new hires aged between 15-17** we added to the team this year. It's bittersweet to say farewell to those two, but we are excited to develop career skills in the next set of young workers!

NVAF

Board of Directors

President: Kurt VanDeWalle
Fillmore Central Public Schools

Vice President: Jessalyn Schrock
Shickley Public Schools

Treasurer: Joel Miller
Hampton Public Schools

Secretary: Alex Stocker
Central City Public Schools

District 1, 2, 5: Holly Podliska
Centennial Public Schools

District 3, 4, 7: Amanda Hafer
Lutheran High Northeast

District 6, 8, 11: Madi Marker
Kearney

District 9, 10, 12: Rylee Dexter
Chambers Public School

At-Large: Phil Simpson
Burwell Public Schools

At-Large: Evey Choat
McPherson County Schools

At-Large Business Advisor:
Curt Friesen, CNF, Inc

At-Large Lincoln/ Omaha
Shane Hennessy, AKRS

At-Large Nebraska: Bailey Cooper
Nebraska National Guard

At-Large Finance Advisor:
Brittney Tvrdy, Ag Resource Management

We are incredibly proud of our history, but also excited to see where The Leadership Center will go next, and most importantly, inviting you to be apart of it.

As in past year, we carry forward out fundraising efforts during a beautiful evening of great music, delectable food, and of course a lively auction. This year's efforts will go toward the following three areas with a fundraising goal of \$50,000.

1. Property Repairs

a. Over the past two summers, our property has experienced numerous damaging storms. Because of changes in property insurance, many of these damages were not covered (glass, HVAC, and roofing specifically). It is important for our guests for our property to be visually appealing, yet functionally sound. John does not like to play hide and go seek with the roof leaks as much as he does with our staff during team bonding.

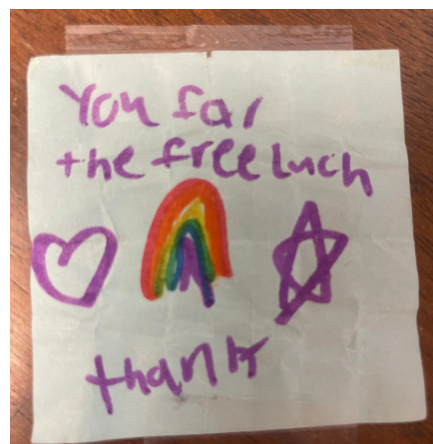
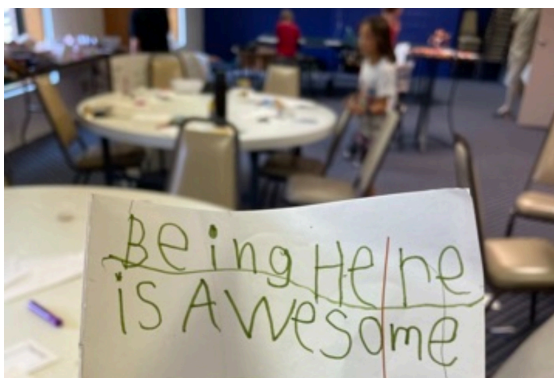
2. Rehabilitating the Original Tree Line

a. Our tree line was lovingly planted by teachers and students, but the trees have served their time and TLC needs some TLC in this department with over 20 full grown tress lost in the past year. Not only is it a city requirement, but it also safer for our guests.

3. Summer Food Service Program

a. Our goal is to privately fund the Summer Food Service Program next year to ensure it's sustainability to expand our flexibility. This year, Aurora did not qualify for a regular program, only allowing us to play games and serve anyone 1 day/week which was 100% funded by The Leadership Center and a few small donations. By privately funding the program, we can serve more kids, better, for years to come.

By taking care of the necessary costs of business, we can continue to do more of what we are great at: creating moments that matter, or in the words of one of our summer campers from a note we found, keeping our space “awesome” and serving the community healthy food.



10th Annual Harvest Gala

Celebrating 56 years of creating Moments that Matter.

We invite you to be an integral piece of our continued work in our community and throughout this great state and nation. Your contribution makes a lasting difference for so many. Whether they participate in one of our numerous educational programs, attend a retreat, camp, or workshop, or hold a meeting or reunion with us, we provide safe, welcoming spaces, delicious meals, and professional staff so that they can *create moments that matter*.

With the purchase of tickets or donations of funds and auction items, your gifts are not only tax-deductible; you become a part of our legacy! Your support allows us to continue to provide programs and spaces to Aurora, the state of Nebraska, and beyond!

Please join us for this celebratory evening. Tickets and sponsorships to this event can be purchased by returning the RSVP card in this invite, calling our office at 402 694 3934 or visiting our website at www.TLCaurora.org/HarvestGala.

If attending isn't possible, please consider donating an auction item, purchasing raffle tickets, or making a financial contribution as they can be a great way to promote your business services, products, or creative talents while supporting The Leadership Center. Also note that we are offering a "takeout" meal option on our RSVP card as well, which can be picked up at 6:30 p.m. the evening of Harvest Gala. Sponsorships can be found on our website or handled by calling Maile at 402 694 3934.

Thank you in advance for helping us continue our mission of creating moments that matter for years to come.

In deepest gratitude,



Maile Ilac-Boeder
Executive Director



Kurt VanDeWalle
NVAF Board President

10th Annual Harvest Gala

Sponsorship Opportunities

Entertainment Sponsor - \$3,000

This Sponsor is the official sponsor of Dustin Dale Gaspard and his band. This sponsor will have their logo printed in the event program, listed on the website and all event media, and displayed on our stage as seen to the right. If sponsor is determined by 8/31/2024 this sponsor will also be featured on our formal event invitations. In addition, the sponsor will receive a table with **8 reserved seats** with the complimentary meal and wine.



Cocktail Entertainment Sponsor - \$800

Nebraska is home to a number of talented young individuals and we would like to share their talents. This year we are adding something new: live entertainment during the cocktail hour. **This sponsor will support a student** individual, duo, or group to join in the evening festivities and also mentorship from our headliner, Dustin.

Bar Sponsor (2 available) - \$1,500

Bar sponsors will be highlighted in our event program and displayed above the bar like the sign showcased above. In addition, their logo will be link on our website for the remainder of the year.

Tap Truck Sponsor - \$1,200

Last year Dot, Nebraska's 2nd Tap Truck, was a hit and we'd love to invite her back! The Tap Truck sponsor will be able to

- Display their logo on Dot, event program, and website
- Receive \$250 off a tap truck rental from Pat On Tap, Nebraska's first fleet of tap trucks (www.patontap.com)
- Add \$400 for your logo on our limited edition cocktail glasses



Aurora National Honor Society Sponsor - \$1,000

This sponsorship supports the meals of the Aurora NHS. Sponsors receive 2 tickets to the Harvest Gala and their logo in the event program.

Golden Harvest Table - \$750

Includes 8 tickets, a table, your title on the table and complimentary wine and beer. Please call or note each of your guests names, meal preferences, and dietary needs.



Individual Ticket - \$100

Tickets to the Harvest Gala include your meal, your drinks, and of course, your fun! Please call or note each of your guests name(s), meal preference(s), and any dietary needs. Take out meal option available.

Kid Zone Ticket - \$15

Bring your kids where they will have equally as much fun in our Kids Zone with the Aurora National Honor Society and our staff! They will get food, crafts, and of course have plenty of fun!

All official sponsorships and financial donations received by November 14 are guaranteed to be featured in our program

Return this form to The Leadership Center, 2211 Q St, Aurora, NE by November 14, 2024

Find additional forms at www.tlcaurora.org/harvestgala

Donor Name (as you would like it to appear in the advertising)

I would like to remain anonymous: yes no

Contact Information

Business/Organization/Donor Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Other Sponsorship Information

We would like to sponsor the following:

Entertainment Sponsor | \$3,000 ***

**** denotes 8 tickets included*

Bar Sponsor | \$1500

***denotes 2 tickets included*

Tap Truck "Dot" Sponsor | \$1200

Aurora National Honor Society | \$1000 **

Cocktail Youth Entertainment Sponsor | \$800

Golden Harvest Table | \$750 ***

Auction Items

Item description: _____

Item Value: \$ _____

Contact Name, Number and email for pickup: _____

OR Item will be dropped of at The Leadership Center

Guest Information

Guest 1: _____	vegetarian meal	to-go meal
Guest 2: _____	vegetarian meal	to-go meal
Guest 3: _____	vegetarian meal	to-go meal
Guest 4: _____	vegetarian meal	to-go meal
Guest 5: _____	vegetarian meal	to-go meal
Guest 6: _____	vegetarian meal	to-go meal
Guest 7: _____	vegetarian meal	to-go meal
Guest 8: _____	vegetarian meal	to-go meal

Kid Ticket Quantity: _____ Kid Name(s): _____