

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

## What *IS* the Nativity Stars Gala?

This annual event is the largest fundraiser for your children's school. Attendees will be treated to a night of heavy appetizers, open bar, picture taking at the photo booth, music & dancing, and plenty of opportunities to bid HIGH & OFTEN during the silent and live auction - we hope you'll join us! This year's theme is "*Dancing through the Decades*", with a focus on the 1950s thru 1980s; it is sure to be the most spectacular, not-to-be-missed evening of entertainment!

## Who can attend the Gala?

We welcome all Nativity Catholic School parents, faculty, and staff, as well as those in the Nativity parish and community that would like to enjoy an evening out while supporting something important to us all - Our School! If you are new to the school, this is the perfect way to get to know people in a relaxed, fun environment.

As much as we love our students, this is a **21+ only** event!

## Why is this fundraiser important to my family?

This is the largest fundraiser for your children's school. Last year, we welcomed ~150 guests and raised \$49,000. Those funds directly benefited every child at Nativity. All proceeds become part of the PTO budget and used for needs identified by the PTO, principal and staff - needs that cannot be funded with the constraints of the regular school budget.

In the past, auction funds have paid for our playground, computer equipment/upgrades, ActivBoards, art studio equipment, student enrichment programs and assemblies, and staff development, just to name a few.

Overall, funds raised during the event will provide financial assistance for STEM initiatives & classroom technology (science lab equipment, educational subscriptions, and mathematics manipulatives), school assemblies and enrichment programs, field trip transportation, teacher appreciation initiatives, community-building events, and MANY other needs that directly benefit the entire Nativity School Community.

## Will I receive a physical ticket?

The Gala is entirely mobile - no physical tickets will be issued! On the night of the Gala (April 27th), just head to the registration table, at the Fr. Martin Center, to check-in. You can even register prior to the event (you get a text when you buy your ticket) which will make check-in a breeze and you'll be enjoying cocktails in no time.

## **What should I wear?**

This is a fun event and there is no pressure! This year's "Dancing through the Decades" theme focuses on the styles of the 1950s thru 1980s and lends itself to any number of creative interpretations. You can find inspiration on our [Pinterest board](#).

## **Is there reserved seating?**

The Gala will include a cocktail-style reception, where high-top tables provide the perfect setting for mingling. Elevate your experience with reserved seating, exclusively available through our Patron of Nativity – Signature Sponsorship. Limited quantity, so secure your spot starting March 1st!

## **Why do we hold a raffle *and* an auction?**

The raffle is a way for all school and parish families to participate in the Gala fundraising by selling raffle tickets for our themed class baskets. Each basket is a unique blend of goodies, bringing joy to the lucky winner!

Raffle tickets for these AMAZING baskets will be sold after all masses on April 13-14 and April 20-21, as well as the night of the Gala. [Drawing will take place at the Gala on April 27. Need NOT be present to win.](#)

## **What's the game "Heads or Tails" I'm hearing about?**

Heads or tails is a fundraising game of chance where participants pay to play and then compete to guess whether a coin flip will result in heads (put hands on head) or tails (put hands on tail). This keeps going until one person remains standing. The winner gets the big prize, a Beats Studio Pro Wireless Bluetooth Noise Cancelling Headphones!

Purchase a necklace (or more) pre-sale or the night of the Gala for your entry for a chance to play and win!

## **I have a vacation home/spa pass/golf outing/something else something I would like to donate. How do I do that?**

We are looking for great auction packages for the event, which means we are interested in any unique, exclusive, fun items you personally would bid on if you did not already have it. If you have an item, service or experience you would like to donate, please fill out our [Donation Form](#).

## **How do I participate in the online bidding auction?**

Online bidding will open on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. EST and close on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 8:00 p.m. Click on the "Browse, Bid and Buy" tab to view auction items. To

participate in the auction, Just hit the 'Register Now' button towards the top of this page and enter your name, phone number, e-mail. Credit Card information is required to bid.

### **How does the silent auction work?**

We will be using mobile bidding the night of the auction. You will be able to use your smartphone, tablet or computer to keep up with the status of your bids and continue bidding until the auction closes.

### **How does the live auction work?**

Our auctioneer will describe each live auction item during the Gala. LIVE Auction items can be previewed by ALL, but can only be bid on by guests who attend the Gala in-person.

### **What forms of payment are accepted?**

All bidding and purchases will be made via mobile bidding using GiveSmart. During check out, payment can be made by cash, check, credit card, as well as via Apple Pay and Google Pay.

**Watch this video for instructions on how to bid in our exciting auction.**

How to bid in GiveSmart YouTube: <https://youtu.be/pKddIKXNAow>

**GiveSmart**<sup>®</sup>

# How it works

from your desktop, tablet, or phone



## Register

You must register to place bids, purchases, or a donation.

1. Visit our campaign site.
2. Click Register to Participate.
3. Enter the required information.
4. Click Create my GiveSmart Account.

Once registered, click the blue link within the Welcome text message or personal link button from within the Welcome email to access the campaign.

## Buy

1. **Access the campaign** - Click the blue link within the Welcome text or personal link button from within the Welcome email.
2. **Choose item** - From the Items page, select Available for Purchase from the categories dropdown, then select an item.
3. **Enter quantity**
4. **Click Buy**

## Bid

1. **Access the campaign** - Click the blue link within the Welcome text or personal link button from within the Welcome email.
2. **Choose item** - From our Home page, click "Items", browse or use the dropdown menu to view categories, then select an item.
3. **Choose amount** - Use the pre-populated minimum bid or enter a higher amount.  
**Auto bid** - Select AUTO BID, enter the highest amount you are willing to bid. The system will place minimum bids for you as needed until your designated amount.
4. **Click Bid**

**Outbid Notification:** You will receive a text message if you are outbid.

## Donate

1. **Access the campaign** - Click the blue link within the Welcome text or personal link button from within the Welcome email.
2. **Choose item** - From our Home page, click "Donate", then select an item.
3. **Choose amount**
4. **Click Donate**

**Thank you for your support of the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Nativity Stars Gala!**