



2027 St. David's Gala Committee

The Annual St. David's Light the Way Gala is the organization's largest fundraising event. It brings together generous supporters, corporate partners, and community leaders for a night of celebration in support of St. David's life-changing family and child development services and ensures continued access for thousands of families per year who rely on our evidence-based therapies, innovative treatments and high-quality early childhood education.

Our Gala Committee is a fun and unique way to support St. David's children and families. Committee members are key to the success of the event, working closely with staff throughout the planning process.

YOUR ROLE

Your role on the committee and level of involvement is up to you! Some members attend every meeting and enjoy working with the team to ideate and shape the event, while others focus on asking for auction or sponsorship support from their network or local businesses. All help is greatly appreciated!

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

- Request support from businesses, restaurants and local services for auction items
- Identify potential corporate sponsors
- Attend the event and encourage others to join you
- Host a table to welcome friends and family
- Support the execution of the event

LIGHT THE WAY GALA 2027

Date: Saturday, March 6, 2027

Venue: Royalston Square, Minneapolis

stdavidsmn.org/gala

Save the Date!

Gala Committee Kick-off
Tuesday, October 6th

*Social Hour begins at 5:30,
program at 6:15*

*The Marsh, Minnetonka
Dragon Room (upper level)*

TIME COMMITMENT

SEPTEMBER – FEBRUARY

- Monthly meetings or collaborative work sessions
- Occasional offsite work sessions, evenings or weekends
- Auction in-kind donation and sponsorship solicitation - self-led

Monthly committee meetings begin in September. During this phase, the team focuses on event theme development, securing sponsorships, and auction item procurement. Members collaborate on creative ideas and outreach strategies.

FEBRUARY – MARCH 6

- Weekly meetings
- Various, optional opportunities to help
- Auction item packaging and photography
- Event supply load-in March 5 at St. David's Nicollet Center
- Event set-up mid-day March 6 at Royalston Square

Final preparations ramp up as the event approaches. Committee members finalize auction items, confirm table hosts, coordinate event logistics, and rally their networks to attend. This is the most exciting and fast-paced phase of planning!

Ready to sign up or have a few questions?
Email Winona at wschultz@stdavidsmn.org
or get in touch with a co-chair!

2027 CO-CHAIRS

Elise Bartlett
Kelly Croatt
Kacie Gregory
Kara Wilhoite
Elena Zienda

STAFF LEADERSHIP

Winona Schultz Director of Development
Joy Houska Director of Community Relations & Marketing
Aubrie Mutch Events Manager