

# TABLE CAPTAIN TOOLKIT

Summer Search Seattle Gala 2025



## Table Captain Commitment

Invite people to attend or donate

Promote Gala to my community

Table will raise \$1,000 via individual guest tickets or table purchase

Personally engage and thank my guests



**Fundraised Table** 

We reserve a table of 10 for you and your guests. You and your guests each pay for your own individual tickets.

### **Purchased / Sponsor Table**

You purchase a table for you and your guests. Your guests are not required to pay for their individual tickets.

## TABLE CAPTAIN INFO + RESOURCES

### **INFORMATION:**

- Event Date / Time: Saturday 3/29/2025
- **Time:** 6pm 8:30pm
- **Venue:** The Westin Seattle
- Registration Closes: March 17
- **Table:** You + 9 guests = 1 Table
- Attire: Business / Cocktail

### **RESOURCES:**

- Site: <u>www.SummerSearch.org/SeattleGala</u>
- Invite Templates: Email and Text Template
- **Program Overview:** <u>Summer Search 1 Pager</u>
- Guest List Tracker: Guest List Tracking Sheet

### **Summer Search Contacts:**

Alecia Cunningham – <u>Acunningham@summersearch.org</u> Philip Watkins – <u>Pwatkins@summersearch.org</u>

## HOW TO FILL YOUR TABLE - Make a List!

Make a List 30 Contacts (At Least)

### Who you should consider:

- Who has the capacity to make a contribution?
- Who do you do business with?
- Who is part of your family?
- Who are your personal friends?
- Who is in your outer circles: house of worship, social club, neighborhood, friends you met through your child's school, etc.
- Who has invited you to a fundraising event or to support their favorite cause?
- Who shares your vision/values to want to connect with Summer Search and support the cause?

# HOW TO FILL YOUR TABLE - Invite Guests

## Invite Tips:

- The ONLY REASON anyone will attend, is because someone they respect and admire invited them. That's you! So, make it <u>personal</u>.
- Mail an invitation with your own personal note inserted, or drop it on their front porch with a bottle of their favorite beverage!
- Email or text your invitation (not to group, but a personal message).
- Use templates if you need to.
- Be ready to hear plenty of "declines" but you wont be discouraged because you have many others on your list!

## Follow up is Critical:

- Follow up with voicemails, emails, and text messages (one each, all of the above)
- We're all busy, so be sure you have touched that person's email inbox, voicemail box, and text thread once (each) before you "give up" on them.



## **GUEST REGISTRATION**

### **For Fundraised Tables**

Direct guests to purchase "Individual" tickets at <u>www.SummerSearch.org/Seattle</u> <u>Gala</u> They will select your name on the registration form.

#### For Purchased / Sponsor Tables

Direct guest to select the "Guest of purchased / sponsor table" <u>www.SummerSearch.org/Seattle</u> <u>Gala</u> They will select your name on the registration form.

## Sponsorship Requests and Resources

- If you are interested in supporting sponsorship outreach or if you know an organization that might be interested in sponsoring let Philip Watkins at <a href="mailto:Pwatkins@summersearch.org">Pwatkins@summersearch.org</a> know.
- In-kind wine donations from wineries are needed too!
- Sponsors can select and pay for their level of sponsorship on the **Event Page**
- Gala Sponsorship Packet

## **Event FAQ**

#### • Who should I invite to the event?

 We want to fill this event with folks who will enjoy it and willing to donate – be they your neighbor, colleague, friends, family, former mentor, or dog walker! We are excited to get re-connected with our larger community and even meet supporters who are new to Summer Search. We value anyone's contribution to Summer Search. The more the merrier!

#### • Are there any resources to help me with language or emails for inviting guests?

- Yes! this Tool Kit deck has an email templates on previous slides.
- Do tickets cost money for my guests?

It Depends!

- For Purchased Tables: If you purchased your table (\$1000) then guests may register as "Guest of Purchased / Sponsor Table" at no cost to them.
- For Fundraised Tables: If you purchased a fundraised table then guests must pay for their own ticket by purchasing "individual tickets" at \$100 each.
- How many people can fill 1 table and who will sit there?
  - 10 people per table. The table will be filled with your guests who associate themselves with your table at registration.
- What is being served for dinner?
  - Salmon, chicken, or vegan options.
- Will there be drinks / bar?
  - Yes!



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