



Frequently Asked Questions

Why is West Valley College hosting a gala?

The college has celebrated its 60th anniversary of academic instruction with several programs and events throughout the year. The gala is the college's cornerstone event for this year of festivities. West Valley hopes to bring together community members, partners, benefactors, and friends of the college to commemorate the last 60 years, thank our partners and friends for their continuing collaboration and support in the institution, and deepen roots across the community as we look to the next 60 years.

When was West Valley College founded?

The first classes, at the old Campbell High School campus, began September 14, 1964. We are excited to host the gala exactly 60 years to the date!

Where is the gala taking place?

[Byington Vineyard and Winery](#), located in the Santa Cruz Mountains at 21850 Bear Creek Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033.

Is my gala ticket tax-deductible?

A portion of your gala ticket purchase is tax-deductible. Please review the tax-deductible amounts listed in parentheses by each gala ticket option's description on the [event registration site](#).

Do I have to use the shuttle service to get to the venue?

Due to the venue's location and limited parking, guests must use our complimentary event shuttle service to the gala venue. Shuttle service begins at 4:00 p.m. All guests can park in Lot 4 at West Valley College free of charge throughout the duration of the event.

Why are shuttle services starting at 4:00pm?

Based on previous trips between West Valley College and Byington, weekend traffic on Highway 17, and our conversations with our shuttle provider, we anticipate the trip to the venue to last between 35 and 50 minutes. We want to provide ample time for anyone who may be concerned about traffic.

What if I can't get to West Valley College at 4:00pm?

That's not a problem! We expect our last shuttle to leave campus at 5:15pm.

What happens between the first shuttle arriving at the Byington Winery and the published event start time of the event (6:00pm)?

Upon arrival, we will have a small pre-event reception with canapes, wines, and light music. Guests who arrive early are welcome to walk around the Byington property and enjoy the view of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

What time does the first shuttle depart from Byington?

The first shuttle from the venue will depart at 8:30pm.

What if there is an emergency and I need to leave early? Will one of the shuttles bring me back to WVC (West Valley College)?

If something unexpected occurs and you must leave the gala prior to 8:30 pm, we will arrange to transport you back to West Valley College.

What is the recommended attire for the gala?

We recommend formal attire, but not black tie.

Will the gala take place in an outdoor venue?

The event will primarily take place outdoors. If temperatures drop significantly, heat lamps will be available on site.

What is the difference between the General Admission ticket and the VIP Experience and Ticket and Tile options?

VIP Experience: Reserved tickets for shuttle departure, premium seating at gala, premium wine at your table, special 60th Anniversary swag (tax deductible amount per ticket: \$150)

Ticket and Tile: One general admission gala ticket plus an engraved tile with your name(s) commemorating the 60th Anniversary added to Viking Grove. In a beautiful, sunny plaza, centrally located on campus, your engraved tile will be inset into the outdoor seating in the Ostrus Family Plaza or the Kirkorian Pavilion Amphitheater. (tax-deductible amount: \$400)

Will students attend?

A select number of student leaders and scholarship recipients will be in attendance. If you would like to help subsidize the costs for one of our students to attend, please consider selecting the "Sponsor a Student" option in addition to your gala tickets on then on the [event registration site](#).

Are you interested in further supporting the gala?

That's wonderful! Consider becoming a Gala Champion. Email Melissa Johns, Associate Vice Chancellor for Advancement, at Melissa.Johns@wvm.edu for more information and to learn about additional gala perks that come with being a champion.