

Guiding Lights Gala

Illuminating Futures & Inspiring Generations

Saturday, May 16, 2026

Fairmont Hotel Macdonald, Empire Ballroom

A Legacy Evening for Visionary Changemakers



Welcome to the Guiding Lights Gala, the signature philanthropic event of the MaKami College Education Foundation. This distinguished evening brings together leaders, innovators and change-driven organizations committed to transforming futures through education.

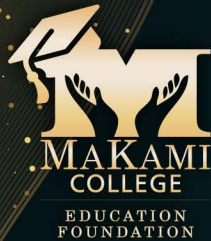
Your presence and partnership illuminates pathways for students who are overcoming extraordinary obstacles. Through your generosity, we create opportunity, restore dignity and champion the belief that every student deserves the chance to thrive.

The Guiding Lights Gala is more than a celebration. It is an invitation to make a lasting impact – an impact that strengthens families, enriches communities and shapes the next generation of Alberta's workforce.

Saturday, May 16, 2026

- 5:00 PM** VIP Reception
- 5:30 PM** Cocktail Reception & Silent Auction
- 6:30 PM** Dinner, Donor Awards & Live Auction
- 8:30 PM** Dance with Live Entertainment

Fairmont Hotel Macdonald, Empire Ballroom



Where Purpose Meets Possibility

The MaKami College Education Foundation is dedicated to breaking down barriers to education. Many of our students are newcomers, single parents, career transitioners and individuals rebuilding their lives. With access to education they rise, creating ripple effects that extend across communities.

Your support fuels transformational impact:

- Scholarships that open doors for deserving students
- Academic and wellness support that empowers students to thrive
- Child care assistance, emergency financial aid, English language and job-skills training that equip students with the tools and services they need to succeed

This is philanthropy that reaches far beyond the classroom.
This is how futures are illuminated.

The Heart Of Why We Gather

“When I came to Canada as a young mother, every door felt closed. The MaKami College Education Foundation opened one that changed everything. Today I am working in a career I love, supporting my children and building a life filled with possibility. Your support made that future possible.”

**MaKami College Graduate
– Avelina Reyes**

Your sponsorship
creates stories like this,
again and again.



Why Sponsor The Guiding Lights Gala?

The Value of Your Partnership

1. Purpose-Driven Brand Alignment

Align your organization with educational excellence, empowerment and community transformation.

2. Strategic Visibility

Gain recognition through gala materials, event screens and select promotional and social media channels.

3. Meaningful Connections

Connect with community leaders, business executives, government representatives and philanthropic partners.

4. Direct Community Impact

Support real, tangible outcomes that strengthen education access, employment and long-term stability for Alberta families.

Premium Sponsorship

Each VIP Table (\$5,000) includes:

- Premium table seating for 10 guests, including premier wine service
- Exclusive VIP Champagne Reception with General Rick Hillier & Board Chair Mark Frederick
- Strategic placement of branding on website, across social media platforms and event signage
- Recognition in the event program and on-screen
- Charitable Tax-deductible receipt where applicable

The VIP Experience is designed to honour your generosity with sophistication, gratitude and unforgettable moments.

CONSTELLATION

\$25,000

- 3 VIP Tables (30 guests)
- Introduction and recognition as a Constellation sponsor during program
- VIP host for your tables
- Full-page premium ad in event program
- Valet VIP parking options for table hosts & priority check-in
- Private photo session with leadership & guest speakers

NORTH STAR

\$15,000

- 2 VIP Tables (20 guests)
- Introduction and recognition as a North Star sponsor during program
- Half-page program ad

AURORA

\$10,000

- 1 VIP Table (10 guests)
- Introduction and recognition as an Aurora sponsor during program
- Quarter-page program ad

BEACON

\$5,000

- 1 VIP Table (10 guests)
- Introduction and recognition as a Beacon sponsor during program

Standard Gala Tables & Tickets

Student Table

\$2,500

Provide deserving students with a seat at this inspirational evening.

Includes:

- Table branding
- Recognition in program
- Logo on screen during event

Standard Table

\$2,500

Host guests while supporting the Foundation's work.

Includes:

- Table branding
- Recognition in program
- Logo on screen during event

**Guiding
Lights
Gala** 

Join an elegant evening with dinner

and live entertainment, all while supporting a transformative cause.

**Standard
Ticket**

\$250

Experience & Creative Sponsorships

Experience Sponsors receive: Sponsorship includes signage at the sponsored location, verbal acknowledgment and the sponsor's logo featured in the program and on screens.

Live Entertainment

\$5,000

DJ

\$1,000

Welcome Drink

\$2,500

Dessert

\$1,500

Cocktail Hour

\$5,000

Creative Sponsors receive: The package includes prominent signage, screen recognition, program acknowledgment and a listing on the website.

Photo Booth

\$1,500

Centre-piece

\$2,500

Wine

\$5,000

VIP Gift Bag

\$2,500

Live entertainment by **Uptown Band** | uptownband.ca



Auction Items Donations

*We invite donations of silent and live auction items
& any swag bag items*



Silent Auction Examples:

- Spa and wellness packages
- Restaurant experiences
- Artwork or décor
- High quality gift baskets

Live Auction Examples:

- Travel packages and luxury getaways
- Private chef experiences
- VIP sports or concert tickets
- High-value luxury goods or services

All donors will receive recognition:

- Recognition on screen and in program
- Listing on MaKami College Education Foundation website
- Charitable donation receipt where applicable

Closing Statement

Together we illuminate futures

Your partnership at the Guiding Lights Gala shines a light that extends far beyond one evening. It changes the trajectory of students' lives and strengthens the fabric of our community.

We invite you to stand with us.
To lead with vision.
To shape a legacy that lasts for generations.

For sponsorships, donations, or custom partnerships please contact:

Laura Smart
lsmart@makamicollege.com

MaKami College Education Foundation
Please ask for Laura Smart at Reception



guidinglightsgala.ca