



**Night for Champions Gala**  
Benefitting Champions For Learning  
Saturday, February 21, 2026, 6pm  
The Ritz-Carlton, Naples

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Meeting Minutes  
Night for Champions Gala Committee  
December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Attendees: Anne Girod, Jerry Brown, Anne Cohn, Brenda O'Connor, Julie Diermeier, Debra Ezzell, Martha Rozman, Kat Zagel

CFL Staff: Wyatt Blatt, Eric Williams, Nancy Mireles

**Committee Discussion and Actions:**

- Review Event Financials
  - Ticket and table sales have begun to come in and most of our sales will begin to pick up once the invitations drop in the mail.
- Chairman's Report
  - The committee continued discussions around incorporating a fundraising opportunity during the cocktail reception set at lower amounts of giving. There was a strong consensus among the committee that they would like three tables during the reception that each reflect an aspect of Champions For Learning's programs where gala guests can engage and learn more about the programs.
  - The committee continued discussions of incorporating a light component during the fund-a-need where anyone who raises their paddle receives this light which illuminates the room and creates an impactful moment. Wyatt has ordered materials to create a custom piece and will share with the committee once it is assembled.
  - The committee discussed bringing back the sweet sendoff from last year's gala so as guests depart, they will receive a tasty gift. We will also once again work with Lorenzo Walker Technical College's Culinary Students to make them.
- Invitation Design
  - The invitations are in the final stages of printing and are on schedule to drop the week of January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.



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- **Next Steps:**

Committee Members who will be including personal notes to their guests to add into the gala invitation mailing must bring their note cards to Wyatt Blatt by Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- Committee Members bring their item(s) that they are contributing to the Last Chance Raffles to Wyatt by the next committee meeting.
- Our next Committee Meeting will take place on Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup> from 3:00pm-4:00pm.