

METKA

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## ANNUAL GALA GUIDE

The annual gala is the most prestigious academic event that is celebrated when a student union or student association turns one year older.

The Annual gala may sometimes start with a cocktail event, after which, people move to the tables for the table party. After the main event there is usually an afterparty.

### *Purchasing the ticket*

Guests who have been invited to the event usually have the opportunity to purchase a ticket before the official tickets sale begins. Tickets are sold to members of the hosting organization and to their constituents. There are also support tickets sold. By purchasing one of these tickets you can support the hosting organization financially.

Annual galas are some of the most expensive student events out there, but a unique experience for those who attend.

### *Dress code*

The annual gala usually has a strict dress code, usually dark suit/dinner dress. The dress code means a dark suit, smart jumpsuit or an evening dress. An evening dress is a dress that reaches the ankles. During dinner it is polite to have your shoulders covered until the main course.

Possible badges of merits must be visible. Members of a student union can have a sash that signifies their membership to the student union. They can either wear it as a sash over the shoulder or as a rosette.

Over the shoulder the sash goes over the right shoulder and the left side of the waste, orange on top. With a suite the sash goes under the suit jacket and over the tie. You can also make it into an 80 mm rosette that you wear on the left side of your chest.

There is no need to buy new clothes for each annual gala. You can use the same ones at multiple annual galas. Some people who attend many annual galas borrow and swap clothes with their friends.

### *Arriving at the gala*

One must arrive at the annual gala politely on time before the main event. The coats are left in the cloak room after which you greet the hosts and other guests during the cocktail event. This is a good time to check the seating chart and find your own table. The seat should not be switched.

Before being seated all the party guests stand behind their chairs. The ceremony master gives the party guests permission to be seated. People are seated together. Clutches are placed either on one's lap or the backrest of the chair.

### *Dining*

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When served a cold dish, one can start once the entire table has received their dish. You can start eating a warm dish once the people surrounding have received theirs.

During dining it is not polite to leave the table unless the ceremony master has announced a break.

At the annual gala the price of the dinner card usually includes an appetizer, and a 3 course meal. If the place where the event is held has a license to serve alcohol you can purchase your own drinks at the bar. If you are allowed to bring your own drinks the dinner card may also include a few mild alcoholic beverages.

### ***Drinking songs***

The annual gala usually has a song book that is handed to the guests. You can wish for a fun song from the book. The annual gala however is not a sitz so singing is not the main focus of the event so the guest behavior is expected to be prestigious. The ceremony master can decline a song request, after which, the person requesting the song politely returns to their seat.

If the ceremony master announces a food break there is not singing, there is not singing during actual breaks either.

### ***Breaks***

The ceremony master will inform the guest about the breaks during the ceremony. He announces at the start of the break when it ends. Once the break is over you must be seated.

### ***Programme***

During the ceremony there may be different programmes: speeches, award ceremonies, shows, etc.

### ***The after party***

The location of the afterparty is usually announced once the ceremony is coming to a close. If you have a long dress you should take yourself a shorter one for the afterparty. It should however be a little festive. At the after party one pays for their own drinks.

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