



# Woodend After Dark

JUNE 5, 2025

POST-EVENT REPORT

[natureforward.org/after-dark](http://natureforward.org/after-dark)



## Our Annual Woodend After Dark fundraising gala was an enjoyable and memorable success!

Thank you to everyone who joined us on June 5 for an elegant and exciting evening filled with delicious food, fun, and fellowship at the beautiful Woodend Mansion.

The event brought together more than 100 delighted guests for a perfect opportunity to forge new friendships and strengthen our connections.

Woodend After Dark 2025 raised more than \$37,000 to support Nature Forward's vital nature education, restoration, and conservation mission work!

# An evening of great friends, food, music and much more!

## ATTENDEES

# 114

## TOTAL FUNDS RAISED

# \$37,000 +

TICKETS, SPONSORSHIPS, GIFTS  
& SILENT AUCTION PROCEEDS  
BENEFIT NATURE FORWARD  
EDUCATION, CONSERVATION  
& RESTORATION PROGRAMS

Woodend After Dark attendees enjoyed a selection of wonderful hors d'oeuvres, a delicious plated dinner served to their table, and mouthwatering desserts, all accompanied by an open bar. Many, many thanks to Corcoran Caterers for the generous gift of their top-quality services. "Corcoran was excellent," remarked one guest.



Event partner Owl Moon Raptor Center offered guests an up-close look and learn with an amazing raptor, while first-time partner Calluna Flower Truck provided a beautiful floral bouquet to every Woodend After Dark guest.

Junior Jazz Lab, a talented septet featuring six student musicians joined by their instructor, Nii Akwei Adoteye of 11th Hour Music, delivered lively and entertaining musical performances throughout the event.

"It's so good to gather with a community of others who care about the natural world.

**Robinne Gray**

Woodend After Dark 2025  
Attendee

[See More Photos](#)



# Our popular Silent Auction was another sold-out success!

"It's fun! We meet a lot of old and new friends, and we feel good about supporting Nature Forward's programs."

**Woodend After Dark 2025  
Attendee**



With its many nature-themed items, from outdoor experiences to art to imaginative baskets, our annual Silent Auction is always a much-anticipated element of Woodend After Dark.

This year, seven first-time auction sponsors added even more fun and excitement with new dining experiences, fine wines, special tours and classes, and more. These additions, along with ever-popular cabin getaways and private nature walks, made for an exciting evening in which bidders purchased every single item!



## AUCTION ITEMS SOLD

**23** BIDDERS PURCHASED EVERY ONE OF OUR SILENT AUCTION ITEMS!

**11** AUCTION ITEMS SOLD ABOVE MARKET VALUE

**7** NEW AUCTION SPONSORS

## AUCTION PROCEEDS

**\$10,070**

[See More Photos](#)

# Woodend After Dark: Reach

Digital media, including our website, social media platforms, and email messaging help build awareness of Nature Forward's fundraising events. These promotions also allow us to showcase the generosity and support of our sponsors.

In addition to recognition in our promotional campaigns, sponsors may also have the opportunity to attend, participate, and speak at our events. Building mutually beneficial relationships is our sponsorship goal.



**Woodend After Dark**  
 Thursday, June 5, 2025 • 6:00 - 9:00 pm  
 Join Nature Forward for an elegant evening to celebrate and support our mission work for nature and people.  
 Dinner in the Woodend Mansion  
 Silent Auction Live Music  
 Coffee and Desserts

Tickets: \$175  
 Limited tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please respond before May 25

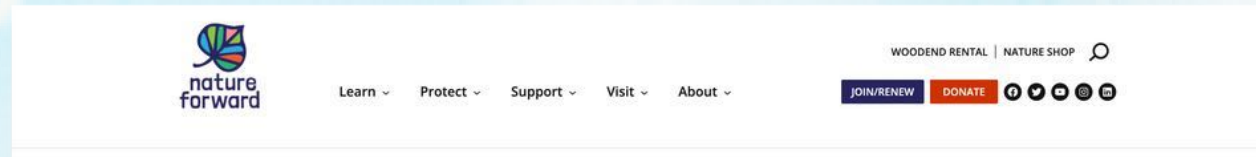
Thank you to our Sponsor **CORCORAN caterers**  
 Catering and Staff generously provided by Corcoran Caterers

nature forward  
 8940 Jones Mill Road  
 Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/ad2025p

## EMAIL MESSAGING

**10** PROMOTIONAL MESSAGES  
**2,858** ADDRESSES EMAILED  
**4,878** REACHED VIA eNEWS  
**62%** AVERAGE OPEN RATE



WEBSITE VISITS  
**1,453**



## SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

Thank you for being part of something meaningful! On a beautiful June 5th evening, we welcomed guests to Woodend After Dark to celebrate and raise funds in support of N... See more

**THANK YOU, Woodend After Dark SPONSORS!**

nature forward

**ODNB**  
 OLD DOMINION NATIONAL BANK

**NORTHERN TRUST**

**MULLINS P.C.**  
 A CPA firm dedicated to serving nonprofits



**40** FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, LINKEDIN, BLUESKY

**11K+** TOTAL REACH

# THANK YOU, Woodend After Dark SPONSORS!

Recognizing our sponsors is a top priority. We appreciate their generosity and community leadership on behalf of our 40,000 members, supporters and other stakeholders.

Catering and staff  
generously provided by



Thank you to our Partners



# Your support of **Woodend After Dark** as an attendee or sponsor helps Nature Forward...



**Educate thousands of children about the natural world and foster a lifelong love of nature**



**Protect and restore biodiversity and habitats for people and wildlife**



**Raise awareness about the threat of climate change and ways to mitigate it**



**Advocate for green energy and green infrastructure policies**



# We value your input and feedback!

*Your ideas and recommendations help us improve and grow in our mission*

Let's strengthen our relationship!

If you have questions about your generous gift or sponsorship, please contact:

**Talissa Bavaresco, Special Event & Sponsorship Manager**

**[talissa.bavaresco@natureforward.org](mailto:talissa.bavaresco@natureforward.org)**

301-450-1381



Nature Forward earns top ratings from independent non-profit evaluators for accountability, transparency, and financial best practices.



Donations to Nature Forward are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.