



Woodend After Dark

JUNE 4, 2026

POST-EVENT REPORT

natureforward.org/after-dark



Protecting and Connecting to Nature are always great reasons to Celebrate!

June 4 was an elegant and exciting evening filled with delicious food, friends, and fun at the beautiful Woodend Sanctuary and Mansion.

This annual tradition provides an opportunity for us to come together in support of the natural world that we all cherish.

Your support of Woodend After Dark 2026 raised more than \$46,000 for Nature Forward's vital nature education, restoration, and conservation mission work.

Thank you!



Great food, music, nature and more = a magical evening!

Amazing hors d'oeuvres, a delicious plated dinner, and tempting desserts and drinks - generously prepared and served by Corcoran Caterers - all added up to an elegant and memorable evening!

"The overall vibe, the food, were great. And the owl!"

2026 Attendee



113 TICKETS
PURCHASED

\$46,000+ TOTAL FUNDS
RAISED

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

Event partners Owl Moon Raptor Center wowed attendees with an up-close look and learn with a beautiful raptor, while Calluna Flower Truck treated Woodend After Dark guests to beautiful take-home floral bouquets.

Junior Jazz Lab, featuring talented student musicians and their instructor, Nii Akwei Adoteye of 11th Hour Music, provided the evening's musical entertainment.

[See More Photos](#)



"Nature Forward is a great organization that benefits people of all ages and especially helps long-time members stay involved."
2026 Attendee



Fun & Fellowship!

Always a highlight of the evening, the Silent Auction saw every item sold, from getaways to fine dining to nature-themed experiences and baskets. We were also excited and grateful to welcome several new auction-item sponsors (listed later in this report)!

Our Wine Pull activity is quickly becoming a favorite. Almost every bottle found a new home!

While celebrating these fond traditions, attendees told us they also enjoyed finding new friends. "Meeting new people who share my interests" is what one guest shared about why they support Woodend After Dark.



AUCTION ITEMS SOLD

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

AUCTION PROCEEDS

\$12,825

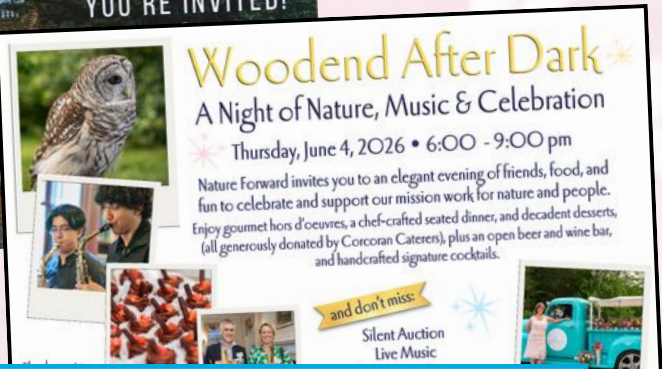
42 **WINE PULL BOTTLES SOLD**

WINE PULL PROCEEDS

\$ 1,330

See More Photos

 **Woodend After Dark 2026**



Protecting and Connecting to Nature are great reasons to Celebrate!

Woodend After Dark

This Thursday, June 4 from 6-9pm at Woodend Nature Sanctuary

Dear << Test First Name >>,

There will be so much for you to enjoy this Thursday evening:

Delicious food and drinks. Live music.

The excitement of the Silent Auction and Wine Pull.

An up-close raptor encounter & a custom, take-home bouquet.

But here's what will make your experience uniquely special: this is your opportunity to be in community with others who cherish nature and want to help it thrive. **Please join us this Thursday** to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones while supporting Nature Forward's mission!

Tickets: \$200 per person

Supports Nature Forward's Education, Restoration & Advocacy Mission Work (\$150 is tax-deductible)

Woodend After Dark: Reach

Our website, social media platforms, and email marketing all help build awareness of Nature Forward's fundraising events. These promotional efforts also allow us to showcase the generosity and support of our sponsors.

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



SOCIAL MEDIA



18 POSTS ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

4.8 K+ TOTAL REACH

EMAIL MARKETING

10 PROMOTIONAL MESSAGES

24% AVERAGE OPEN RATE

3,051 UNIQUE RECIPIENTS

4,738 REACHED VIA eNEWS

WEBPAGE VISITS

1,070

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.

— EST. 1984 —

Catering and staff
generously provided by

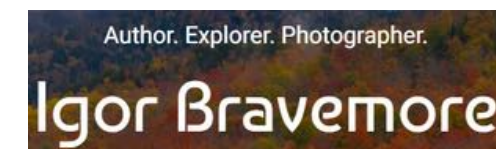
CORCORAN
caterers



Thank you to our Partners



Thank you to our Silent Auction Sponsors



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 events held in support of our important mission work.

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
 (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.