



FOUNDATION BEYOND BELIEF

humanism at work

Beyond Belief Network Guides: Virtual Gala Fundraiser

Normally galas are reserved for pretty huge organizations, but they don't have to be when they are virtual. A virtual gala is an opportunity for your community to come together, enjoy a virtual meal together, and have some fun all while raising money.

How To

1. Pick a day and a time and invite your community to sell tickets to share their lunch or dinner virtually together. Encourage folks to dress up to make it a special coming together. Winter Solstice (December 21st) is a popular time for humanists to come together to celebrate.
2. Alternatively, livestream for everyone for free with calls to donate on screen, in the description, and from an emcee.
3. [Tell us about your fundraiser](#) so we can create your customized donation portal. We need:
 - a. High quality picture of your team or logo for the top of page (if you don't submit anything we'll use our Humanism at Work logo)
 - b. Name of your team
 - c. Name of your fundraiser
 - d. Short description of your fundraiser (2-3 sentences)
 - e. The end date of your fundraiser so we can close the campaign on that day.
4. Have some entertainment during or after the meal. The entertainment could be combined with additional ways to raise funds: [pub quiz](#), [talent show](#), or [auction or raffle](#).

Some More Tips

- Start planning at least a month in advance so you have time to make arrangements and promote your event.

- Set a goal that is achievable, but not easy.
- Make an event page on Facebook, send invitations, announce it on your website, put an ad in local newsletters and newspapers, send email reminders a day or so before the event.
- Partner up with other groups! Let other local freethought groups know about your event. Consider contacting special interest clubs who would also support the charity you've chosen, or partner with religious groups and spark some friendly competition.
- Enjoy yourself!

Some Video Meeting Options

- [Zoom](#) – Free video conferencing for up to 100 people for up to 40 minutes. Paid plans available for longer meetings and more participants.
- [Google Meet](#) — Free plans temporarily include longer than 60 minutes calls through March 2021 and can include up to 100 participants.
- [Microsoft Teams](#)— Software for remote working. Free basic plan includes video conferencing up to 10,000 participants.
- [Facebook Live](#)
- [Google Hangouts](#) – Free video chat for up to 10 people. Paid plans available for more participants.
- [Jitsi](#) – Multi-platform open-source video conferencing. To skip all the fancy customizations and just start a meeting, go straight to [Jitsi Meet](#).
- [Skype](#) – Free videoconferencing. Participant limit depends on your device.

For more ideas check out BBN fundraising idea guides on our [resources](#) page!

Questions or Concerns?

If you need help with planning your event or have additional questions, the best way to contact Foundation Beyond Belief is to use the [contact webform](#), which enables us to track the resolution of your question.