



# FAQs

**Q. When and where will the 2015 Ball take place?**

**A.** May 30, 2015 @ 6:00pm  
Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park  
200 North Columbus Drive.

**Q. What is the estimated timeline for the evening?**

**A.** **6:00pm** Cocktail Reception in International Ballroom (2<sup>nd</sup> Level)  
• Hors d'Oeuvres, Cocktails, and Entertainment  
**7:15pm** Transition from 2<sup>nd</sup> Level to Lower Level  
**7:20pm** Dinner Seating Begins in Imperial Ballroom (Lower Level)  
**7:30pm** Dinner Served  
**8:30pm** Speaking portion, Raffle, and Live Auction  
**9:00pm** Full Orchestra Performance featuring exciting surprise guests  
**10:00pm** After-Party with DJ

**Q. Who is the Chicago Sinfonietta?**

**A.** Cited by the Chicago Tribune as the “city’s hippest orchestra,” the Sinfonietta is a professional orchestra that forms unique cultural connections through the universal language of symphonic music. We put on the most innovative and unexpected symphonic performances to the city’s most diverse audience and reach thousands of students every year through our education programs. Chicago Sinfonietta presents classical like no other, leaving its audience transformed.

**Q. If I cannot make it to the cocktail reception at 6:00pm, can I still come to the dinner and the rest of the evening?**

**A.** Absolutely! While we want all of our guests to take advantage of each element of the night, we understand that sometimes guests cannot make the reception. There are volunteers stationed at the Imperial Ball Room to help you find your table as needed. You might want to let staff know in advance to expect you later. Email [cperkins@chicagosinfonietta.org](mailto:cperkins@chicagosinfonietta.org) or call 312.284.1559.

**Q. Where do we park and how much is it?**

**A.** The Fairmont has valet parking for our guests. The preferred entrance is the Circle Drive on Upper Columbus, but you can also valet at the Lower Columbus Entrance. Parking for the duration of the event is complimentary. Please bring your parking ticket with you to check in and the Sinfonietta will provide you with validation.

**Q. What is the dress code?**

**A.** The dress for the evening is formal. Typically, men wear tuxedos and women wear long gowns. However, in the spirit of being Daring. Defiant. Different., some guests choose clothing as unique as our orchestra. The evening is perfect for getting dressed up and having an amazing time!

**Q. What do I do if I or my guests have food allergies?**

**A.** Chicago Sinfonietta makes sure to provide a wonderful meal with a meat/seafood duet. However, we can also accommodate most special food preferences as needed including vegetarian, gluten free, low salt, etcetera. Please alert staff to any food accommodations necessary as soon as possible. Email [cperkins@chicagosinfonietta.org](mailto:cperkins@chicagosinfonietta.org) or call 312.284.1559.

**Q. What are the opportunities to support the organization on the night of the event?**

**A.** The Chicago Sinfonietta offers a wonderful raffle with a \$10,000 grand prize, a Live Auction featuring several exciting packages, and a Paddle Raise, providing guests the opportunity to support the Sinfonietta's extensive education programs at every level. Anything raised night of the Ball is matched DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR thanks to some generous sponsors.

**Q. For what purpose does the Ball raise money?**

**A.** The Chicago Sinfonietta is a unique cultural treasure in the city of Chicago, changing the face of classical music with its innovative programming and incredible education programs. The Ball is the single most impactful event of year for the Sinfonietta to raise much needed funds to support its important work. A little known fact is that funds raised from concert ticket sales during the season only cover approximately 25% of our overall expenses. It is the generosity of our supporters and people like you that enable the Sinfonietta to have such a profound impact.

**Q. Will you send me a physical ticket after I buy my reservation/table?**

**A.** No, the Chicago Sinfonietta will have a check-in table on the 2<sup>nd</sup> level outside of the cocktail reception. You will simply check in with your name and from there you will be given your table assignment and your valet ticket.

**Q. Will there be coat check?**

**A.** If there is a need, the Sinfonietta will provide a complimentary coat check on the second level, near registration. The coats will then be transferred to the lower level near the Imperial Ball Room for the guest's convenience.

**Q. Please provide information about the After Party.**

**A.** Directly after the close of the orchestra performance, the Chicago Sinfonietta invites guests to stay for an after party in the Imperial Ballroom lobby, including a DJ and open bar that lasts until 11:30pm. It is a great time, where musicians, guests, and guest artists get a chance to mingle and to dance. We hope everyone can join us!

**Q. What do I do if I am coming to the Ball alone?**

**A.** The Chicago Sinfonietta hosts many individual guests at the Ball every year. We have a host/hostess committee that will welcome all guests, talk you through the evening and introduce you to other guests attending that night. This evening is one that welcomes all attendees and makes sure everyone has an amazing time! Please look for Sinfonietta ambassadors marked with bright pink orchids.

**Q. How can I support the event if I cannot attend?**

**A.** If you cannot attend, but still want to support, you can make a donation. Each donation supports the Chicago Sinfonietta's incredible 15-16 season and its expansive education outreach programs. A donation at any level is truly appreciated and makes a difference for our organization.

