



Experience obsessed and committed to creating unforgettable moments, Wisconsin Center District (WCD) is a quasi-governmental entity that operates Baird Center, Miller High Life Theatre and UW-Milwaukee Panther Arena.

Central to WCD's focus is providing captivating and buzzworthy experiences that make Milwaukee a not-to-be-missed destination. Under the leadership of President and CEO Marty Brooks, the WCD team operates under three core values: Bold, Proud, Experience Obsessed (BPX). It is through these values that Baird Center delivers on some of the most exciting and talked-about events in the region.

The WCD team knows what it takes to put on a spectacular event and is excited to continue its annual Gala Giveaway. One Wisconsin non-profit will be chosen to host their 2026 gala in the spectacular rooftop ballroom of Baird Center, including complimentary room rental, chef's choice three-course menu, equipment rentals including tables, chairs and linens, a credit toward audio/visual production and BPX delivery of service, for up to 500 people.

Submission period open from January 21 - March 1, 2026. The winner will be notified by phone. We can't wait to welcome you to Baird Center in 2027.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. Organization name, address and website.
2. Entrant representative name and contact information.
3. Number of full time equivalent (FTE) administrative staff.
4. Number of volunteers.
5. Number of board members.
6. Tell us about the organization, including its mission and vision statement. How does the organization work to strengthen the community it serves?
7. Does the organization typically hold an annual gala? What other public fundraising efforts does it host?
8. If the organization held a gala in 2024 or 2025, did it achieve its fundraising goal(s)?
9. The Gala Giveaway is valued at \$65,000. If the organization were to win the Gala Giveaway prize, what would the financial impact be to the organization?
10. What social channels does the organization leverage? Include handles, followers and engagement metrics.
11. What marketing and communication outlets does the organization use to promote its fundraising events?
12. Send a copy of the organization's most recent 990.
13. (Optional) Upload supporting visual assets including photos, screenshots, testimonials, etc.

Email questions to galagiveaway@wcd.org

