



*For over twenty years, Leadership Austin has celebrated community and recognized our community's best at our annual fundraiser, Best Party Ever. In that time, alumni and community businesses have helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for scholarships to our Essential and Emerge programs. It has been an incredible night of relationships and connection.*

*In the past six years, through the pandemic and beyond, our community's outlook on events has shifted and we have decided to evolve with the times. As we enter our next strategic plan and reimagine Leadership Austin for a post-pandemic, hybrid, 21st century world, the board and staff reviewed Best Party Ever in its entirety and have made the decision to sunset this fundraiser as we have known it and transition to an event rooted in our mission.*

*You will see in the coming weeks and months more information on this new and exciting relationship event. And as always, we will continue to gather at the Welcome Reception and the annual Holiday Party. The lunch is simply our new way to expand our ability to focus on our community and raise much needed resources for our Essential and Emerge cohorts. We want every attendee to leave inspired to carry the torch and continue to grow their impact as a community leader, with a renewed plan of action on their next steps to becoming the leader they want to be!*

*Proceeds from the lunch will be used for scholarship and program support for the Essential and Emerge programs, ensuring that current and future leaders have access to the highest quality civic engagement training where finances are not a barrier for participation. (For the 2023 programs, Leadership Austin received more requests for scholarships than ever in our 45-year history, and we expect this trend to continue.)*

*Your Best Lunch Ever is right around the corner. Upbeat, engaging, fun and where you are the focus. We thank each and every one of you who helped make the Best Party Ever one of our best memories and look forward to making many more with you annually at our Courageous Leaders Lunch.*

*-The Leadership Austin Staff & Board of Directors*