

# 2019 Michigan All Academy Ball

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the Michigan All Academy Ball?**

The Michigan All Academy Ball is an annual event held in the Detroit area to honor and connect cadets, midshipmen, alumni and parents of the five federal services academies: the U.S Military Academy (West Point), the U.S. Naval Academy (Annapolis), the U.S. Air Force Academy (Colorado Springs), the U.S. Coast Guard Academy (New London) & the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (Kings Point). For 45 years, the parent clubs of the five U.S. service academies have worked together to create an appreciation event for the young men and women who attend our nation's service academies. This formal event has been a way for us to celebrate and encourage these future leaders and thank them for their willingness to serve our great nation. It is an opportunity for the cadets and midshipmen to enjoy camaraderie, good food, a memorable speaker, and dancing.

### **Who organizes the All Academy Ball?**

Planning for the Michigan All Academy Ball rotates between the West Point, Naval Academy, and Air Force Academy parents' clubs. The All Academy Ball is made possible by the hard work of volunteers from parent clubs of the five service academies working together. Our parent volunteers work together with sponsors and donors to underwrite and organize this annual event. All monies raised are to support bringing together military cadets/midshipmen and families and help to defray the cost of this celebration of service by our young men and women.

### **What happens at the event?**

Michigan cadets and midshipmen along with their date, family, and friends enjoy social hour, dinner, a notable keynote speaker, and a DJ. There will be military ceremonies including color guard, missing man table ceremony, and class toasts. We will have a photographer to capture memories of families and friends. In addition we have a silent auction and raffle baskets with great gifts for cadets/midshipmen and their families.

### **When is the event?**

Sunday, December 22, 2019 at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth, MI. Go to <https://www.usafapcmi.com/aab.html> for details about purchasing tickets.

### **Are hotel accommodations available?**

Yes. A block of rooms have been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn Plymouth for \$93 per night. The hotel is right around the corner from The Inn at St. Johns. The address is 14600 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth MI 48170. Go to <http://group.hiltongardeninn.com/MichiganAcademyBall> to reserve a room.

### **Who can attend?**

All cadets, midshipmen, their dates, parents, other family members and friends. In addition, we have invited members of the U.S. Senate and Congress and academy liaison officers.

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### **How much does it cost to attend the event?**

Tickets are \$75 for guests and \$15 for cadets/midshipmen. You may purchase tickets online or by check. Go to <https://www.usafapcmi.com/aab.html> to purchase tickets. There is a cash bar.

### **What if my cadet/midshipman doesn't have a date or really doesn't want to go?**

The event is enjoyed by all cadets and midshipmen--those with or without dates! It's a great time to catch up with friends at the other academies and make new friends with shared experiences. And if your cadet or midshipman doesn't want to go, there are many parents who attend without them, and enjoy the evening out with other service academy parents

### **What is the dress code?**

The event is formal. Therefore, cadets and midshipmen wear their dress uniforms. The event is black tie optional for guests. Ladies may wear either short or long dresses.

### **Can I volunteer to help?**

Yes! We need parents and family members to help with check-in, raffle ticket sales, the silent auction, and check-out. Please contact Margaret Brooks at [margaret.g.brooks@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.g.brooks@gmail.com) if you are interested.

We will also need a few cadets to be part of the Color Guard and to lead a toast.