



Surprising & delightful

17 May 2019

7th year the event has been held

970 guests

Over \$370,000 raised

How Claudelands helps ensure Hospice Waikato & Montana Food and Events **Bucket List Banquet** impresses year after year.

Having been held at Claudelands since its inception in 2013, the Hospice Waikato and Montana Food & Events Bucket List Banquet is committed to continuously raising the bar.

Originally starting out in Claudelands' main conference room, the event outgrew this space after just three years and in 2016 moved into Claudelands Arena where it accommodated 760 guests.

The 2019 Hospice Waikato and Montana Food & Events Bucket List Banquet was its biggest event yet, hosting 970 guests for an evening of food, entertainment, silent and live auctions, and more, all wrapped around an uplifting theme of 'celebrating life'.

As the venue sponsor for this event, Claudelands' team worked alongside event organisers from the early planning stages – drawing on their vast and varied event knowledge to ensure

the banquet was a success and maintained its reputation as a "must attend" function on Hamilton's annual event calendar.

With many guests returning annually, event organisers look for new ways to surprise and delight. Along with changes to things like the menu and performances, reinventing the presentation of the space is crucial – this can prove challenging, particularly with attendee numbers at a point where every inch of floor space is precious.

"The Claudelands' team without exception will go the extra mile to see our event be the best it can be."

Bernadette Kirkham, Hospice Waikato

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In 2019 the Claudelands team worked to design and build an attractive and unique floor plan that accommodated the required tables and seating, multiple stages and dance area, while leaving room to creatively style the space.

Coming off the back of an impressive 2018 where Claudelands' Technical Services team custom-created a massive light centrepiece consisting of 420 festoon lamps and a 28m x 3m fairy light curtain hung off 9m and 5m diameter circular trusses, they were determined to deliver something exceptional again in 2019.

Building off the event's 'celebration' theme, Technical Services created a stunning 'champagne bubble' ceiling feature consisting of 44 disco balls and 42 weather balloons. Weighing almost 10-tonne, the feature required 128 rigging points and 1.5km of wire to create.

With feedback including "such an incredible atmosphere," "spectacular" and "a magical event", the Claudelands team helped Hospice Waikato achieve its goal of raising \$370,000 of much-needed funds while leaving a lasting impression on guests.

"The team contributes valuable ideas, commits effort and time early in the planning process and during the lead-up to the event and its execution."

Bernadette Kirkham, Hospice Waikato



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