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Katie Couric, Anna Wintour and Danny DeVito Party Before the U.S. Open

The U.S.T.A. Foundation hosted a gala, and John McEnroe held a tournament to raise money for tennis scholarships and community programs.



Katie Couric was the M.C. for the U.S.T.A. Foundation benefit, which raised more than \$3 million. Credit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times

By [Alyson Krueger](#)

Reporting from Flushing Meadows, Queens and Amagansett, N.Y.

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On Monday evening, the first day of the U.S. Open, actors, designers and former professional athletes walked into a side entrance, lined with tennis fans at Arthur Ashe

Stadium in Flushing Meadows Corona Park in Queens. They walked a blue carpet, the same color as the famous courts.

A crowd of about 200 people arrived at the tennis tournament's opening night session several hours early for a fund-raiser for the United States Tennis Association Foundation, which runs tennis and education programs across the country for underprivileged youth. More than \$3 million was raised in two hours.

Gabriela Hearst, the fashion designer, showed up with Maria Sharapova, the tennis player. Tommy Haas, a retired player, and Lindsey Vonn, the skier, also attended. Other guests included Mike Tyson, Alec Baldwin, Gayle King, Danny DeVito, Anna Wintour, Vera Wang and Daymond John. David and Cheryl Scharf, New York City philanthropists, hosted a table.

Attendees shared what drew them to the U.S. Open this year.

"The end of summer always makes me a little blue," said Katie Couric, who was the M.C. for the gala. "By the end of August I always feel depressed, but coming to the U.S. Open gives me something to look forward to."

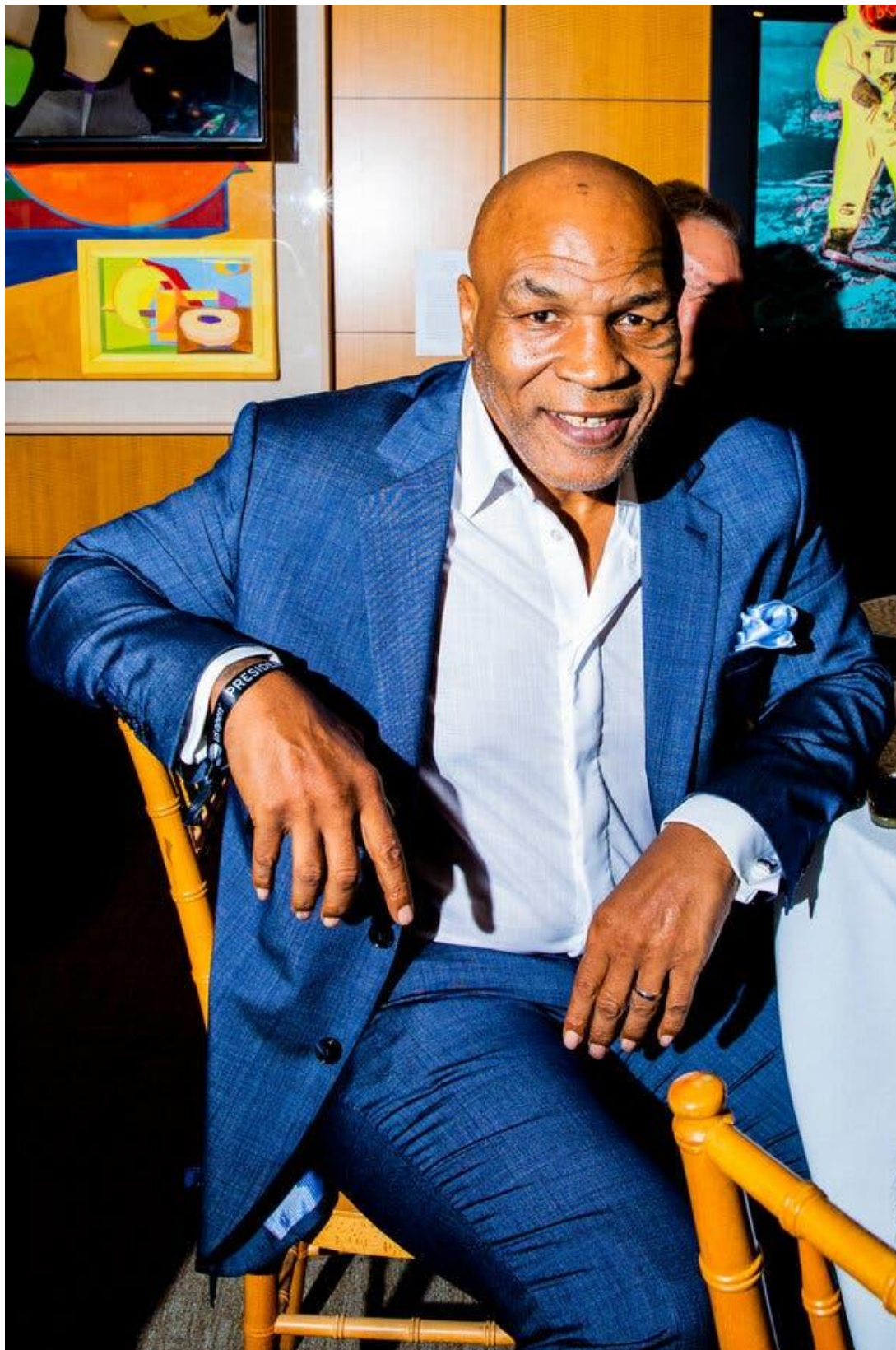
"Eating," said Mr. Tyson, the former professional boxer. "Popcorn, pretzels, all the snacks."

The crowd headed upstairs for a quick dinner — three courses were served in an hour — and an auction.

At 7 p.m. sharp, guests rushed outside to watch the American sensation Coco Gauff defeat her opponent in a gripping three-set match. Former President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama were spotted at the edge of their seats in another suite.

"There are a lot of wonderful, interesting people who come — I think they are all pretty passionate about the sport, and that is why it's so fun," Ms. Couric said, adding, "I mean, when the players are out there you can hear a pin drop."

Image



Mike Tyson at the U.S.T.A. Foundation gala.Credit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times



Danny DeVito and Chris EvertCredit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times



Anna WintourCredit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times

Has tennis become more fashionable?

‘I think the players are really enjoying the way they look on court. They have a lot of fun with it.’

Anna Wintour

Image



Bridget Fatse, who works in development for the U.S.T. A. Foundation, decorated her nails like a tennis court. Credit... Krista Schlueter for The New York Times



Daymond JohnCredit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times



Kathleen Wu, president of the U.S.T.A. Foundation. Credit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times



Lindsey VonnCredit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times

How did you decide what to wear tonight?

‘It was whatever was in my closet, but it apparently matches the courts, and I didn’t realize that until I got here. I generally tend not to want to blend in with the courts, but I love a good suit, so it’s fine.’

Lindsey Vonn



Maria Sharapova Credit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times



Gabriela Hearst Credit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times



Hilaria and Alec Baldwin Credit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times



Vera Wang Credit...Krista Schlueter for The New York Times