

Laurel Mingle Planning Checklist

The requirements for something like this are really basic. Here's all you need to do:

In advance:

- Pick an event
- Contact the event steward; be prepared to have them hand you off to a member of their team, especially if someone is coordinating A&S activities
- Ask for space for mingling next to the main List Field -- we used our Kingdom MoAS pavilion
- Decide on a good time; immediately after the Laurels' meeting is a good one, or immediately after A&S classes finish. Opposite Court is not a good idea :)
- Publicize your event using Facebook, email lists, etc. If possible, try to get listed in the site copy
- Contact a few "ringers" -- people who are always the life of the party -- to make sure they'll be there
- If you're using them, print conversation starters
- Make some tasty period snacks to share

Day of:

- Consider posting fliers in the privies, making an announcement during Court, or hiring a herald to spread the word
- Set out snacks and conversations starters
- Stand outside of the actual area where the mingle is happening and invite people in. I follow the Svava in Litla school of hospitality, which involves a lot of yelling at people to come eat snacks. You'd be surprised how well this works.
- Work the room! Scoop up non-Laurels and engage them in conversation by asking them what they're interested in; if you know someone who specializes in an area they want to learn more about, or who lives near them, make an introduction! Pick up snacks and wander around. Smile a lot. Make sure to watch for Laurels clumping together and inspiring peer fear. If there's just a group of a dozen Laurels sitting around talking to each other, no one will want to break into that, so keep an eye out. Have fun. Mingle. Be petted, if you're into that.