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On Thursday night, President Joe Biden's granddaughter, Natalie Biden, and her boyfriend, Rafael Hajjar, attended a White House state dinner, marking their first public appearance as a couple. The event, which took place at the glass pavilion on the South Lawn, was held in honor of Kenyan President William Ruto and his wife, Rachel Ruto.

Natalie Biden, 19, dressed in an elegant white gown, posed for photographs with Hajjar, who opted for a traditional tuxedo. Hajjar, a student formerly of top London schools such as Wetherby Senior School and Latymer Upper School, achieved excellent exam results and took short courses at King's College London, the University of Westminster, and MIT. He plans to continue his education at the University of Pennsylvania, though it is unclear if he has enrolled yet.

The dinner, attended by around 450 guests, featured personalities from various sectors, including former presidents, members of Congress, and Hollywood stars. Highlights included appearances by former President Barack Obama and governors like Maura Healey of Massachusetts. Musical performances were provided by the Howard University Gospel Choir and country singer Brad Paisley.

First Lady Jill Biden wore a sapphire blue gown by Sergio Hudson, while Rachel Ruto donned a silver dress in traditional Kenyan style. Other notable attendees included Hunter Biden’s wife, Melissa Cohen, and singer Don McLean with his girlfriend Paris Dylan.

Meals served at the event included chilled heirloom tomato soup, fruitwood-smoked short ribs, and butter-poached lobster.

This state dinner represented the largest hosted by the Bidens to date, with luxurious decorations such as glittering candles, a 15,000-piece chandelier, and a backdrop of fuchsia African orchids and American red roses.