



Fundraising Packet

Event Date: June 4, 2016

Donations Due: June 1, 2016

The end of school year festival is the main fundraiser for the school, with the majority of the funds generated at the silent and live auction. Most of these items are donated by families, friends and local businesses. We understand that it may seem difficult at first to come up with ideas of what an "auction-worthy" item may be. Think about whom you know, what they do and how they may be able to help. You may be surprised at how helpful people within your own circle of influence can be. You might also have an item that you would love to donate to the auction. Our fundraising team will work our magic to make the silent auction items donated item be attractive to all. We need your ideas, energy, and creativity and follow through to help secure items for this year's event.

Let me provide you with some ideas to get you started:

1. What are the businesses that you visit the most? Is it Paulina Meat Market or a particular restaurant or a salon you have been going to for years? Your fellow Newberry parents could become their loyal customers too! Next time you go in, bring a donation form with you and ask their manager if they would be willing to donate something. Let them know how much you have enjoyed their products and services over the years. It actually works!
2. Be willing to meet a particular business half way. For example, last year I called the Emerald City Theater and asked whether they would donate tickets to a children's play. Although they could not donate all 4 tickets, they did donate 2. Then I purchased an additional 2 tickets, and bundled in a donated gift card from a local ice cream/coffee shop for a whole family experience. Sometimes just the willingness to work with them goes a long way.
3. Would you like to host a small event at your home or local restaurant? How about a game night, picnic or ladies brunch? You set the theme, request donations from your guests and submit that money raised as your "donation" to the event. You could even offer your event as a silent auction item. Please reach out to our committee for help.

When you have secured the donation, provide your contact with a copy of the donation form for their tax purposes. A second copy of the completed donation form should accompany the donation when you bring it to the school for submission into the auction. All donations are due at the school by June 1st. Please do not hesitate to contact us with your questions. Thank you in advance for your help and support to make this a successful benefit!

Sincerely,
Susan Bailey

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Examples of Donated Items

Always Popular

- Sports tickets (Cubs, Sox, Blackhawks, Bulls, Wolves, college)
- Sports memorabilia
- Tickets for local cultural events
- Vacation packages with few restrictions or strings
- Gift certificates for dinner at a nice restaurant
- Golf
- High end jewelry (auctioned with a reserve price; no risk of under pricing it)

Priceless Donations

- A day at the farm
- Anything with the local fire department or police department – ride a vehicle, tour, birthday party at the station, wear gear, photo op's
- Boating trip on a local lake or river
- Boating trip with the boat owner and your group of friends
- Camping trip hosted by an experienced family for camping novices
- Grab bag of goodies
- Quest DJ on a local radio station or tour of local TV station
- Special stuffed toy with classroom storybooks
- Tour of local factory
- Tour of local newspaper, radio station, TV station, or sporting venues (even if there's no game)

Possible Sources of Auction Items (and some donation examples)

- Amusement parks
- Appliance stores
- Automotive shops (oil change, detailing, tire rotation)

Celebrate the Community



- Bakeries
- Bed and Breakfasts
- Bookstores
- Bowling centers caterers
- Cruise lines
- Cultural venues such as museums, historical attractions, zoos, music arenas, theaters
- Dance studios
- Dentists
- Florist shops
- Framing stores
- Hotels and motels (special overnight stay)
- Ice cream shop
- Landscaping companies
- Limousine services
- Personal chefs
- Personal service providers (massage, nails, hair)
- Photo studios (family portrait sessions)
- Home based business people (Pampered chef, Avon, Discovery Toys)
- Summer camps
- Local restaurants, including mom and pops places

What to Avoid

- Artwork done by amateurs other than the school's own students
- Collectibles of narrow appeal (e.g.- figurines, vases/decorative glassware)
- Anything used, unless its antique and obviously valuable
- Certificates for partial value
- Homemade items unless they are of exceptional quality
- Anything with a lot of fine print and restrictions – it's too hard for guest to digest.