



AUCTION FAQ

For those of you who were not at the “City by the Bay” Auction in 2009 or who have never attended the Annual Nativity School Auction and have many questions, we have gathered frequently asked questions to assist you.

When and where is the Auction?

Saturday, February 20, 2010 in the Sobrato Pavilion.

What time does the Auction start?

The Silent Auction starts at 5:00P.M. and tables start closing at 7:00 P.M. You’ll hear an announcer give notice before each set of tables closes. There will be hors d’oeuvres and drinks. After the Silent Auction, a sit-down dinner is served at 7:00PM, followed by dessert. The Live Auction begins at 8:00 P.M., led by Auctioneer Craig Silverman. Dancing will follow the Live Auction until midnight.

How much is admission?

Tickets are \$75.00 per person and must be purchased in advance. RSVP is Monday, February 1st, 2010. Invitations will be sent out the first week of January, 2010. You may also contact Lara Poncia at lponcia@comcast.net or Christina Umhofer at ctu798@aol.com for additional tickets or info.

What is included with admission?

Hors d’oeuvres, two wine/beer tokens per person (cash bar is available for additional drinks), dessert, a bidder number and a good time!

I haven’t been to the Auction before, how does it work?

There are two (2) parts to the auction – The Silent Auction” and The “Live Auction”.

The Auction committee has been working to acquire donations for the auction. These items

are not used. The items are new goods and services donated by area businesses, parish and school families and community partners. (Examples of Silent Auction items are: sporting event tickets, electronics, services such as swim lessons or gardening, restaurant gift certificates, etc.)

On arrival you are given a Bidder Number (Warning: do not lose your Bidder Number or let anyone else borrow it). Displayed in the Silent Auction area are various items that you may bid on by writing your Bidder Number and your bid amount on the sheet next to the item. If someone outbids you, you may continue to enter higher bids until the silent auction is declared closed. There is also a Buy it Now option. A Buy it Now set price will be listed on the bid sheet. You can purchase the item right away at the set price without waiting for the auction category to close. The closing of individual tables will be announced throughout the Silent Auction period. The last person signed on the sheet is the winner of that item.

Following the “Silent Auction”, The “Live Auction” of selected special items is conducted. The items will be listed in the Auction Catalog and some may be on display and available for preview from the moment you arrive. At the start of The “Live Auction” you may bid on any item by raising your bidder number. The auctioneer starts the bidding and the fun going between bidders.

All items from both the “Silent Auction” and the “Live Auction” will be available for pick up at check out at the end of the Live auction. Bring your bidder number and form of payment to check out.

What are Just Sign-Up items?

Items that have a set price and all you do is sign up and it is yours. For example: front row seats to the Christmas Sing, a group hike up Windy Hill, and other group parties. These are a first come first served basis, so once they are filled up, they are gone.

What are the price range for Auction items?

Auction items can be anywhere from \$10 to thousands.

How can I get an Auction Catalog?

Printed Auction Catalogs will be sent home in the Wednesday envelope a week or two before the Auction and extras will be in the school office.

What type of payment is accepted for the auction items I purchase?

We accept cash, checks, Visa and Mastercard.

I am a new parent at Nativity, and I still have no clue as to what the auction is all about.

No problem. Don't worry. All of us were new families at Nativity at one time. Come to the Auction on February 20th, have fun and see what happens. Once you've experienced the auction, you'll be on board and probably chairing a committee next year. As well as being a fundraiser, this is a fun, social evening. You do not have to be an expert on the auction to be an important part of making it a success. By just attending you can greatly contribute. Maybe, to get your feet wet, you will want to help out the night of the auction. Please note that this is an adult only function, except for a handful of student volunteers assisting with tasks auction night.

How do you solicit things for the Auction?

We depend heavily on school parents to help solicit and acquire quality items for the auction every year. Everyone knows someone, whether it's a relative, friend, friend of a friend, whomever – everyone knows someone who has access to someone in the sports field, in entertainment, works at a travel agency, owns a house or condo somewhere, is a jeweler, etc. Things that have sold well in the past, garnering high bids have been: tickets to sporting events, such as baseball, football and hockey, show tickets, a week stay at someone's personal condo or vacation home, electronics, dinner parties and jewelry.

I don't know exactly what I want to donate, can I give a cash contribution towards the event instead?

Absolutely. The Auction committee will put your cash donation towards the overall fundraising goal by underwriting a party or dinner for example. If you prefer,

you may request your cash donation to be used for a specific purpose such as sponsoring a raffle or Live Auction item, or paying for a faculty member's dinner.

When do you need to know about items that can be auctioned?

ASAP! We absolutely need all items in by January 15th, 2010.

Do you need workers the night of the Auction?

YES! We need several workers to make this night a success. Help is needed with check-in, check-out, set-up and clean-up the next day.

Are my donations tax deductible?

Yes, your donations are tax deductible.

We hope that we have answered many of the questions that you may have. If we missed any, please feel free to contact one of us. We look forward to seeing you at the Auction.

Lara Poncia
2010 Auction Co-Chair
lponcia@comcast.net

Christina Umhofer
2010 Auction Co-Chair
ctu798@aol.com