

**HOW TO SOLICIT ITEMS FOR THE SCHOOL**

We recognize that it is difficult to solicit items! Here are some ideas that might help:

* Does your employer match donations that you make? Many firms in NYC match charitable contributions that their employees make.
* Who do you know? Call upon them! Talents or services that a LAB family may purchase to use at a birthday party or event, are very profitable. Many LAB parents will pay that friend of yours to moonlight as a face-painter, singer, or entertainer!
* Inform the businesses you approach that they receive free advertising and visibility at our auction.
* Donations are 100% tax deductible and thus, can be written off.
* Unique items often sell for large amounts. Do you have a weekend property that you can part with and be flexible time-wise for the purchasing family?
* Talk to your hairdresser, barber, or physician-- any professional you have contact with and ask them to help our amazing school.
* If you cannot find donations from community businesses, consider donating items that will be useful at the auction. Monies we receive are incredibly helpful. Your case of wine, bottles of vodka, or money for decorations are essential.

Creative ideas:

* + Autographed sports memorabilia—pictures, baseballs, footballs
  + Tickets to sporting events, golf outings or Broadway shows
  + Meals with a celebrity chef or time for a child to shadow a celebrity
  + Private tours at museums or places children enjoy visiting such as The Transit Museum or memberships at kid-friendly venues
  + One of a kind experiences—the chance to take a carriage ride through Central Park followed by tea at the Plaza
  + Electronics— iPads, iPhones, tablets etc. are sought after
  + Restaurants—local restaurants and big name restaurants are hits
  + Caterers who can work events you might host at a later date
  + Valuable wines and spirits that families might want to collect
  + Jewelry or special clothing, such as name-brand purses or luxury goods
  + Movie passes, theater tickets, trips to the circus
  + Kid classes whether they be sports or art-based
  + Birthday party venues—do you have a party room in your building or do you know of a venue that would support our school?

The aforementioned items are but a short list. Use your imagination and take a bit of time to help out our school! If we all pitch in, the load is significantly lowered and our children are better off because of it!

Any questions, please reach out to us!

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