# Do You Believe in Magic? Fundraiser

Synergy School Benefit Saturday, March 8, 2025 SOMArts Cultural Center 934 Brannan Street

## **Donation Guide**

Synergy's Annual Auction is the most important parent fundraising event of the year. Every year, the Synergy parents create and support a fantastic event by:

- Solicit donations.
- Invite friends and family to bid on our online auction at Bidding for Good.
- Buy tickets to the fundraiser.
- Invite friends and family to the event and come dance, shop, eat a marvelous dinner!

#### How do I get a donation?

- Ask in person. When you've just purchased something from them, it is a good time to ask.
- Give them a 'Dear Manager' letter and an Auction Donation form. Additional forms can be downloaded directly from the website
- Assist the merchant in completing the form. The Auction Donation Form must be completed and signed.
- Send your donor a *Thank You letter*. Our sample letter includes Synergy's Tax ID# and will be their receipt. Include the estimated retail value of the donation.

#### What should I ask for?

Here are just a few suggestions of items that have done well in the past:

- Dinner gift certificates to your favorite restaurant
- Wine
- Vacation homes and travel destinations
- Retail gift certificates
- Tickets to an art museum, theatre, sports event or theme park

## Can I create my own donation? Absolutely!

Some of the most popular items at every auction are Sign-up Parties from our parent community:

- Plan a gourmet meal or event for several couples or kids at your house.
- · Take a group for a hike and picnic along your favorite trail
- Cookie Baking Party for five or more students

Do you have a good idea but want to run it by someone first? Don't hesitate to call any of the Auction Committee members.

## Does the Auction have sponsors? Yes!

We always seek donors and businesses to help sponsor the event. If you or someone you know would like to be a cash sponsor, ask them to help. Sponsorship forms are on the website.

## **Donation Form Tips**

Copy or print as many forms as you need. A hard copy is helpful if you are soliciting donations in person or mailing to potential donors. Note: If mailing out the Donation Form, include a Merchant Letter with the Merchant Donation Form.

All items can be entered <u>online</u> or given to us with a paper donation form. Fill out the Donation Form entirely with a description. Donations forms must be attached to the donation item/certificate when you turn it in at the school.

Providing a detailed description that makes the item sound appealing is helpful. Complete all critical details and include any restrictions that might apply, especially concerning tickets, classes, or other time-sensitive donations.

Send or give the donor a Thank You letter. Please indicate the estimated value of the donation in the letter so they can receive their tax credit.

Questions? Just ask! We are here to help. Email <a href="mailto:auction@synergyschool.org">auction@synergyschool.org</a>

#### **Auction Co-Chair**

**Auction Coordinator** 

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