

Monroe Montessori Parent Booster Club

Auction Newsletter

Auction Chair - Kathy Pinson

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A4

Dec. 14, 2009

A big **thank you** to all the parents who came to the auction Kick-Off Rallies last week. We had a great turnout and show of support as attendees began taking on volunteer positions.

If you didn't get the chance to attend but are interested in helping out we still have jobs available. To see the complete list of volunteer opportunities visit the PBC section of the school website and click the "Volunteer positions" link at the bottom of the page. Some of these positions are already filled but if you see the perfect spot for you please let me know. We are especially interested in folks who can join the procurement team and/or help with set up on the day of the auction.

We're also looking for parents who can help with childcare on the night of the auction (more on this below). Please e-mail me with your interests or any questions at kathypinson@comcast.net.

Auction Details

As promised in the last newsletter, here are the specifics on the Escape to Africa auction at Echo Falls Country Club. Doors open at 4pm on March 13, 2010. Tickets are \$45/person if purchased by the early bird deadline (Feb 6) and \$50 thereafter. Final RSVP deadline is Feb 27th.

The plated dinner will include salad, a chicken entrée, and coffee/tea. A vegetarian entree can be requested on your RSVP card. Watch for invitations to arrive by January 6th.

We will once again be offering free babysitting during the auction for children 3 and up. Information on signing up will be included in the next newsletter in early January.

What's Next?

Now is the time to start thinking about procure-

ment. As a reminder, each family needs to procure goods/services that meet (or exceed) a \$100 value.

Given that the holidays are quickly approaching our procurement drive will begin in earnest in January. At that time we will be sending home copies of the procurement/donor form and proprietor letter (which explains to businesses the benefits of donating to our school).

If you plan to procure over the holiday break, both of these forms are now available online (see the PBC page on the school website). Also a box has been placed in the school office if you want to drop off small procurement items. In the meantime [see the back of this newsletter](#) for some useful information about procurement.

Happy Holidays!

Important Dates

Jan 6	Invitations Arrive
Feb 6	1 st RSVP deadline
Feb 8-12	Intake week/Procurement deadline
Feb 27	2 nd RSVP deadline
March 13	Auction



Parents meet with Kathy Pinson to learn about the auction and how they can help.

Procurement

Procurement is very central to the success of the auction, but it is often a challenge for parents who are new to the school or haven't had much experience with auctions. Therefore, we'd like to provide some guidelines you can use in your search for a procurement item. (or items!)

Think of items you would like to bid on. We've given a few suggestions below.

1. Explore your connections. Friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors are often happy to help. The hardest part is usually asking.

2. Utilize your skills-teach a class, cater/host a dinner party, help with home maintenance.
3. Ask places you frequent. Businesses often have a budget for this type of donation. But you won't know if you don't ask. It is often easiest to make a casual inquiry while doing business then return with a donor form/proprietor letter if an individual shows interest in participating.
4. If you do get a "no", be gracious and thank them for considering a donation. They may participate next year.

A few auction item ideas

Use of a vacation rental

Tickets to sporting events

Baked goods once a month for 10 months

Experiences (tour a brewery, sail a boat, learn to fly fish)

Landscape Services

Cooking classes

Kid stuff (art classes, birthday parties, summer camp)

Dance classes (adult or youth)

Auto detailing

Riding lessons

Blown glass

Pedicures/Manicures

Jewelry

House cleaning

Produce delivery

Themed baskets (wine and cheese, chocolate, movie night)



Massages

Photography session

Yard and garden supplies

Concert or theatre tickets

Paintings by local artists

Gutter cleaning

Ski lift tickets

Professional organizing service

Music/voice lessons

Bed and breakfast stay

Tax preparation service

