



ST. CECILIA SCHOOL

20TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING AUCTION NEWSLETTER
ISSUE VI OCTOBER 28, 2009

We are only days away now from the much anticipated *Masquerade Ball*! The night will promise to be nothing less than magical as we unmask the night and make this the largest fundraiser yet! The proceeds from the auction directly benefit our school by funding academic and campus improvements. Your generous support demonstrates your commitment to quality education! Remember, this is all for our kids so let the spending begin....

Things to do to get ready to unmask the night....

- Take advantage of the Irvine Marriott St. Cecilia School Auction nightly rate of \$99 plus tax, which includes overnight parking. There are a limited number of rooms available at this special rate. To reserve a room, call the Marriott reservations line at (800) 228-9290 and ask for the St. Cecilia School Auction rate.
- Prepare your holiday shopping list. You are bound to find the perfect gift for people on your list at the auction.
- Choose your dinner attire. Remember, creative masks are recommended....
- Get your credit card ready to swipe! As you check-in the evening of the auction you will be asked if you would like to swipe your credit card to settle your bill at the end of the evening. This is the easiest and most convenient way to settle your bill, however, cash and checks are also accepted.
- Parking at the Irvine Marriott the evening of the auction has been discounted to \$7. Cash or credit cards are accepted for payment.

It's never too early to start (and finish) your holiday shopping....

Let's face it, the holidays are just around the corner and will be here before we know it. Why not start (and maybe finish) your holiday shopping the evening of the auction. Bring your shopping list and as you walk around the silent auction room you are bound to find the perfect gift for people on your list. What a great way to shop – get the presents you need in one location AND raise money for our school and children!

Not able to attend the Masquerade Ball?

We will miss you, but don't let that stop you from bidding on items. You can still place your bid one of two ways on the amazing items that will be presented at the auction. Refer to the auction program which can be found on the auction page of the school's website for details on all the items. To bid by proxy simply ask a friend who will be attending the auction to place a bid on your behalf. Or to place a bid by email, email Becky Byszewski at bbyzoo@yahoo.com no later than Thursday, October 29 at 5:00 p.m. Tell her the item you would like to bid on and your final bid amount. Good Luck!

Teacher Experiences

Always a favorite and guaranteed not to disappoint this year! Our teachers have put together some priceless experiences for our children. Remember, all bids on the Teacher Experiences will be blind, meaning that the bid values will not be made known. The highest bid/bids will be the winner. For more details on all the experiences, refer to the auction program which can be found on the auction page of the school's website. Here's a preview of some of the experiences to get ready to bid on....

Pre-school and Pre-K – *Pretend City* – Mrs. Braatz, Mrs. Davilla and Mrs. Holleran invite one Pre-school and two Pre-K children for an afternoon at *Pretend City*, a new, interactive children's museum in Irvine.

Kindergarten through Second Grade – Christmas Cookies and Crafts! - Nine lucky students are invited to join Mrs. DePasquale, Mrs. Beres and Mrs. Rojo at Mrs. D's home for an evening of Christmas cookie baking and craft making.

Third Grade – The Beach with Mrs. Boyle – Four beach loving third graders are invited to join Mrs. Boyle for an afternoon at the beach with a picnic lunch. Winner goes to the top two third grade bidders who may each bring a friend.

Fourth through Eighth Grade – Science Discovery! - Four kids in 4th through 8th grade are invited to join Ms. DeGrave and Mr. Marshall for an afternoon of fun and learning at the Discovery Science Center.

Buy-In Parties

Choose one or choose all! Space is limited so sign up quickly and don't miss out! Here are the exciting parties to look for this year....
Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament - Saturday, February 13, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. \$200 per person or \$300 per husband and wife couple. Twenty-seven poker-playing ladies and gentlemen are invited to a fun and friendly game of No-limit Texas Hold'em at the Braatz home, where the top three winners take home cash prizes of: \$400 – First Place; \$200 – Second Place; \$100 – Third Place. Hosted by the Braatz and Saba Families.

Turn over for more exciting news....

Texas Hold'em Tutorial – Saturday, February 13, 2010 immediately prior to the Poker Tournament. \$35 per participant. Nine participants will learn to be a part of the No-limit Texas Hold'em Tournament excitement. The course will include everything from the basics to essential skills for winners. A take-home course manual will be provided. The course is open to everyone, there's no need to sign up for the tournament to participate. The instructor is Mike Walz.

Moms and Margaritas – Sunday, June 27, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. \$40 per mom. Thirty lucky moms are invited to celebrate the beginning of summer at the Casa de Saputo to relax, sip margaritas or cervezas and enjoy delicious Mexican aperitivos. Hosted by the Bayardo, Byszewski, Cervantes, McCarthy, Saputo, and Walz Families.

Middle School Video Game Tournament – Friday, January 22, 2010 at noon. \$50 per participating child. Thirty-two gamers (sixteen 5th and 6th graders and sixteen 7th and 8th graders) are invited to participate in an afternoon of video gaming. They will be whisked away from class to a Video Game Truck on campus to play the afternoon away. Pizza lunch will be provided to all participants. Games will be appropriately rated. Game playing time will be approximately one hour. Hosted by the Castillo, Head and Hofer Families.

Wine Tasting Party – Saturday, April 17, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. \$50 per person. Twenty wine enthusiasts are invited to sip and savor delicious wines at the Mahony home. A wine expert will be on hand to teach you the ins-and-outs of selecting the perfect wine. Heavy appetizers will be served. Hosted by the deMahy, Mahony, Neill and Wacker Families.

Opportunity Drawings

Live Auction Drawing - For the price of only \$100 you could be the recipient of the live auction item of your choice, excluding the 8th grade class project. One ticket will be pulled on auction night immediately prior to the live auction and the lucky winner will be able to select a live auction item for the mere price of the ticket! The winner need not be present to win.

Tuition Drawing – Back by popular demand! One lucky winner's ticket will be pulled on auction night and will receive a \$4,300 total credit for tuition during the 2009-2010 school year. Tickets are \$100 each. The prize value applies equally to each grade level. The winner need not be present to win.

Only 200 tickets will be sold for each opportunity drawing. Tickets for both drawings may be purchased at the auction table at morning drop off or the evening of the auction. Remember, there are only a limited number of tickets being sold, don't miss this incredible opportunity!

Free Dress Passes

Free dress passes can be purchased for \$5 each. The free dress days are Tuesday, November 10th and Tuesday, December 1st. Free dress passes are available for purchase at the auction table at morning drop off or the evening of the auction.

Auction Keepsake Portraits

The auction keepsake portraits are still available for purchase. Each keepsake costs a mere \$40 and will be available for purchase the evening of the auction. Please contact Kim Neal at kimneal@mac.com or (949)285-1116 to purchase your child's one-of-a-kind keepsake.

Thank you to our amazing and creative auction committee, we couldn't do it without you.....

Craig Braatz; Peggy Cordero; Jenn de Mahy; Lan Do; Anne Fiorentino; Carolyn Gatcliffe; Jen Gourde; Michelle McDaniel; Maria McNamara; Kim Neal; LeeAnn Neill; Liz Reed; Tracy Ryan; Sonia Saba; Deirdre Seaman; Trisha Smith; Karissa Song; Lynn Tozzer and to all the other moms and dads who have already made an impact on the auction! Thank you, thank you, thank you.....

It is a herculean feat to organize the auction and takes the hands of many people to make it successful. Thank you to everyone who has been involved, especially last year's auction managers, Jen Gourde, Marita Juliano, Teri Schulist and Erin Wacker. We are forever grateful for the guidance you have provided throughout this process.

We Appreciate the Continued Support from Our Generous Sponsors.....

The Royal Court – Mr. and Mrs. Moses Cordova; The Gourde Family; The McCarthy Family

Court Jester – The Saavedra Family

Instrumentalist – JMB Financial Managers

Master of Spirits - Bayardo Insurance Agency; The Saputo Family

Kjewe – American First Credit Union; Harry and Carol Hunold

Benefactor (Sponsor a Teacher) - The Bogart Family; The Brandon Family; The Cardoza Family; The Cervantes Family; The Chu Family; The Vincent & Lan Do Family; The D'Sa Family; The Andre & Tram Duong Family; The Dzung & Van Duong Family (2); The Espiritu Family; The Fiorentino Family; The Guirgis Family (2); The Harrison Family; The Hasset Family; The Holland Family; The Juliano Family; The Kenlein Family (3); The Lamm Family; Michael and Joanne McCarthy; The Nelson Family; The Rapp Family; The Roseberry Family; The Saavedra Family; The Saba Family; The Schulist Family; The Smith Family; The Vaughn Family; The Vazquez Family; The Wacker Family; and The Walz Family

Thank you to all the Benefactor sponsors! We are able to cover the cost related to all faculty and staff attending the auction!

We'll see you at the Ball....