

The    Children's
  Museum




Annual
Gala!



Saturday April 30, 2011

Auction Rules

Bid Numbers

Individual bidding numbers are printed on the back of your program.

Please use only the bidding number assigned to you.

Bidding

Increased bids must meet the minimum increments.

In the event of any dispute, the Auction Coordinator shall have sole and final discretion to determine the winning bid.

Restrictions

All auction sales are final “as is” or “as accepted.”

There are no exchanges or refunds, unless otherwise specified. All services must be used within one year, unless otherwise specified.

All private homes, resort or vacation items are offered to adults and families as described; minors must be accompanied by adults.

The Children’s Museum and the item donor cannot be held responsible for any personal injury or property damage resulting from the use of any auction purchase.

Close of Auction

Once the silent auction closes, no further bids will be accepted. Absentee bids, if any, will be executed by The Children’s Museum. Silent auction winners will be posted at the end of the event

Payment

All items must be paid in full at the event checkout.

Payment may be made with cash, check, Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express.

Deductibility

Only the portion which exceeds the stated value of the item is tax deductible for federal or state income tax purposes. The Children’s Museum encourages you to consult your tax advisor on the correct declaration and deductibility of auction purchases.

Animal Sponsorships

A Unique and Exciting Sponsorship Opportunity

When you sponsor an animal you help provide for the care and feeding of a Children's Museum animal for one year. You may choose to support any of the animals included in our auction. This is a wonderful way for you to help the Museum care for our over 100 rescued animals.

Show your family's support or recognize a child's love of our animals with a sponsorship. Animal sponsors will have their names displayed on a sign in the Animal Sanctuary for a year, starting this summer. There are many different animals to choose from, each with its own name, history, and needs. Pledge your support for your favorite animals at the sponsor board on display at the Museum auction table.

So whether you're thrilled by the bobcat and chinchilla, or fascinated by snakes and lizards, you are sure to find an animal that makes you smile and needs your support.

All gifts received for animal sponsorship are 100% tax deductible.



Wine Wall

An Exciting Experience – A Wall of Wine!

Love wine? Now is your chance to get a fantastic bottle! Simply purchase a keychain for \$20 and pick your bottle off the wall. The wine wall includes bottles with values from \$15 to hundreds of dollars. Any time a bottle over \$50 is chosen, we'll ring a bell just for you! Everyone is a winner!

Wine Wall Donors

Rachel Bader

Matthew Bromberg

Ellie & Peter Claffey

Crazy Bruce's Liquors

Christopher Dadlez

Daly's Corner Package

Dotcom Wine & Spirits

Haight-Brown Vineyards

The Jacobsen Family of Manchester

Rolf Knoll

La Vinothèque

Liquor Depot

Kate & Andrew Matos

Elaine McDonald

Don & Pam Peterson

Linda & David Roth

Jackie Scheib

Stacey Stachow & Scott Perrault

Table & Vine

The Bottle Shop

Trey McPherson

Live Auction

1. The Ultimate LEGO Experience

This will be a day you won't soon forget. One young LEGO fan and his/her parents will get the experience of a lifetime – an exclusive private tour of the LEGO American headquarters. Spend a morning meeting with a world-renowned LEGO Master Builder, from the creators of incredible large scale LEGO models of Star Wars Clone Troopers, Indiana Jones, The White House, the Mark Twain House, and even a Volvo XC90 . . . each model requiring over 100,000 LEGO bricks to build, and currently displayed around the world. You will tour the model shop where amazing LEGO models are conceived and built, and learn about the process of model building while watching the model builders at work. You will have an opportunity to eat lunch at the LEGO Brickyard cafeteria and visit the employee store. (Recommended for children ages 7+. Arrangements will be made directly with the specific contact at LEGO Systems, Inc. to determine a mutually convenient date.)

Value: Priceless

Donor: LEGO Systems, Inc.

2. A Day at Tumble Brook Country Club

Nothing can compare to the spectacular day you and eleven guests will have here at Tumble Brook Country Club. One of Connecticut's most scenic and perfectly maintained courses, it boasts impressive views of Talcott Mountain to the west and downtown Hartford to the south. Begin the day with lunch in the Bistro then head out to your carts to play 27 holes. After taking in the nearly 160 acres of manicured and natural beauty, head back inside for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Conclude your day with exciting cutting edge dinner selections. (Date to be mutually agreed upon)

Value: \$2,200

Donor: Tumble Brook Country Club

3. Winter Get Away to The Green Mountains

Settle into this three bedroom home in Plymouth, Vermont for a week of fun in the snow. This roomy home accommodates up to 10 guests and has snowshoes and cross country skis available. If downhill skiing or snowboarding is your speed, join the action at nearby Okemo Mountain Resort with 2 one day lift passes for the 2011-2012 season. Okemo consistently earns top ratings for snow, family programs, lifts, dining and more. (Dates to be mutually agreed upon, Okemo pass not valid on holidays)

Value: \$1,500

Donors: Bev & Rolf Knoll, Okemo Mountain Resort

4. South African Photo Safari for Two

Six days and six nights of luxury accommodations for two people in the heart of one of the richest wildlife conservation regions in South Africa. You will stay in Hemingway-style tents, Heritage Safari Lodge, Nyati/Ndlovu Lodges, or a Zulu Nyala Lodge and enjoy three meals a day prepared by international chefs. This safari includes two daily open game viewing trips with experienced guides. (Valid for two years from time of purchase. Airfare, phone calls, laundry, personal purchases, transfers, personal beverages, and additional side trips not included. Nontransferable, nonrefundable, and may not be given to any other person or organization or sold in any other manner.)

Value: \$5,000

Donor: Trevor Shaw, Owner & Zulu Nyala Group

5. Participate in a Provencal Vineyard Harvest in Le Barroux France, The Foothills of Mont Ventoux

Two nights for two couples at a Bed & Breakfast in Le Barroux, France, adjacent to the old-world-style Clos de Trias winery. Free pickup in Marseille or Avignon. Pick grapes in the morning with friends and family of the winemaker. Enjoy gourmet outdoor harvest luncheon, tasting the wines of the vineyard. Food prepared by the former owner of the Oslo Restaurant in Stamford. In the afternoon, join us for sorting of the morning harvest or try your hand at some work in the cellar. Enjoy your Provencal supper of salads, soups and cheeses with wine and conversation. Primary (but not the only) language is English. Day two is a repeat of day one with a new menu of locally grown foods. (Schedule between September 25th and October 15th to enjoy the full harvest experience.)

Value: Priceless

Donor: Bill and Marianne Watson

6. Choose Your Hyatt Hotel or Resort North America - 4-Night Package with Airfare for 2

Countless experiences await you, from scenic coastlines and mountain ranges to vast prairies, deserts and canyons. Our country's exciting big cities are matched by the charms of smaller communities. All showcase the heritage and culture of a great nation. Explore your favorite destination in the U.S. or Canada. Enjoy a total of four nights at your choice of participating Hyatt properties. This package includes round-trip coach class service for 2 from any American Airlines destination in the 48 contiguous United States or Canada to anywhere American Airlines flies in the 48 contiguous United States or Canada. (These certificates will be valid one year from date of purchase, subject to availability.)

Value: \$7,700

Donor: Winspire

7. Hyatt Regency London The Churchill 5-Night Stay with Airfare for 2

Enjoy a five-night stay at this 5-star international first class hotel nestled on the picturesque gardens of Portman Square, just meters north of Marble Arch. The hotel is ideally situated in London's West End, close to London's attractions and shopping. The traditional air-conditioned guest rooms feature a custom look. This package includes round-trip coach class service for 2 from any American Airlines destination in the 48 contiguous United States or Canada to London. (Valid one year from date of purchase, subject to availability.)

Value: \$10,914

Donor: Winspire

8. A Week in Nantucket

Spend a week at the Nantucket seashore in this beautifully appointed home within walking distance of serene Cisco Beach. This lovely house sleeps 10 and features exquisite views from the widow's walk and surrounding deck. Get away from it all – but with the amenities of home. (Must be used October 2011 or April or May 2012; Saturday to Saturday; at a mutually agreed upon date)

Value: \$1,500

Donor: Stephen and Anneliese Hrones

9. Luxury Suite for UConn v. Western Michigan Football

Twelve people will enjoy luxury, food, and drink while UConn and Western Michigan duke it out. Enjoy the October 1st game from a luxury box in Rentschler Field. Package includes food and drinks for you and your guests. This is football done right!

Value: Priceless

Donor: Friends of CL&P and Yankee Gas – Northeast Utilities Companies

Silent Auction

PRICELESS

10. Drinks and Dinner with Mayor Slifka

You and a friend will enjoy a wonderful evening of drinks and/or dinner with the mayor of West Hartford at your choice of Shish Kebab House, Besito, or Rizzuto's in West Hartford.

Donor: Mayor R. Scott Slifka

11. Hottest Ride in Town

Your child will get the ride of a lifetime either to or from school in a West Hartford Fire Department fire truck. Have the camera ready; you won't want to miss capturing this moment!

(Available to West Hartford residents only)

Donor: West Hartford Fire Department

12. NBC 30 Studio Tour

You and three friends will get a behind-the-scenes look at the new NBC Studios.

Donor: NBC 30

13. Lunch and Fascinating Conversation with Nancy Wyman, our new Lt. Governor

You and two guests will join Nancy Wyman, Lieutenant Governor, at Peppercorn's Grill in Hartford. This is a great opportunity to get to know Nancy, a mother, grandmother and an influential State leader.

(Date to be mutually agreed upon)

Donors: Nancy Wyman, Peppercorn's Grill

14. Studio Tour of FoxCT

You and three guests can tour the FoxCT studio and The Hartford Courant.

Donor: CT1 Media

15. Meet Mike & Mike

You and three guests will tour the ESPN radio and television stations, see the Mike & Mike Show live, and meet Mike & Mike in person! (Mike and Mike Show from 9-10 AM)

Donor: ESPN in Bristol

16. Guided Walk with Jay Kaplan

Choose a nature or bird walk for up to 10 people. Jay will share his expertise at a property or park of your choosing.

(Date and length of time to be mutually agreed upon.)

Donor: Jay Kaplan & The Children's Museum at Roaring Brook Nature Center

17a, 17b and 17c. Release Your Inner Computer Geek

Build your own themed computer from scratch with The Children's Museum's resident computer geek. Tom Anderson, an A+ certified technician with 15 years experience, will work with you, your child, or both of you together. Complete basic assembly and better understand the functions of your own computer as explained in plain English during the building process. In just about 2 hours you will install and configure the motherboard, CPU, memory, hard drive, DVD, power supply, all cables and connectors, followed by software and driver installation. You'll end up with a super-fast computer featuring a Quad Core Processor, 4gigs of RAM, DVD burner, 1 terabyte hard drive and 450 watt power supply, running a clean Windows 7 Operating system with no extra "anythingware" to slow you down. With Tom's assistance you'll install the new computer, migrate over your old data, and re-connect your existing Internet connection and peripherals. (Includes one year manufacturer's hardware warranty. Exact components may vary based on availability. Best suited for kids aged 8 years and up, and technophobic adults as well.)

Donor: Tom Anderson, The Children's Museum

WINE & DINE

18. Super Wine Tasting

Bring along some munchies and up to 20 of your closest friends and enjoy a private tasting extravaganza in the wine loft. (Select a Wednesday or Thursday evening from 6-7:30)

Value: \$500

Donor: Super Cellar Liquors of Avon

19. Lobster for Six

Enjoy a New England lobster dinner for six at the home of Don and Pam Peterson. Appetizers include shrimp cocktail served with French gimlets. Dinner includes steamed Maine lobster, baked beans, cole slaw, rolls, wine, and desserts. (On a mutually agreeable date)

Value: \$400

Donor: Don and Pam Peterson

20. Wine Tasting at Haight-Brown Vineyard

Haight-Brown Vineyard, Inc. is Connecticut's oldest winery, opening its doors in 1975. The Litchfield vineyard grows 45 –50 tons of grapes per year and produces Vinifera wines and French Hybrid blended wines. You and three friends will taste and learn more about these fabulous wines with tickets to a wine tasting.

Value: \$160

Donor: Haight-Brown Vineyard

21. Dine Around Connecticut

This package is an assortment of gift certificates to restaurants all over the state, including Zocco's Restaurant in Windsor, Treva Restaurant in West Hartford, The Polytechnic ON20 in Hartford, Texas Roadhouse in Manchester, Firebox in Hartford, Esca in Middletown, DISH in Hartford, Carmen Anthony Steakhouse and Butterfly in West Hartford. See what amazing food our state has to offer!

Value: \$455

Donors: Zocco's Restaurant, Treva Restaurant, The Polytechnic ON20, Texas Roadhouse, Firebox, Esca, DISH, Carmen Anthony Steakhouse, Butterfly/Liz Pang

22. Mike and Max

You and four of your friends will enjoy dinner at the fine Max Oyster Bar in West Hartford with the most gregarious member of Lite 100.5's morning team, Mike Stacy. Whether your idea of good dinner conversation is sports or theater, Mike's your man. Mike's brain retains an incredible amount of interesting, yet basically useless, information – by his own admission! He also has a gift for voice impressions. You can count on Mike to put some fun in your mornings and laugh your way through this elegant dinner.

Value: Priceless

Donors: Mike Stacy, Max Restaurant Group

ENTERTAINMENT

23. Music Under The Stars

Settle in for an evening of music under the stars with 2 adult tickets and 3 kids lawn tickets for any 2011 Talcott Mountain Music Festival Concert. Be sure to grab dinner first at Plan B Burger Bar & Tavern with this \$50 gift certificate! (HSO concerts only, redeem at least two weeks prior)

Value: \$115

Donors: Hartford Symphony Orchestra, Plan B Burger Bar & Tavern

24. Pug and Play

Enjoy a delicious dinner at The Corner Pug, West Hartford, where hearty portions prepared to order from the freshest of ingredients and a tempting daily array of blackboard specials are sure to get your evening off to a great start. After dinner, head to TheaterWorks in downtown Hartford to catch a professional off-Broadway production with some heavy drama, like *A Steady Rain or Race*, or lighten the mood with the comedy *The Understudy*.

Value: \$140 (includes \$40 towards dinner - food only- and admission for 2 to one production in TheaterWorks 2011 season)

Donors: The Corner Pug, TheaterWorks

25. Romantic Overnight Out

Send the kids to Grandma's and enjoy a very special night out with your significant other. Start by experiencing *Gem of the Ocean* at Hartford Stage, a tale about a young man's spiritual journey to find a city in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. Discuss the show over dinner at Metro Bis in Simsbury, where you can also talk about the amazing book *Wife of the Chef*. Then, wend your way over to the Marriott Residence Inn – Avon, where you can relax and look forward to a hot breakfast buffet. (Dinner certificate not valid Fridays, Saturdays, and holidays or special events. Does not include alcohol or service charge.)

Value: \$365

Donors: Hartford Stage, Metro Bis, Marriott Residence Inn – Avon, Courtney Febroriello

26. They're Creepy and They're Kooky...The Addams Family

Four orchestra seats to the opening night of *The Addams Family* at The Bushnell on February 21, 2012, plus enjoy a true VIP behind the scenes experience with Load-In and Lunch! Watch the professionals install staging, sets, and more for this fabulous touring production of the Broadway hit.

Value: \$320

Donor: Bob & Frankie Goldfarb

27. Water Lilies and Wine

You and nine of your friends will tour the Wadsworth Atheneum and receive an exhibit catalogue of Monet's Water Lilies. Then, meet up at Gouveia Vineyards for a wine tasting. A day of culture and fun!

Value: \$194

Donors: Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Gouveia Vineyards, Wallingford

28. New Heights in Fun (and Funny!)

You and two friends will reach an entirely new level of fun with three certificates for indoor rock climbing at Stone Age Rock Gym (with gear rental). Then, laugh off the adrenaline at The Funny Bone, where you can see comedians like Paul Mooney and J. Medicine Hat.

Value: \$143

Donors: Funny Bone Comedy Club and Restaurant, Stone Age Rock Gym, both Manchester

29. Westport Country Playhouse

Take someone special to the Westport Country Playhouse to see a performance during their 2011 Mainstage Season. Enjoy a performance of *Beyond Therapy*; *The Circle*, *Lips Together*, *Teeth Apart*; *Suddenly Last Summer*, or *Twelfth Night*, or *What You Will*; (Subject to availability. Cannot be combined with other promotions or offers. Only valid for the 2011 Mainstage Season.)

Value: \$130

Donor: Westport Country Playhouse

30. Roaring Brook Concert Series (Our 32nd Season)

See your favorite Folk artist up close and personal with a pair of tickets at the acclaimed Roaring Brook Concert Series at Roaring Brook Nature Center, Canton. Past artists have included Dave Mallett, Sara Lee Guthrie, and John Gorka. (Valid for the 2011-2012 concert season, available shows can be viewed on the concert website next fall: www.roaringbrookconcerts.org. Tickets may be used for any concert in the series, but reservations must be made at least 48 hours in advance.)

Value: \$50

Donor: Roaring Brook Nature Center, Roaring Brook Concerts

31. Batter Up!

Get into baseball season with this themed serving set, salt & pepper set and spreaders. A must have for the baseball fans in your life!

Value: \$40

Donor: Pfau's Hardware

32. This Show's For You!

Do you love the theater and the Forum? This package is for you! Includes two tickets to a Connecticut Forum during the 2011-2012 season, a \$50 gift certificate to UConn Jorgensen Center of the Performing Arts in Storrs, and four tickets to a showing of *Jesus Christ Superstar* or *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* at the Warner Theater in Torrington. (Some performances and dates excluded or limited)

Value: \$256

Donors: The Connecticut Forum, UConn Jorgensen Center of the Performing Arts, Warner Theater

FOR HER

33. Contours Spa and Wellness

Treat yourself to a European facial, a wash and a style! (Certificate valid Monday-Thursday)

Value: \$105

Donor: Contours Spa and Wellness, Bloomfield

34. Harem Party

Treat your girlfriends to a belly dance performance and lesson in your home. Set the mood with a pomegranate reed diffuser. Then enjoy tea and nibbles from Harney's Teas and Edible Arrangements. It's sure to be an evening your friends won't forget!

(An evening for women only)

Value: \$377

Donors: Belly Dancing by Gia Khalsa, Harney's Teas, Edible Arrangements, Susan Stoppelman

35. Vera Bradley, Very Beach

Enjoy time at the beach in ultimate style with a Vera Bradley small duffle bag to hold all of your necessities. These adorable flip flops will keep your feet fashionable, and this journal was designed just for your private thoughts.

Value: \$107

Donor: Plimpton's

36. Mother's Day - Done!

Pamper that special mother in your life with this package full of things every woman wants. A stylish Vera Bradley Lisa B shoulder bag starts off this package of pampering. Then she can move on to Elizabeth Grady West Hartford for a relaxing Signature Facial and to Fringe Hair Works down the street (within walking distance) for a new 'do. After spending the day pampering herself, she can meet you at Grant's in West Hartford Center for a romantic dinner. After visiting Turgeon Jewelers to pick out something cool and sparkly she can indulge that sweet tooth with a pound of chocolate from Bridgewater Chocolate. (Fringe certificate applies to new clients only)

Value: \$350

Donors: Plimpton's, Elizabeth Grady West Hartford, Turgeon Jewelers, Bridgewater Chocolate, Fringe Hair Works, Grants/Restaurant Bricco

37. New You, New ‘Do

Show your style with this beautiful silk jacket with applique embellishment, and a new hairstyle from Fringe Hair Works in West Hartford Center. (Fringe certificate applies to new clients only)

Value: \$425

Donor: Japanalia Eiko, Fringe Hair Works

38. Amethyst Elegance

This stunning tear-drop amethyst pendant is surrounded by diamonds and set in white gold. A unique chain with bezel-set amethysts sets it off to perfection. No matter your style, this necklace will complement it!

Value: \$1,200

Donor: LaPerla Limited

39. Sweet Tooth & Clean Teeth

Indulge those sweet cravings with this basket of goodies, and then use this Oral B Smart Series 5000 electric toothbrush to erase the evidence. Your dentist will never know.

Value: \$150

Donors: Crest/Oral B, A Little Something Bakery

40. Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

You and your best gal pal can enjoy dinner at Cosi after your both get brand new hair styles at Fringe Hair Works! (Fringe certificate applies to new clients only)

Value: \$74

Donors: Fringe Hair Works, Cosi, both in West Hartford

FOR HIM

41. Man Cave Must Haves

No man cave is complete without a dart board – and this Guinness dart board and cabinet is perfect! You and the guys can hang out, wear these awesome Harpoon Brewery vests, and see who can hit a bull’s eye.

Value: \$300

Donor: Rogo Distributors

42. Honey Do, Moo & a Brew

Bring on the “Honey Do” list, the repairs, and the projects. You can tackle anything with this tool bag of hand tools from Stanley Black & Decker! Then, grab a buddy and head over to Plan B Burger Bar & Tavern for a burger and a beer to celebrate a job well done.

Value: \$350

Donor: Stanley Black & Decker, Plan B Burger Bar & Tavern

43. Thomas Hooker Brewery Tour

You and three pals will get to tour the Thomas Hooker Brewing Company in Bloomfield. Learn how they make their Blonde Ale so delicious!

Value: \$50

Donor: Thomas Hooker Brewing Company

44. Eat, Drink & Be Merry

Try your luck at Mohegan Sun and visit the buffet with this \$40 voucher. Whether you hit the jackpot or leave a few dollars behind, come home and celebrate with this package from Blue Point Brewing Co., including beer, pint glasses and accessories!

Value: \$100

Donor: Blue Point Brewing Co.

45. Sword at Dawn

Okay, so this 4-foot reproduction claymore sword is not for dueling ... but it is cool! Whether you're Scottish or not, this sword would look fantastic in your house!

Value: \$150

Donor: The Olde Burnside Brewing Co., LLC

46. After Dinner Luxury

Once the kids are in bed, light up one of these smooth Jarmoc cigars with Connecticut wrappers and mix up some cocktails with this 3-pack of Limoncello, Cremoncello, Bananacello.

Value: \$200

Donor: Steven and Karen Jarmoc; Peel, "Makers of Fine Liqueurs"

SPORTS & FITNESS

47. Foursome at Tumble Brook Country Club

Round up three friends, take a break from the daily grind, and treat yourself to a foursome at Tumble Brook Country Club. Founded in 1922, the club's 27 holes form one of the state's most enjoyable and perfectly maintained golf courses. It is also one of the most scenic, with impressive views of Talcott Mountain and downtown Hartford. Follow a perfect round with a delicious lunch in the Bistro.

Value: \$600

Donor: Tumble Brook Country Club

48. West Hartford Family Fun

Start your day with a hearty breakfast at Effie's, then sharpen those blades and get ready for a great time at the rink. Veterans Memorial Ice Skating Rink has four admissions and skate rental passes for you. Cool down after skating with a \$25 gift certificate to A.C. Petersen's.

Value: \$90

Donors: Town of West Hartford Veterans Memorial Skating Rink, A.C. Petersen Farms, Effie's Place Restaurant

49. Ballroom Fever!

Join the ballroom dancing craze! Foxtrot, mambo, tango or chacha over to Ballroom Fever in Enfield, CT, for one 45-minute private dance lesson, one 30-minute private dance lesson and two group classes. Then relax at dinner at Agave Grill in Hartford. (Individual or couple)

Value: \$75

Donors: Ballroom Fever Inc., Agave Grill

50. Three Month Membership to Mandell JCC

Enjoy one of the best gyms in the area with this 3-month membership, and do it in style and comfort with these size 9 Air Jordan Air Force One sneakers. (Must be activated before June 30, 2011. Available to individual who was not a JCC member in the past 18 months.)

Value: \$581

Donor: Mandell Jewish Community Center, West Hartford; Nike

51. Green Monster Territory

Experience the All-American game with 4 Loge Box tickets to see the Boston Red Sox take on the Detroit Tigers at Fenway Park on Wednesday, May 18, 2011.

Value: \$396

Donor: NBC 30

52. Dance Like the Stars

Learn to rhumba, waltz and swing with this Introductory Program (4 Private Lessons, 1 Group Class, 1 Dance Party) and an Introductory private lesson. What are you waiting for...Let's Dance!

Value: \$124

Donor: Steps In Time Dance Studio, Canton

53. Extreme Adventure and Healthy Eating in Connecticut

Did you know there is a place in Portland where you can jump off a cliff, ride a zip line, scuba dive, wakeboard and fly down an extreme waterslide? These two Full Adventure day passes will let you and a friend experience this wonder for yourselves! After this exciting day visit It's Only Natural, an award winning vegetarian restaurant in Middletown.

Value: \$81

Donors: Brownstone Exploration Discovery Park, It's Only Natural Restaurant

54. Boston DUCK and Ball

See the sights of Boston in a different way! You and a guest will board a "DUCK," a World War II style amphibious landing vehicle, renovated for sightseeing. Remember your trip past Fenway Park with this baseball autographed by Josh Beckett!

Value: \$64 + priceless baseball

Donors: Boston Duck Tours, Boston Red Sox

55. The Ultimate Red Sox Fan Experience

You and 3 friends arrive at Fenway Park, Gate D one hour before the gates open for the Red Sox - Oakland game on Friday, June 3. Carl Beane, aka The Voice of Fenway Park, will be your personal guide as you go through the Red Sox Hall of Fame, see the field from the Green Monster, get a catcher's eye view from behind home plate and more. After the tour, head over to your bleacher seats behind the Red Sox bullpen and enjoy the game. And that's not all!! Carl will also record a personalized message for your outgoing voicemail. Instead of announcing Big Papi stepping to the plate, your callers will hear "The Voice" announce you!

Value: Priceless

Donors: Carl Beane, Don and Pam Peterson

56. Healthy Body, Healthy Teeth

Get in shape for the summer with this full-service package to New York Sports Club in Blue Back Square. Pack everything you need in this Nike Ultimatum duffle bag! And don't forget to give those teeth and gums a workout with an Oral B Smart Series 5000 electric toothbrush.

Value: \$299

Donors: NYSC, Nike, Crest/Oral B

57. Defense For Your Whole Body

Get your mind and body aligned with one month of martial arts training. Cool down after each session with a Power Smoothie from Robeks.

Value: \$160

Donor: Plus One Defense Systems, Inc., Robeks, both in West Hartford

58. Fred and Effie's

Sure, Fred Astaire is famous for dancing with Ginger Rogers, but given the chance, we know he'd have waltzed his way through this West Hartford landmark. Grab a hearty meal at Effie's Place and then learn the basics of ballroom dancing with two private lessons and one Friday party at Fred Astaire Dance Studio.

Value: \$190

Donor: Fred Astaire Dance Studio; Effie's Place Restaurant, both in West Hartford

59. Connecticut Whale Autographed Game Style Puck & Hartford Wolf Pack Jerseys

A memorabilia treasure trove for the avid hockey fan!

Value: Priceless

Donor: Connecticut Whale, The Children's Museum

60. Ski & Tea

Take a friend to Ski Sundown with two 8-hour lift tickets. Then, stop by the Tea Roses Tea Room to warm up!

Value: \$133 (Passes must be redeemed for the 2011-2012 winter season.)

Donors: Ski Sundown in New Hartford, Tea Roses Tea Room in Cromwell

61. Rooftop Bike Rack

Now, you can take your bike with you wherever you go! This bike rack installs easily and without tools, and doesn't touch the painted surfaces of your bike, Locks to crossbar, and locks bike to rack, easy-to-adjust sliding wheel tray makes positioning the rear wheel a snap, fits round, square and most factory crossbars out of the box.

(Requires 2 SKS lock cores, not included.)

Value: \$150

Donor: Matthew Bromberg

62. Excel at Your Workout

Get that beach body you always wanted with this three-month membership to Excel Fitness in West Hartford, including an initial assessment and two personal training sessions. Keep your gym stuff with you in this Team Training medium duffel bag from Nike! (Must be redeemed within three months of Gala)

Value: \$340

Donors: Excel Fitness, Nike

FOR THE HOME

64. Simon Pearce Woodbury Clock

Simon Pearce's popular Woodbury line of glassware is renowned for its clean, simple designs and inviting usability. The Woodbury Clock exemplifies the characteristics of the entire collection. Each piece is handcrafted by the experienced artists of Simon Pearce, using only premium, lead-free glass. Fixed in a refined and basic glass block, the piece boasts a handsome and understated presence.

Value: \$95

Donor: Lux Bond & Green

65. Dan Lasser Serving Bowl

Ceramic artist Dan Lasser is known for his edgy, eye-catching style so full of life. Bring a little of that into your home with this gorgeous handmade and hand painted serving bowl. This piece is food safe, microwaveable, oven- and dishwasher-safe.

Value: \$85

Donor: LCR

66. Sports-Themed Area Rug

Perfect for any sports fanatic's décor! This 5x7 area rug features the logo and colors of a professional team. It's sure to be a winner!

Value: \$225

Donor: McBride Carpet

67. Natach Designs

Artist Natalia Brenson will create a customized 24" x 36" children's painting to your specifications, perfect for enhancing your home's kid-friendly space.

Value: \$300

Donor: Natach Designs

68. Plate Du Jour

Brighten up any table with these beautiful serving dishes that are also completely oven and dishwasher safe! Take the look even further with this matching pitcher.

Value: \$170

Donor: Plate Du Jour

69. Sandy Welch Art

Bring the bold colors and abstract style of Sandy Welch into your home with this framed print of Sunday Afternoon, Old Lyme.

Value: \$500

Donor: Sandy Welch Art

70. Lathe Love

This gorgeous pecan wood bowl and pen were both turned on a lathe! These are truly one-of-a-kind items!

Value: \$70

Donor: Steven Bader

71. “Peace” by Renee Hartshorn

Original painting of a dove holding an olive branch. Acrylic on canvas.

Value: \$125

Donor: Renee Hartshorn

72. “Dragonfly” by Renee Hartshorn

Original abstract painting of a dragonfly in blues, golds and greens.

Value: \$130

Donor: Renee Hartshorn

73. Kid’s Room Clutter? Not a Problem!

Get professional advice about organizing any room in your house, including your kid’s room or playroom. Once everything is in its place, add a little something special to the room with these dinosaur wall graphics!

Value: \$268

Donors: All In Its Place; Fathead LLC

74. Stylish Cooking Has Never Been Easier!

This hand-painted Polish ceramic pottery bowl is dishwasher safe, oven safe, microwave safe and freezer safe so you can cook and serve in the same piece! Less clean up, more style.

Value: \$148

Donor: Wooden-it-be-Nice, Inc.

FOR THE FAMILY

75. Horseback Riding Lessons

Six lesson package at Avon Valley Show Stables for you or your budding equestrian. Lessons are available for beginner through advanced levels. All of the fun of having a pony, and none of the mess!

Value: \$255

Donor: Avon Valley Show Stables

76. Bumblebug Your Little Artist

Let your little artist shine with this gift certificate for a class series from Bumblebug Art. Courses like “Creative Story & Movement,” “Messy Art” and “Petite Picassos” offer a great chance for them to express themselves! Look forward to more artwork for your refrigerator!

Value: \$100

Donor: Bumblebug Art in West Hartford

77. Kids’ Pizza Party

Your kids and their friends can dig into all of the pizza or pasta and beverages they can eat at Naples Kids Pizza Party for 15 kids and 4 adults. Even better...kids 6 years and older can make their own pizza! (Mutually agreed upon date and time; no Fridays, must begin before 12:00 pm)

Value: \$150

Donor: Naples Pizza in Farmington

78. Kanani Doll from American Girl

Meet Kanani Akina, the 2011 Girl of the Year. Kanani’s storybook tells of her love for her town’s beautiful beaches, tropical sunsets, fun luaus, and Aloha Spirit—a desire to welcome and care for others with an open heart. Through Kanani, girls will discover that everyone can make life better for someone else. (For girls 8 and over)

Value: \$100

Donor: American Girl

79. Connecticut History for The Family

Experience the rich history this state has to offer with this fun and educational package. Ride on the Essex Steam Train and Riverboat. Tour the Hill-Stead Museum and see works by renowned French Impressionists, including Claude Monet and Edgar Degas. Visit the Mark Twain House, where *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* was created. Spend a year enjoying the treasures of the New Britain Museum of American Art. Learn even more about the history of our fine state at The Connecticut Historical Society.

Value: \$281

Donors: Essex Steam Train and Riverboat, Hill-Stead Museum, Mark Twain House & Museum, New Britain Museum of American Art, The Connecticut Historical Society

80. Space Birthday Party: The Final Frontier

Make your little astronaut’s big day special with a space themed birthday party. Celebrate with a birthday party at The Children’s Museum, a planetarium show, cake, pizza, invitations and thank you cards. Go ahead, reach for the stars!

Value: \$250

Donors: The Children’s Museum, Ellie & Peter Claffey

81. I Spy a Wonderful Collection

Creativity and imagination will soar with this complete set of *I Spy* and *Can You See What I See?* books signed by creator Walter Wick.

Value: \$210

Donor: Walter Wick and Linda Cheverton Wick

82. Foursome to The Children Museum's Cup Miniature Golf Tournament

Join the fun with this foursome to the 2nd Annual Children's Museum Cup at Blue Fox Walk Miniature Golf Course on September 10, 2011. With 18 holes of miniature golf for your family, lunch, ice cream and hands-on science demonstrations, it will be a day you won't want to miss!

Value: \$80

Donor: The Children's Museum

83. Naturalist In The Making

Inspire your little nature lover with this basket of goodies from Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton. Pique their interest with a gift certificate toward a Summer Discovery Program at the Nature Center. Let them examine nature up close with this butterfly net, and learn what they are seeing with these track and bird guides. This Roaring Brook Nature Center t-shirt is made for getting dirty while exploring the wonders of the natural world!

Value: \$125

Donor: Roaring Brook Nature Center Auxiliary

84. Spend a Week in America's Home Town

Enjoy a summer or fall week in Plymouth, Massachusetts, "America's Home Town." You will spend Saturday through Saturday in a three-bedroom, two-bathroom cottage with all conveniences of a new beach home including dishwasher, washer/dryer and outside shower. The cottage sleeps eight. Steps from private Priscilla Beach, you can spend an entire day relaxing in the sun, exploring the beach's jetties, and digging for clams during low tide. There are plenty of beach chairs and towels at the property for your crowd! (Summer or fall week to be mutually agreed upon)

Value: \$1,500

Donor: Gina Federico Muslim & Adnaan Muslim

85. Young Teen Reading

Encourage the young teen in your life to enjoy the world of reading with *Okay For Now*, and abridged versions of *Call of the Wild* and *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*.

Value: \$30

Donor: Barnes & Noble at Blue Back Square

86. Pamper Your Pooch

Doesn't your furry best friend deserve a special treat? With this basket of dog treats and products, plus these Natural Dog Treats, Spot will roll over, sit, and stay to show how much he loves you!

Value: \$110

Donor: Mama's Little Bake Shop, Rain Dog Treats

87. Olive the Little Woolly Bugger

Now those who love the sport of fly-fishing can share it with the children in their lives through these wonderful children's books about fly-fishing. Featuring eye-catching illustrations, delightful dialogue and kid-friendly facts, Olive the Woolly Bugger will make a big splash with fly-fishing fans everywhere. Also, you can help stock the young fly-fishing enthusiast with \$100 in gift certificates to Orvis in Avon.

Value: \$130

Donor: Orvis

88. Creative Kids

Foster your child's imagination with this fantastic package that includes a family four pack to a Hartford Children's Theatre Main Stage Performance during the 2010-2011 season, gift certificates to Build-A-Bear Workshop, a backpack full of items from Rainforest Café, and a beading class at Sugarbeads. Imagination has no limits!

Value: \$130

Donors: Sugarbeads, Rainforest Café – West Hartford, Hartford Children's Theatre, Build-A-Bear Workshop

89. Winding Trails for the Family

Take a family ski trip to Farmington, CT! That's right, in the heart of the Farmington Valley 350 acres of pristine woodland; lakes and wildlife provide a gorgeous setting for the Cross Country Ski Center. See it for yourself with this package for a family of four, but be sure to stop by Dick's Sporting Goods first!

Value: \$136

Donors: Winding Trails, Inc., Dick's Sporting Goods

90. Newborn Necessities

A basket of baby items that will make the life of any new mommy a bit easier. Here are all the essentials she needs, but doesn't know she needs! Includes a variety of baby care items from Q-tips to bubble bath, laundry care items for those inevitable "accidents," tried and true feeding time accessories, and some toys and books just for the fun of it. And for tummy time or those afternoon catnaps, keep baby cozy with two handmade fleece blankets. Makes a great baby shower gift!

Value: \$170

Donors: Phyllis Just, Katie and Mark Berube

91. Birthday Party at Roaring Brook Nature Center

Treat your young naturalist to a birthday party at Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton. The 2 hour party includes an hour with our naturalist, the birthday child's choice of 2 animals to introduce to their guests, and a walk along the trails. The second hour is yours for whatever you would like: games, presents, pizza, and cake! This package includes cake and pizza. (Appropriate for ages 3 and up, maximum of 20 children. Date and time to be mutually agreed upon. Not valid July or August.)

Value: \$195

Donor: Roaring Brook Nature Center, Stop & Shop - Elmwood

92. Jump or Snuggle

Help your little angels burn off some energy this summer with this jump pass to Jump Zone in Canton (good for 6 Open Play visits). On rainy days, keep them warm and occupied with these cuddly fleece blankets and Exago board game, and munch on snacks with this great package.

Value: \$172

Donors: Jump Zone, Canton; Phyllis Just, Kiddly Winks, Inc., Farmington Bank

93. A Week of Summer Exploration at The Children's Museum Preschool

Calling all children ages 4, 5 and 6 looking for a play-based, exciting, hands-on program! The Children's Museum Preschool Summer Exploration program has classes that will keep your preschooler busy, engaged and learning, including "Jungle Fever", "Junior Dinosaur Explorers" and "Pirates and Princesses." (Program runs June 27 – August 19, 2011, Monday – Friday, 9 am – 12:30 pm)

Value: \$180

Donor: The Children's Museum Preschool

94. A Week of Summer Science Camp at The Children's Museum

Your budding scientist will love 5 full days of Summer Science, where they can learn about chemistry, caring for animals, engineering and nature! (Program runs June 27 – August 26, 2011. For children entering grades 1 – 6 in the fall)

Value: \$345

Donor: The Children's Museum

95. Rhode Island Getaway

An hour-and-a-half from Hartford, at the mouth of Narragansett Bay, sits the Town of Narragansett, home to "The Best Town Beach in New England." Minutes from the Block Island Ferry and near several beaches is a lovely three bedroom, recently updated vacation home (not a rental property), which can be yours for 4 nights. Sleeps eight comfortably. Includes outdoor and indoor shower, washer & dryer, wireless internet and use of beach pass, bikes, beach gear.

Value: \$1,500

Donor: Steven and Karen Jarmoc

96. Florence Griswold Museum

Visit the home of American Impressionism with this package including 4 passes, a canvas tote, and a pencil.

Value: \$55

Donor: Florence Griswold Museum

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

97. You, Organized!

Get organized with a \$75 gift certificate toward one hour of organizing services and a \$50 gift card to Bob's Discount Furniture.

Value: \$125

Donor: An Orderly Space, Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation

98. Patty Swanson Photography

There is no better way to capture life's milestones than through photographs. Choose from a studio or on-location portrait session and receive an 11x14 mounted image of your likeness signed by award-winning photographer Patty Swanson, PPA certified. (Frame not included, additional fee for on-location session beyond 25 miles outside West Hartford)

Value: \$400

Donor: Patty Swanson Photography

99a, 99b and 99c. We Care Computer Gift Bag

Take care of those computer “bugs” once and for all with this bag of wonders. Includes a mouse pad, pen, pad of paper and a \$100 gift certificate toward a service call. (Limit one gift certificate per person)

Value: \$100

Donor: We Care Computers

101. Eric Wallis Photography

Make today’s moments tomorrow’s memories with this sitting from Eric Wallis. Includes a complimentary photo session along with a free 8x10 print of your choice. (Eric is also our photographer this evening!)

Value: \$250

Donor: Eric Wallis Photography

102. The Path to College

Know a soon-to-be high school grad that needs help with the college process? This certificate for six hours of college process consulting is perfect for him or her! The Path to College will guide you through the college search and making choices, filling out applications, brainstorming college essay topics, testing timeline and registrations and so much more!

Value: \$600

Donor: The Path to College, LLC

103. Everyday Art

A professional printer will take your digital photo and print it on an 11 x 17 canvas (gallery wrapped). It’s your chance to make an everyday object into art for your home! (Crunch Graphix also printed our signs for this evening!)

Value: \$200

Donor: Crunch Graphix

FROM OUR VAULT

This is a unique opportunity to take home a piece of history by claiming one of these treasures from the Museum’s vault.

104. Charter Oak Lithograph by D.W. Kellogg & Co.

Bring the legend of the Charter Oak into your home or office with this beautiful framed lithograph.

Value: \$350

105. Framed Reproduction Painting by Richard Ellis

Richard Ellis is one of America's leading marine conservationists, and is generally recognized as the foremost painter of marine natural history subjects in the world. His paintings of whales have appeared in Audubon, National Wildlife, Australian Geographic, the Encyclopedia Britannica, and numerous other national and international publications.

Value: \$150

106. Kane Brick Mold

This brick mold from the Connecticut Brick Company will add a touch of nostalgia to any room.

Value: Priceless

107. Stone Pigeon

This stone pigeon will add historical elegance to your garden or outdoor space.

Value: Priceless

108. Mortar & Pestle

Perfect for any garden décor!

Value: Priceless

109a and 109b. Carved Wooden Benches

Two carved wooden benches with storage in the seats, of potential historic interest. Each is one of a kind and will add distinction to your home. Bench A, ornately carved with chivalric images, 4 feet wide and almost 1.5 feet deep. The seat is 1'4" high, and the back rises another foot and a half above the seat. Bench B, simple lines, 6 feet wide, just over 1 ½ feet deep, with a seat height of almost 1'9". The back extends 1 foot higher than the seat. (Measurements approximate. Sold as is.)

Value: Priceless

110. Don Sineti Drawing – Beluga Whale

These are five original and signed drawings by Don Sineti - folksinger, songwriter, part-time sea chantey man at historic Mystic Seaport and award-winning marine mammal illustrator with a number of prestigious exhibitions and books to his credit. Internationally acclaimed for his accurate portrayals of marine mammals, Don has had showings of his work at the United Nations, Indiana University, and at a number of museums and galleries. He helped to design Conny, the well-known landmark on our property.

Value: Priceless

111. Don Sineti Drawing – Humpback Whale

112. Don Sineti Drawing – Right Whale #1

113. Don Sineti Drawing – Right Whale #2

114. Don Sineti Drawing – Right Whale #3

BASKETS

115. Kids Cooking

See what delicious creations little hands can create!

Donors: Preschool Families – 4A Class

116. Geocaching in CT

An exciting new hobby that allows you to combine your love of technology with nature and exploration. Geocaching is a world-wide scavenger hunt using GPS technology.

There are caches (treasures) hidden all over the world, with many in West Hartford!

Donors: Preschool Families – 4A Class

117. Wine & Cheese Picnic Basket

Everything you need for a peaceful picnic.

Donors: Preschool Families – PreK Class

118. Beach Blast

Enjoy a day at the beach this summer with these essential supplies.

Donors: Preschool Families – 3 / 4 AM Class

119. Tailgate Basket featuring NFL Tickets

Tailgate like a pro with these supplies, then see the pro's play with two tickets to the NY Giants! (Game to be mutually agreed upon with ticket holder)

Donors: Preschool Families – 3's Class

120. Patio & Barbecue Basket

Outdoor entertaining at its best.

Donors: Preschool Families – 4B Class

121. Italian Cooking Basket

Say buona sera to authentic Italian cooking.

Donors: Preschool Families – 3A Class

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the
children's
museum

Where Science and Nature Are Fun