

Online auction is... Bidding For Good!

Every item offered at the Spring Gala Silent Auction can be viewed in advance online. This is possible via our partnership with BiddingForGood, formerly called cMarket. This is an on-demand, online auction platform solely for organizations engaged in fundraising for nonprofit causes. The BiddingForGood network brings together participating charity auctions in one place, making it possible for people all over the country to view, bid on and purchase items from our silent auction. Last year, one of the premier silent auction items offered was won and purchased by a bidder from out of state! Our participation in Bidding For Good increases visibility and profitability for Audubon.

We are looking for people to help us! We are seeking individuals who enjoy creative writing and who can help describe auction items to increase their appeal, as well as a few tech-savvy people who can manage and upload images via batch to the BiddingForGood website. Either job would occur over a two month time frame with a weekly time commitment of about 1-2 hours/week for the writing job; less than that for the photo uploading job. The work can be completed from home or a location of your choice as passwords allow access to our site remotely.

If you are interested, please contact Kathy Argentar at boilerkha@yahoo.com.

Portrait of a Spring Gala 2010 Volunteer

The volunteer we'd like to talk about is someone you see everyday at Audubon. A parent dropping off and picking up children just like you do. They always seem to have a smile or even a wave 'hello'. They hold open the door for you and your children as you rush into school just before the morning bell. You see them at school assemblies or on report card pick-up day. They have a busy life and still find time to help out in the classroom, chaperone a class field trip or attend an LSC meeting. They might live in Roscoe Village or in a neighborhood nearby. They care about Audubon, the students, teachers and community. They care about the future.

The volunteer we are describing is YOU! Please consider becoming a volunteer for the Spring Gala 2010.

Contact Sarah Levens at r.levens@att.net or stop any of the members and let them know you'd like to be that volunteer!

THANK YOU!



AUDUBON SPRING GALA NEWS

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SPECIAL HOLIDAY EDITION

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Welcome

Welcome to the Audubon Spring Gala Newsletter,

December 2009 Issue.

Thanks to everyone who read and responded to the November issue of the Spring Gala Newsletter! Gala Team Members have enjoyed meeting many of you as a result of the *Meet the 2010 Team* article printed last month. We continue to look forward to hearing from anyone who would like to be involved with the Gala. Volunteer positions are available in a wide range of categories; choose a volunteer position that best suits your time availability and interests. Not only will your assistance be greatly appreciated, you'll also meet and work with energetic, creative and fun people toward a great cause!

SAVE THE DATE!

Only 4 months until the 4th Annual Spring Gala 2010!

“FEATHERS & FEDORAS”

Saturday
April 24th
2010

Take a step back in time to the glamour and glitz of the 1920's at the beautiful

Pazzo's Restaurant
311 S. Wacker Drive
Chicago

In this issue of the newsletter we are thrilled to share with you some exciting new details about the Gala event and an update on silent and live-auction items, contributors, parent parties, Bidding for Good (formerly c-Market) and the portrait of a gala volunteer.

Our goal is to pull together in our efforts by utilizing the talents and abilities of our school community to celebrate the hard work and commitments of the many whose contributions make Audubon School one **that believes that all children should have access to high quality programs and a belief in integration and inclusion.**

I encourage everyone to join us. Let's make the Audubon Spring Gala 2010 a night to celebrate our children, our school and our community! Contact me at r.levens@att.net for more information.

With best wishes,
Sarah Levens
Chair, Spring Gala, 2010

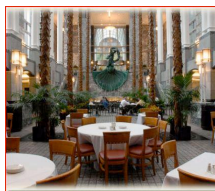
Gala event details.....

The Spring Gala Site Co-Chairs, Allie Lippert and Susan Gust have selected a wonderful location for the 2010 Gala. The Gala will be held at **Pazzo's Restaurant**, 311 S. Wacker Drive which features a distinct 1920's flare and sets the stage beautifully for a very special evening.

Don't miss the amazing venue and décor, exciting games, silent-auction items, the wine-o-rama, amusements, classroom art projects, the giving tree, glitzy-glamour and fun. Gala attendees will enjoy a sumptuous selection of gourmet foods, refreshments, specialty cocktails and a decadent dessert and coffee bar.

The highlight of the evening will be the **live-auction** when attendees have the chance to bid against one another for incredible one-of-a-kind items and experiences. Come prepared to bid and be a part of the lively live-auction excitement! All proceeds benefit the school.

BRING A GUEST or two or three! This is a fantastic opportunity to invite grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors and friends to an event that demonstrates what makes our school community so unique.



The big question.....

What is the Gala and why is it such a big deal?

The Audubon Spring Gala is Friends of Audubon's (FoA) signature fundraiser each year. This is the 4th year for the Gala and your participation is greatly appreciated. Proceeds from the Gala enable achievement of the school's vision: *that every student will have a clear understanding of their own strengths and passions for learning, allowing each child to identify and pursue his or her individual goals.*

The Gala fundraiser makes achievement of this vision possible with your financial assistance through event sponsorship, in-kind donations, admission fees, silent and live auction proceeds, and raffle ticket sales.

Money from the event helps pay to reduce class sizes, increase the use of technology, provide for additional staff development, and enhance curricular materials. Your generosity is how we sustain these vital needs.

Auction Team update

Our search for donations of special items that make the silent or live auction exciting and magical is off to a great start. The auction team, headed by Alison Beitzel and Noreen Hardgrove, has been very productive but there is still much to do. Perhaps YOU can help! Many of the items the team is looking for are contributed by someone like you. Please take a moment to look over the suggestions listed below. Perhaps you or someone you know can contribute an item, activity or experience to the Gala silent and live auctions.

Host a party or teach someone a valuable skill. Donate adult or children's theatre tickets or professional sporting events tickets. Passes or memberships to zoos, museums or health clubs. Tickets for /or an appearance on a TV show. Create a themed package or contribute a unique single item. Ornamental art work or sports memorabilia, vacation rental, airline tickets, hotel rewards, restaurant certificates, spa certificates are all items that will be auctioned to raise money at the Spring Gala.

JOIN US! We are looking for more volunteers to join the Auction Committee to assist us. Job duties include soliciting donations from individuals as well as various local business some of who may have donated in the past and new sponsors who might consider making a donation for the first time.

Contributions and YOUR connections are key to making this year's Gala a success!

Please contact Alison Beitzel at Alison.beitzel@ubs.com or 773-315-8253 if you are interested in joining the Auction Committee.

Many thanks.....

Each month we will highlight some of the wonderful items and activities that have been contributed to the Spring Gala 2010. These are just a few of the amazing packages that will be auctioned at the Gala on Saturday, April 24th! Many thanks to the following families who have generously donated to the Live and Silent Auction for the Spring Gala 2010!

Thank you:

The Pramenko Family

Master's Golf Package

The Wharton Family

Chicago Cubs Baseball Tickets

The Greene Family

Chicago Bears and Blackhawks Tickets

The Schwartz Family

Dinner with the Principal Event

The Schweitzer Family

Louisiana Shrimp Boil Party

The Lippert Family

Spring Has Sprung Kids Party