

Slavens school Silent & Live Auction 2010

Dear Kindergarten Families:

We hope you and your children had a great fall break and are enjoying your time here at Slavens so far this year. Welcome!

It's been a busy fall semester and we hope you have had a chance to attend the 8th grade carnival, a PTA meeting and the revision meeting for Slavens. These events and meetings are just part of the reason Slavens is a great place for kids and families. And if you haven't noticed by now, it is our community that makes all this happen. If you are a returning family, then you know the important role that fundraising plays in the success of our school. All of the funds raised each year directly benefit your child and without them many of our special programs such as music, drama and gym would be cut. But did you also know that the funds raised at the spring auction are primarily used to pay the salaries of our para-professional staff? Without the money raised at this event, these positions would be eliminated thus creating a high teacher-student ratio. How can you become involved? Join the Slavens Auction Committee!!

Attached you will find a list of frequently asked questions about this event and our committee. Without parents, new and old, we simply cannot make the auction a reality. It takes all of us making a small contribution to make the event a success. Never helped with an auction before - here's your chance! Have computer expertise - we need you! Love to decorate - we have a whole committee for that, too! Our team roster is not nearly full and we need you.

So please join us and become part of the team by attending our next meeting: Tuesday, November 17th at 7:00pm at Hacienda Colorado (Colorado Blvd. and Mexico)

The 2010 Auction Committee Chairs
Shelly Whitney whiteny3000@msn.com
Kelli Billman billmans4@msn.com
Stacey Tabor staceytabor@yahoo.com

p.s. Can't attend the meeting? Just send us an e-mail and we will get you started!

Frequently Asked Questions

About the Slavens Auction

The Slavens Auction is an essential part of the funds raised for our school. Too often there are questions about this event that everyone has, but perhaps haven't been answered. We'd like to share some of these questions, past and present, along with the answers. Please feel free to ask us about anything else you may be wondering about, too!

"How will auction proceeds be used?"

The majority of proceeds will be used to maintain our teaching staff levels. Remaining funds will pay for Everyday Math items, technology, tutoring, classroom libraries, curriculum and staff development, Middle School enrichment, character education and more. Without these funds, we would have to eliminate all of our para-professionals and even some of the specials that make our school a great place for kids.

"Couldn't we make the auction a free event at the school?"

Although a school event is possible, there actually isn't a location within the school that could accommodate all the parents and all of the auction items. An off-site event is also a chance for all of us to get together in a social atmosphere to celebrate and support our school as a community. The PTA does a great job throughout the year providing free school events. All you have to do is come!

"Could the auction be less expensive or can we lower the ticket price?"

For the past ten years, event costs have remained virtually the same. In an economy with rising food costs, an event that costs only \$50 per person is almost unheard of. Many gains have also been made in reducing overall costs such as the donation of liquor, a reduction in venue cost at the Cable Center and in-house printing of the auction catalog. Ticket prices cover the cost of the event including food, venue, decorating and printing. Lowering the ticket prices would mean adding to our expenses and that would mean less funding for our kids.

"What are teacher donations?"

Because our teachers believe in our kids, they generously support the Slavens auction by donating their time and even show-casing their talents. From office assistant for the day to a hike with a teacher to an original work of art, these popular items and outings are a great way to get some special one on one time with teachers and students. These will be available to bid on at the Pep Rally (see below). Thanks teachers and staff!

"Is there a way to participate even if I am not planning on attending the event?"

Absolutely! You can donate items, help with decorating and set-up, be a corporate sponsor, work with teacher donations, and much more. We need each family to help gather donated items for our

silent and live auction. Be creative... you may have a "knack" for baking... offer a batch of cookies a month for three months, donate to plant flowers or wash a car! Think of what you may find valuable. It doesn't have to cost money just maybe time!

"The auction is so time consuming and isn't the auction committee already filled?"

No way! Year after year, it takes the support of all parents old and new to make the auction happen. Yes, there are lots of parents who have worked on the committee year after year, but it is essential for new parents to get involved to keep the event fresh and focused. The time commitment is up to you as we have lots of jobs big and small. With everyone doing a little, the work load can be light for everyone! **Next Auction Meeting: Tuesday November 17th, 2010 @ Hacienda Colorado (Colorado and Mexico)**

We hope these FAQ's will eliminate any questions that might be out there. We welcome you participation and support. Be a part of the team and remember.....

The Slaven's 2010 Auction Committee Chairs

Shelly Whitney whitney3000@msn.com

Kelli Billman billmans4@msn.com

Stacey Tabor staceytabor@yahoo.com

Slavens Auction

Donation Ideas:

- One week at your condo/townhome in the Mountains
- Vet for a day!
- Vacation Stays
- Hotel vouchers
- Restaurant gift certificates
- Store gift certificates
- A round of golf or several rounds at your private golf club
- Sports tickets or boxes at a sporting event
- Host a theme party with your friends
- Cater a dinner
- Donate a great bottle of wine for our wine cellar auction item
- Professional services such as orthodontics, landscaping, painting, tax or legal services
- Babysitting vouchers
- Ballet, theater or Opera tickets
- Grocery store gift certificates
- Spa treatments such as a pedi/mani, facial, or hair cut and style
- Vouchers at your favorite kids store
- Airline tickets
- Themed gift baskets
- Hand crafted items such as jewelry, purses, scarves
- Art

Slavens school Silent & Live Auction₂₀₁₀

Dear Merchant,

On Saturday, April 24, 2010, Slavens will hold its 12th annual Dinner and Auction at the DU Cable Center. It's our biggest fundraiser of the year, and we hope you will help us make this year's auction the most successful ever! Proceeds will help continue the work that has made Slavens a hallmark for parental and community involvement in public schools. Previous auction funds were used to purchase books and instructional materials, redesign our school library, provide for curriculum development and enhance our academic programs in reading, writing and math.

The majority of proceeds from this year's event will be used to *maintain our teaching staff levels* in response to continual budget cuts implemented by Denver Public Schools. Remaining funds will help with capital for gymnasium improvements, math and science materials, after-school tutoring, classroom libraries and expanding paraprofessional support. A portion of all proceeds also go to the Denver Public Schools Foundation which benefits all DPS schools.

Slavens School is currently seeking contributions for both the Silent and Live Auctions. In years past, donations have included merchandise, vacation and travel opportunities, restaurant certificates, spa packages, professional services, and tickets to entertainment, cultural and sporting events. All contributions will be gratefully acknowledged in our auction program and prominently displayed at the event. Attached you will find a donation form and arrangements can be made for pick-up of your donation at your convenience.

We hope we can count on you to be a part of this important event. Support from community members like you has helped create an extraordinary learning environment at Slavens School. Please consider a contribution today!

Thank you,

Slavens Auction committee
Stacey Tabor, Kelli Billman and Shelly Whitney (co-chairs)

*Slavens School PTA is a 501(c)(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.
Contributions must be received by February 13, 2009 to be listed in our auction program.*
Slavens School 3000 South Clayton Street Denver, Colorado 80210