



Why Get Donations for Auction?

What does auction do for my child?

Auction proceeds directly benefit every PS 9 student. One of our two main fundraisers, auction secures full-day teaching assistants in each K-5 class, cutting the student to teacher ratio in half. This gives students and teachers a greater capacity to focus, manage time efficiently, and be nimble during instruction. No other school in the area has full-day assistant teachers in every grade. Additionally, the proceeds provide your child with enrichment programs like Spanish, chess, art, music, and a librarian.

What if I don't go to auction?

First of all - you *should* come to auction because it's a party and you deserve it. But irrespective of your attendance, **your solicitation of at least two (2) donations per child** shows your personal commitment to your child's higher quality public education. The more donations for auction, the more possibilities for your child's academic life at PS 9.

I'm not comfortable soliciting. How can I do it and not feel stress?

Start with businesses and services you frequent (gym, restaurant, coffee shop, boutique shop, nail salon) and email your child's camp and after-school activities. You support them and now they can support you! Ask your friends who do something cool if you can get a tour of their business or a related item/service.

What do I say?

You need a pitch! Assume that they want to support the community. Share not only how important their donation is, but how it is mutually beneficial. We have examples of what say or write here: [<http://ps9.org/auction>].

What do I do with the donation form and solicitation letter?

There are paper and electronic versions of both. When requesting a donation in person, hand the donation form and solicitation letter to the potential donor. If emailing a donor, attach these links in an email: [<https://parentsofps9.ejoinme.org/donations>, <http://ps9.org/wp-content/uploads/ps9-auction-donation-letter.pdf>.] Kindly ask the donor to include details in the item's description (i.e., the Who, What, When, Where, and How of the item.) Don't forget your child's name and class number on the donation form! Either write it on the paper donation form before giving it to the donor or note it in your email.

Where do I hand in the completed donation form?

If the donor fills in the online form, how do I get credit?

For the paper forms, there is a drop box (with "The 80's at 9" logo on it) in PS 9's main office. If the donor fills it out online, you may email us to make sure that we know you obtained the donation.

Where do I get more information on how to solicit?

- Speak with the guys who have done it! Contact Jen and Lauren at auctiondonations@ps9parents.org.
- Contact your class auction representative - he/she can point you in the right direction.