



Bigelow Middle School PTO Spring Fundraiser and Parent Social

The Bigelow Speakeasy

May 14, 2016

February 2016

Dear Bigelow Parents and Guardians:

Planning for Bigelow Middle School's biggest fundraiser of the year is underway and we would really appreciate your support! Funds raised from this event support many curriculum enriching programs such as the Creative Arts and Sciences Program, scholarships for students, classroom supplies for teachers, and the purchase of gym and technology items that are not covered by the public school budget.

The Bigelow Speakeasy, a 1920's inspired evening, will take place on Saturday, May 14th at The Commander's Mansion in Watertown. There will be a silent auction where guests can place bids on donated services and items. **This is where YOU can help!!** The Silent Auction is a very popular piece of our Spring Fundraiser. Bigelow has a fantastically diverse and gifted community of parents. Amongst the 450 families at the school, we have an incredible network of business contacts and a wealth of parents or family members with professional, artistic or sporting talents and skills. Please would you help us make our silent auction exciting, varied and successful by either reaching out to your contacts to obtain an item or service, or by offering an experience that is unique to you or your family?

So what sort of items could you donate or seek out from others?

Always popular are gift certificates - restaurants, shops, spas, service providers (car-wash, pet care, health and wellness, movie theaters etc). Businesses can benefit from donating their products/services through not only extending their network of clients but also through the publicity and promotion that we will provide to all companies that donate.

So what sort of skills or talents could you or a family member personally offer?

Professional services

Can you offer a certain number of hours that you would provide your professional services to another parent or family? You may be a painter, handyperson, decorator, interior designer, landscape designer, tutor, home organizer to name a few.

Chefs or skilled home cooks

How about donating a meal for a dinner party? A monthly dessert for 6 months? A beautiful birthday cake for a special occasion? Some homemade freezable dishes unique to your cultural heritage?

Musical talents

How about a number of singing or instrument lessons? A performance?

Do you love animals?

How about pet sitting or walking services?

Art work

Could you or a family member donate a piece of art?

Do you know a local celebrity?

They could come to a party or donate time to an event.

Signed memorabilia

Do you have any signed sporting memorabilia or signed photos of famous people?

Sporting skill

Are you an expert in a certain sport? You could run a soccer, tennis or football clinic for a group of kids.

Host a party

Would you be prepared to host a party in your home? It could be a dinner party, or a cocktail party with a speaker, or a wine or beer tasting party? You would decide the maximum number of guests

Tour of your place of work

How about offering kids or parents the opportunity to tour your place of work? Let them see "behind the scenes". Maybe you work at a fire or police station, or at a hospital or university, at a theater or an animal facility, or a TV or radio station?

Share your talents

Could you teach a group of children (or parents) a specific skill? For example, voice coaching, CV writing, woodworking, painting, juggling, presentation skills

Do you have a vacation home?

How about a weekend or a week's stay in your vacation home?

Do you have a pool or home movie theater or sports court?

How about hosting a kid's pool party, movie party or sport party? You could decide on the maximum number of children and a time-frame for the party.

If you need any help formulating and thinking through a suggestion you have, please feel free to contact Jacquie Arbuckle at jacquieca1052@gmail.com or Maria Sullivan at mariasullivan47@gmail.com and we will be happy to help you work out the details.

To show our appreciation for your support, we will recognize and highlight your contribution several ways:

- On our website leading up to the event
- Through emails to our close to 700 subscribers to our newsletter
- Posts on our Facebook page

To donate to our auction, please fill out the attached form or you can go to www.bigelowpto.org and submit your donation on line. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at bigelowbulldog@gmail.com.

This auction will be made all the better with help from each and every Bigelow family - be it in the form of a solicited item or a personal donation. Thank you very much in advance for supporting our children at Bigelow.

Warmly,

The Bigelow Speakeasy Auction Committee
Bigelow Middle School PTO
42 Vernon Street
Newton, MA 02458
www.bigelowpto.org
bigelowbulldog@gmail.com



The BIGELOW SPEAKEASY

Saturday, May 14, 2016

Auction Donation Form

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Website _____

Please describe auction item, listing all restrictions – this description will be used the night of event.

Donor name to be included on the bid sheet: _____

Please specify market value of donated item. Value needed to set appropriate bidding price. If considered “priceless”, dollar value must be assigned to comply with IRS regulations. \$ _____
(Auction Donations will be listed on our website and included in our PTO newsletters)

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR DONATION TO:

Bigelow Middle School PTO
42 Vernon Street
Newton, MA 02458

OR EMAIL TO: bigelowbulldog@gmail.com

OR DONATE On Line at: www.bigelowpto.org
Click on the link “Donate to the Bigelow SPEAKEASY Auction” at the top of the page

For more information, please contact us at bigelowbulldog@gmail.com

Bigelow Middle School PTO is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Tax ID #20-0348453. All donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.

Your generous contribution will benefit the Bigelow Middle School Community