



## OPPF Silent Auction

### Saturday, March 1, 2025



We are excited to announce that the Ohio Psychiatric Physicians Foundation (OPPF) will be holding a silent auction fundraising event on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at the Hilton Polaris in Columbus, Ohio

### We need your help!

To help make the Silent Auction a success, we need your donation! Donating items for the auction is a great way to support the OPPF and participation in the auction is a lot of fun! Items from members as well as companies with which you might do business are both welcome. The value of **your donated gift is tax deductible** as allowed by law, and your particular tax situation. You will receive a thank you letter from the Foundation stating the estimated value of the donation (as indicated by you) and that no goods or services were exchanged for the donation. Your generous donation will benefit the Foundation, and those that suffer from mental illnesses through the programs that OPPF offers.

### Recognition

For your donation, you will receive:

- Acknowledgement on the Auction Bid Sheet
- Listing of your donation and name on the OPPF webpage and in the event program (you may choose to remain anonymous if you so desire)

**To donate**, simply complete the form below or online and send your donation to: OPPF, 6457 Reflections Drive, Ste. 130, Dublin, OH 43017, **no later than February 1, 2025**. The sooner we begin to receive donations, the sooner we can help to build interest by mentioning them on the website. Although we prefer that donations be received in our office no later than February 1, if your donation is large or not easily/safely able to be transported, and you wish to bring your donation with you on the day of the event, please contact the OPPF staff so arrangements can be made. **Questions? Please contact OPPF Staff Member, Michelle Mazza at (614) 763-0040.**

**Please provide information as you would like it to appear on the bid sheet and the OPPF webpage:**

Name of item: \_\_\_\_\_  
Estimated value of item (\$US) \_\_\_\_\_  
Minimum bid you would recommend (\$US) \_\_\_\_\_  
Donor Name (your name or company) \_\_\_\_\_  
Description of Item \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information (not for publication)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank You for Your Generosity!!**

If you are not sure of what to donate, following are some suggested items which have been contributed to our silent auction in the past: artwork (created, purchased or donated), books (those signed by an author might be very popular), wine, sports memorabilia, gift certificates to a restaurant, for services (such as a trip to the spa) or supplies (office supplies, art supplies, etc.), weekend get-a-way to a bed and breakfast, week-long vacation get-away if someone has a vacation home, etc. Any donated items will be much appreciated and will benefit the Foundation in achieving its mission!

# Silent Auction Item Ideas

**Guided Day Out:** Find an expert in your community who can provide insight and expertise on something specific to your area. You can then offer an individual or group a private, guided day out doing things like:

- Hiking tours
- Touring the architecture of the city
- Examining the ecosystem of the salt marshes
- Walking the historic trails

One way to make a guided day out seem even more appealing is by working with local restaurants, seeing if they'd be willing to include a free lunch for your winner(s) and local expert. That way, bidders can also enjoy lunch and beverages to keep them refreshed for their day out. And experts are more likely to volunteer their time if free lunch is included!

**Free Use of The Venue:** If your organization boasts a beautiful space, you can auction it as a venue for donors to host their next event. Some examples of unique venue options that donors or leaders in your community can use to make their next event special are:

- Museums after hours
- Libraries for luncheons
- Breweries for retirement parties or birthdays
- Lobbies for talks or workshops

**Private Lessons:** Can you or someone you know offer lessons as a silent auction item? The lessons can include anything like:

- Art
- Sports
- Music
- Cooking
- Photography
- Writing
- Fishing
- Craftsmanship

**Exclusive Tickets:** Tickets to the big game are one thing, but tickets to events that aren't for sale are another. If you can find the right connection, it's no obstacle to give away tickets that don't have face value. These experiences are hard to come by and highly sought after in a silent auction. Types of tickets to include are seats to:

- A show during Fashion Week
- Television tapings with a live audience, like The Ellen DeGeneres Show, Stephen Colbert, Saturday Night Live and so on

- A gallery opening night party
- Tickets to an award show

**Artwork:** Do you know of any local artists? A silent auction is a great opportunity to include their one-of-a-kind pieces. Most artists are willing to donate but be mindful of who you approach and whether they depend on the income from their art. Express the mutual benefit, where artists can potentially gain customers if they present their artwork in front of your bidders.

**Memorabilia:** Collectibles associated with a recognizable person or organization, like:

- Posters
- Autographed baseballs
- Vintage guitars
- Records
- First-edition books

You might find memorabilia of legendary athletes for athletic foundations or world-renowned performers and artists for art organizations. Dig through your archives and see what history has to offer!

**Sky Miles:** Did you know you can transfer sky miles from one person to another? These are always popular items because everyone loves extra miles. Some sky miles expire depending on the airline, so it's an easy item to donate if donors have additional miles, they won't be able to use before the expiration date.

**Virtual Meetup with A Celebrity or Organizational Leader:** Do you have connections to a celebrity? Ask the celebrity or organizational leader for just a few moments of their time. A virtual meetup won't require covering travel expenses for your celebrity or organizational leader. A virtual meetup can include sharing each other's lunch break or just a quick hour-long conversation — just make sure the meetup is something valuable to potential bidders.

**Create a local goods sample/gift basket\*:** Great way to support local small businesses. Consider putting together a gift basket or an array of local goods, including:

- **Cuisine** – Themed baskets such as Pizza Party, Pasta Night, Taco Tuesday, etc.
- **Foodie's Delight** - Food is a way to bring everyone together. Besides gift certificates to local restaurants or grocery stores, you can include a few small chef necessities, spices, and other epicurean delights to this basket.
- **Baby Gift Basket** - At least one of your event guests will know someone who has or is expecting a new baby. Baby gift baskets can include diapers and wipes, clothes, rattles, pacifiers, and a few special touches.
- **Man Crate** - Draw them in with some fine cigars and liquor, a poker game set, and a local golf club certificate.
- **Beer or Wine Sampler** - This beer or wine mix can be an easy addition to your gift basket selection and is sure to sell at a good price.

- **Spa Basket** - Do you receive a gift certificate to a spa that needs to go with something to get a good bid? Why not pair it with some comfy slippers, a robe, and a few bathroom beauty essentials?
- **Garden in a box** - Those who love the garden are always looking for more tools. Create a basket in a gardening pot that includes a variety of gardening tools, seeds, and succulents.
- **Baker's Delight Gift Basket** – Line a large mixing bowl with a dish towel. Add cookie mixes, hot chocolate mixes, brownie mix, muffin mix, a package of walnuts, measuring cups and potholders.
- **Family Night**– In a large bowl, add a puzzle or game, popcorn, candy bars, soda, hot chocolate mix and mugs.
- **Wine** - Connect with your local wineries or stores and see if they're inclined to donate a few bottles of wine and wine accessories for your nonprofit silent auction.
- **Rise and Shine (Coffee and Tea)** – Reach out to coffee and tea shops and ask them to donate samples of their fresh coffee, mugs, gift cards, etc.
- **Sweet treats:** If there is a renowned baker in your community, collaborate with them and ask them to make a sweet treats basket for your silent auction. Who doesn't love a freshly baked cookie or macaroon?

\*If you secure the items, OPPF staff can put together a basket.

**Landscaping or monthly gifts from a local florist:** Companies are always looking for ways to advertise. Many will be willing to donate their services to your organization in exchange for their name in your program. If you can find a landscaping business or florist willing to donate, a silent auction item of their services can be very popular.

**Family photoshoots:** Network with local freelance photographers and see if they're willing to donate some of their time and talent for your highest bidder.

**Virtual cooking demos:** Cooking gives people a sense of purpose, providing an opportunity to express their creativity, and get something delicious out of the process. Talk to your local home or professional chefs and see if they're willing to virtually meet up with your highest bidder and give them a cooking lesson.

**Memberships:** Similarly, some of your small businesses may not have anything physical to donate. See if they're willing to donate memberships, like a membership to a golf club or fitness center.

## Adventures

- **Hot air balloon ride:** Hot air balloon rides are one of those things people say they want to experience but do not know where to start. By adding this adventure to your silent auction, you make it easy for your donors to fulfill their dream.
- **Vineyard tour and wine tasting:** Wine lovers cannot get enough of their favorite brand and will jump at the opportunity to tour the fields and watch the wine get made.

- **Mountain passes with ski and snowboarding lessons**
- **Ballroom dancing lessons**
- **Golf:** A foursome at a local and exclusive golf club is very appealing.
- **Group paintball outing:** Paintball is a fun, and exciting activity families of all sizes can enjoy.
- **Cooking lessons from a local chef:** Do you have a local chef that stands out in the community or one that has won a few awards? Get them to donate a meal for your donors
- **Makeover with a local stylist**
- **Luxury hotel and resort stays**

**Gift cards:** Some small businesses will want to work with your nonprofit organization but may not know what to contribute. In these cases, accept gift cards, which your bidders may find attractive because they can select merchandise that resonates with their interests.