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Are ya Ready for a Blessing?

Many people can be blessed just by creating a charity auction.
There are all kinds of advantages!

As a Business person you can create traffic to your items as well as generate leads for future use.

You can get the attention of the media and help out a needy organization at the same time as getting traffic and exposure for yourself.
Including your eBay store, auction items, "Me Page", a website or any type of business. Plus get the added bonus of a tax write-off for buyers and sellers involved!

This is just another Creative marketing tool that can be used to your advantage AND, Help a Charity at the same time.

This is a True : WIN-WIN situation!

EBay Giving Works

Ebay has helped make it safe and easy for us to pick a trusted, non-profit organization.

“Better Sales. Better World.”

Ebay Giving works : <http://givingworks.ebay.com/>

Feb.20, 2007 was the day the 10,000th Nonprofit Organization joined the eBay Giving Works Community! The Proud organization was: **Lollipop Theater Network** :
<http://www.lollipoptheater.org/>

What an honor it must have been for this organization when they signed up to be a part of: **The Worlds Largest Online Market place!**

EBay Giving works did reward them by starting off with their 1st donation of: \$2,500.00

I salute them for this kind Charitable gesture!

The Lollipop Theater will always be known as the Ten Thousandth member while making a mark, in eBay History!

><> Mission Fish <><

Your Charity Auction Journey begins HERE!

Join Mission Fish and pick out the organizations you would like to sell your items for. This page has the best tutorial with step-by-step instructions:

<http://www.missionfish.org/ForSellers/forsellers.jsp>

You Pick the “Cause”

You pick How Much to Give!

They even supply you with a Ribbon Icon, helping your listing to stand OUT from the rest. It grabs the attention of buyers searching through pages of items, increasing your odds for traffic and sales! The icon is located at the side of your item title!

Here is the link to browse through the 10,000 registered, non-profit organizations.

http://www.missionfish.org/Sell/SellerController?ACTION=BrowseAction&SUB_ACTION=GetSearchForNP

They have a wonderful A-Z directory as well as a key word search.

You can search by area's from around the USA, City, State, County or organization's name.

FEES

There is a \$5.00 minimum fee if the item sells.

If you sell an item for 99cents, you will still owe Mission Fish \$5.00.

A good rule would be to start your listing at \$5.00 just to be safe!

If your listing does not sell, then you owe nothing to Mission Fish!

You will still have to pay your eBay fees.

Mission Fish is a separate billing. They do not bill you through your eBay invoices.

I suggest when you sell an item and the buyer pays you, Pay off your Mission Fish Bill ASAP. The longer you wait to pay your bill, the longer your Charity has to wait for their payment. It is a long process as the charity does not get their payment instantly. They are paid once or twice a month and it all goes through the official tax, legal process. Mission Fish charges a small fee. I imagine there must be a lot of paper work involved with record keeping. As a seller they do keep everything very organized for easy Tax receipt print-outs. I have been very pleased with the ease of using Mission Fish!

You can also chose whether to have your payment to the organization kept public or private. You will see these options when you make your first payment through the Mission Fish system.

PICKING A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

There are several ways to decide on an organization.

You may pick one with a meaning to you.

Such as, if you had someone close to you that was stricken with cancer then you may want to donate to the American Cancer Society.

If you had friends suffering from hurricane or tornado loss, then pick an organization to help those victims from that state and area.

Many dog owners will pick organizations with local Humane societies.

There is an organization for everyone, including YOU!

Let the ITEM Decide!

I had a menu from the Bar at the World Trade Center, 107th floor.

I found a non-profit organization that was building The Wall of Remembrance in Brooklyn NY. I gave a percent to that organization.

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=150083866207>

You may have a Rare TOY and you want to share the proceeds with a children's shelter or some Children's organization.

Pink items for Breast Cancer, etc, etc!

You can easily seek out organizations that will match your type of item!

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE POLICY](#)

Traveling Auctions

A Traveling Auction is a fun way to raise money and get creative at the same time!

Example:

I did a "Traveling Charity T-Shirt Auction". The rules were, the winner of the auction would Sign the T-shirt and list the auction for another charity. I included a Journal with the shirt. The winner would write a new page in the Journal, Sign the T-shirt #2 and add their eBay ID.

Then, list it on eBay

CLICK HERE TO VIEW!

When setting up this sort of auction, it helps to include a "watch" code within the page set-up. I like to ask the viewer to "Watch" the auction a few times. This will add the page to their eBay "Watch" list. The more watchers your auction has, the higher your chance for the auction to be on the pulse page of the item category. If you need a code instructions about adding a WATCH Link, please visit my store for an easy set-up:



Most all categories on eBay have a Pulse page. This page is the Most Watched Auctions in that category. Example: here is the Pulse page for religious items:

http://pulse.ebay.com/Religious-Products-Supplies_W0QQsacatZ102545

All charity auction will show up in the category you place it in AND it will also be able to be found in the eBay Giving Works Directory:

<http://pages.ebay.com/givingworks/index.html>

I love they way they have that page set up!

They've made it easy for buyers to search items as well as search for charities!

Making it easy for buyers to shop within each charity!

Last year you may of heard about my "Traveling Baseball Bat Auction!"

I was very proud of this event!

It all started as a listing in June 2006. The bat was given to me by a Television station that was doing an interview at my home about my success on eBay.

(Note: You can view the interview on my Me page:

<http://members.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewUserPage&userid=danna>)

They gave me a bat that was signed by the Jacksonville Suns baseball team and had endorsements from a few other organizations. Their only request was for me to do a charity auction with it and to give them money to any Foster Care program in the State of Florida. I agreed and found a charity by searching through Mission Fish using the Key words like Foster Care in Florida.

I listed it as 100% to Charity!

The bat sold for \$53.00 to a gentleman from South Florida. He paid in full and said "Keep the Bat and List it Again!"

He felt it would be interesting to see how far it would go and to see if anyone would follow his lead and keep listing it.

WELL, I listed that bat 14 times! 10 day auctions each time and everyone along the way would Pay in full and say " BATTER UP" , "List it Again!"

It turned out to be the Longest baseball game in eBay history!

Raising over a Thousand Dollars! And it all went to Charity!

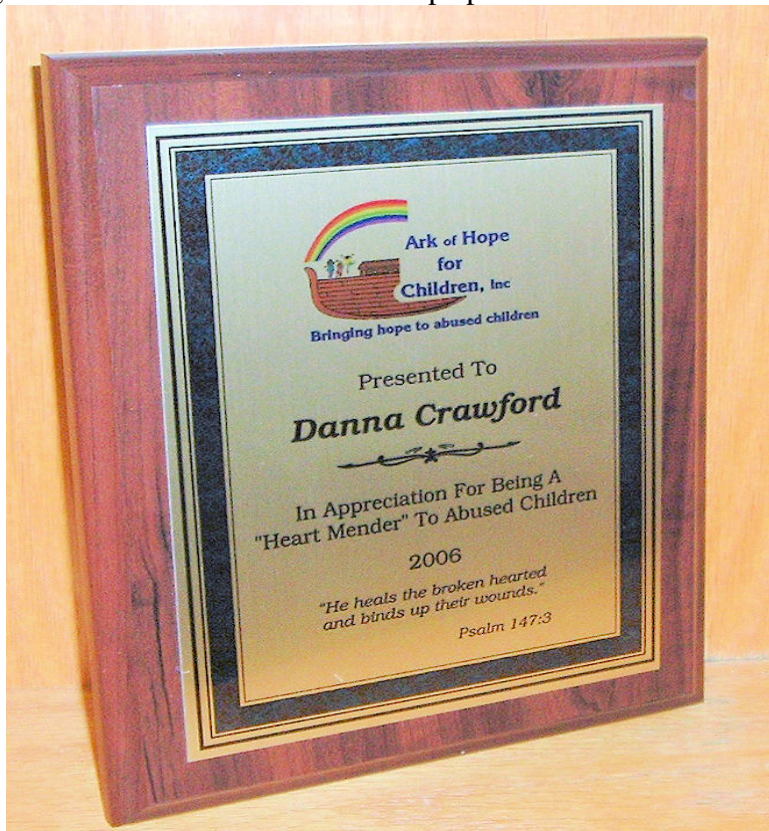
The organization I picked was : <http://www.arkforkids.org>

Something that helped make this listing so popular was, I would include a "Plug" for each of the buyers. Each buyer had their eBay Id, along with a Thank You and the amount they paid included in each re-list of the bat!

It had all sorts of eBay buyer competing and following this auction!

Then, it all came to an end when the final buyer said " SHIP IT TO ME!"

The baseball game was over And the Ark of Hope presented me with a beautiful plaque:



I will treasure this forever!

A NEW YEAR

I have decided to pick a New Charity to support each year unless I have a special item that does represent a special situation. Like that Menu from the Twin Towers.

I feel it would be in your best interest to decide upon a charity and try to devote an auction at least once a month. This year I have chosen:



<http://www.doua.org/>

Disabled Online Users Association

I will be devoting my free time this year to this organization and hold charity auctions as often as possible to show my support.

They have an awesome website where I am now a “Mentor!”

Feel free to stop by for a visit!

REWARDING

Having a charity auction is very rewarding!

You are helping an organization, even if it is for a small amount.
Just a small amount CAN make a difference!

You will be making a difference by helping them get exposure as well as raising funds.
Even if your item does not sell, ***DO NOT GET DISCOURAGED!***

You may feel like you let them down by not selling the item.
You are wrong to feel this way..

Why? Because, you helped them get **EXPOSURE!**

Not all items will sell and its OK.

Yes you will still have to pay your listing fees, BUT it's still a tax write-off for you AND,
like all good deeds, you will be rewarded in other ways in the end!

You will still be a Blessing to them if the item sells or **NOT!**

ADVERTISING

Once you have your auction listed, I suggest you get busy promoting it!
Spread the word you have a Charity Auction listed!
You can Blog about it: <http://blogs.ebay.com/>

If you are a store owner, be sure and include a Cross-Promotion of other items you are selling. Be selective with the items to include within your listing.

If you have a hot, big selling item, NOW would be the time to get it listed if you have not listed it already. Keep in mind how the Charity Auction viewers may be viewing your other items as well.
Make it easy and inviting!

Send out an email to all your friends announcing your Charity auction and ask them to add it to their WATCH list too!

Add TABS to your listing page creating easy access to your other items.
Here is a great tool to create Tab Buttons: <http://www.isdntek.com/tagbot/menus.htm>

There are several FREE Auction Promotion sites including MY Site!

I have a Self-Serve Post your Auction page:  **PowerSellingMom.com** *There is plenty of ebay for us all to be blessed and prosper*
Trading Assistant - Power Seller - Education Specialist

Another one I highly recommend is run by my friend at: <http://www.bidmyspace.com/>

If you're a member of MySpace, Post that Charity Auction on your Front page with a direct link to the auction,



Many eBay groups have an area where you can “Share Your Wares” meaning you can post your auctions within the group pages. Here is a great group to join, post your auctions AND pick up some selling tips :



Created by: Steph C.

BE A BLESSING AND BE BLESSED

Be a Blessing by helping others
AND
you will be blessed
in more ways than you know!

Set up a Charity auction today with a “Giving Heart”
and REAP the Rewards!

*Give and it shall be given unto you;
Good measure,
Pressed down,
shaken together,
and running over!*
Luke 6:38

And now a Word from my Sponsors!

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*There is plenty of ebay for us all
to be blessed and prosper*