

Bids in Chippewa Valley Foundation online auction benefit kids

Educational Foundation to host auction May 12-22

The Macomb Daily



Chippewa Valley Educational Foundation Bids to Benefit Kids will be held online May 12-22. Pictured is one of the many auction packages that will be included in the event. Other packages include themes of golf, family fun, kids activities, dining, wine tasting, spa days and fitness. (PHOTO COURTESY OF KELLY GEBBY)

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Getting in shape, getting out and getting some relaxation can be accomplished via a few mouse clicks in May, when the Chippewa Valley Educational Foundation hosts an online auction.

The Chippewa Valley Educational Foundation (CVEF) Bids to Benefit Kids online auction will be held from 5 p.m. May 12 to 9 p.m. May 22 via 32auctions.com/cvefkids. Cash, check, PayPal, credit and debit cards are accepted. Those interested in making a donation to the CVEF without bidding can use a donate button on the auction website.

“Bidders get emails from 32auctions.com when they place a bid, when they are outbid and when they win. The CVEF will follow-up with all winners to provide details on payment and pick up,” CVEF Assistant Kelly Gebby said.

The CVEF chose to hold the auction in the spring as an alternative to the traditional Taste for Education event that has been held in the past.

“This is the second year we held an online auction in place of our annual in person event, A Taste for Education: CVEF Taste Fest and auction. We are planning on bringing back an in-person event next spring,” Gebby said.

Although this year’s auction packages are still being finalized, last year there were 52 packages. A few of this year’s packages include themes of golf, family fun, kids activities, dining, wine tasting, spa days and fitness.

“You do not need an account to view the auction, but you do need one to place a bid. You can create an account easily on the website with your name, email address and password,” Gebby said.

Auction items can be picked up at the Chippewa Valley Schools administration building, located at 19120 Cass Ave. in Clinton Township. Winners will be contacted with further details at the close of the auction.

Funds raised through the auction will support classroom grants and scholarships. This school year, the Chippewa Valley Schools district has over 14,800 students. Classroom grants are awarded to teachers at all grade levels in the form of mini-grants, generally to undertake unique classroom projects.

“Grants provided previously included flexible seating, book club novels, math and science kits, podcasting supplies, graphing calculators, special education sensory support and more,” Gebby said.

To apply for a mini-grant, teachers fill out a two-page application and submit it, Gebby said. CVEF President Christopher Gura said that the mini-grant application process generally begins in the fall.

Gura said decisions are made based on the amount of funds are available and what is being requested. He also said that the committee tends to look for creativity in the grant requests, some project to stand out among the applicants. The CVEF board makes the final decision based on committee recommendations, and awards are made around February or March, Gura said.

Gebby reported in 2020, 27 grants were awarded. Due to virtual education, grants were delayed one school year, but the foundation plans to award grants for the 2022-2023 school year. Scholarships have been awarded by the foundation as planned despite the pandemic, according to Gura.

“Grants are generally done in the fall, and we plan to bring the mini-grant program back in the 2022-23 school year,” Gebby said.

The Chippewa Valley Educational Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization dedicated to raising funds that will enhance education and foster new and creative programs within the Chippewa Valley Schools district, programs that are designed to supplement traditional school funding. The foundation was founded in 1987.