



MEXICO SILENT AUCTION TIPS AND IDEAS

Not sure where to start? Don't worry, we're here to help! Below are ideas, tips, and examples to guide you through the donation process.

Start with the Why!

Sharing about why your child is taking part in this mission trip and the impact that it will have will help people connect and consider supporting. (Feel free to share the Mexico Trip Info Poster with potential donors – Found on the Parent Portal).

When approaching an individual or business remember:

You're not asking for yourself, you are giving them an opportunity to help and inviting them to support a meaningful cause: helping Grade 9 students build homes for families in need. Many businesses are open to supporting their community they just need to be asked!

Start With People You Know

Begin with businesses you already have a relationship with, your hairdresser, dentist, gym, mechanic, local café, or even your workplace. When the connection is already there, the ask feels more natural and often gets a "yes" more quickly!

The most popular auction items tend to be those that offer unique value or experiences people wouldn't normally buy for themselves. Here are some ideas that do well:

Experiences & Getaways

- Vacation home or cabin stay (even 1-2 nights!)
- Hotel packages
- Adventure experiences (kayaking, zip-lining, escape rooms)

Tickets & Passes

- Concerts, theatre performances
- Sports events (local or pro teams)
- Zoo or Telus Spark passes
- Birthday package for a popular party destination (ie. Flying squirrel, Laser Tag etc.)

Services

- Spa packages, massages, salon treatments
- Personal training sessions or fitness memberships
- Car detailing, house cleaning, landscaping services

Food & Drink

- **For any fresh food donations (e.g., charcuterie, desserts, etc.), please provide a gift card or voucher instead of the actual item.** This allows the purchaser to coordinate directly with the vendor to arrange a convenient pickup time
- Restaurant gift cards or chef's tasting menu
- Monthly coffee subscription

Unique Items

- Signed memorabilia
- Custom artwork
- Private lessons (music, art, sports, tutoring)

Bundles (consider joining with another family to bundle some items together!)

- Family Fun Night (pizza, games, movies)
- Self-Care Kit (bath items, tea, cozy robe)
- BBQ Package (gift cards, sauces, grilling tools)

**For more ideas you could google Auctions and Christian schools to find ideas from other auctions for a unique donation.*

Any questions, contact Ellice Wirsta at e.wirsta@gcaschool.com

Gift of Service Auction Item (OPTIONAL)

As we prepare for our mission trip to Mexico we are inviting students to contribute in a meaningful and personal way.

One impactful way your child can help is by donating a “Gift of Service” to our upcoming silent auction. This is an opportunity for students to use their unique talents, skills, and time to serve others, with all proceeds going directly towards the homes our students will be building.

Encourage your child to think about how they can bless others through service and turn that into an auction item the community can bid on!

While a ‘Gift of Service’ auction item, **does not replace the required \$300 value auction item or donation**, this is an **optional way** for students to deepen their involvement in the fundraising process and practice serving through love.

Here are some “Gift of Service” ideas:

- Shoveling snowy driveways or raking leaves
- Tutoring a younger student in reading, math, or another subject
- Babysitting for a few hours
- Pet sitting or dog walking
- Baking cookies or treats on request
- Offering a music lesson (e.g., guitar, piano, voice)
- Creating a custom piece of art or painting
- Leading a sports activity for a group of younger kids
- Tech help (e.g., helping someone set up a device or app)
- Photography session (for students with a camera and an eye for photos)
- Car washing or vacuuming
- Gardening or lawn care services

Thank you for encouraging your child to be a part of something bigger – not only raising funds but also sharing their gifts in love and service.