

Fundraising Ideas From A-Z

A

Art Sales: Invite students as well as local artists to contribute pieces for the show. It's a win-win situation: students get to display their art for parents, while local artists get exhibit space and free publicity. Revenue can be generated by charging admission, selling refreshments and purchasing art.

Auctions: Many teams put together live or silent auctions. You can make a whole event out of it (collectibles and sports auctions are very popular).

B

Barbeque Contest: Host a BBQ cook off with friends and neighbors. Charge an entrance fee to the participants eating; cooks enter for free. This fundraiser is fun for everyone, especially those who love to eat!

Bake Sale: Have a bake sale at school, work or a busy community place. Or have a No-Bake Sale where co-workers pay so they don't have to bake goodies.

Book Sale: Dust off your old books and have a book sale to raise money.

Bowl-a-thon: Some student/family teams have been holding bowl-a-thons, where they get pledges per pin they knock down.

Breakfast With: Put together a breakfast with Santa or other favorite kids' character. Work with a local restaurant or your team can do it themselves at a hall or club. Sell tickets and have the kids get their pictures taken with the character. You could also use this as breakfast with the mayor or other high profile person.

Babysit/Pet Sit: Offer your services to watch over your neighbor or family friend's children or pets while they are away and your pay is their donation.

Block Party: Put together an old-fashioned block party in a parking lot, or close off a neighborhood street (with permission). Have a band or DJ donate a few hours, have a BBQ, do face painting, games etc.

C

Car Wash: Hold a wash at a popular community building/landmark. Try saying "donations accepted" instead of charging a set price (people tend to give more).

Carnation Sale: Everyone enjoys getting flowers! Have co-workers, classmates and even neighbors purchase carnations and send them to a special someone.

Cut-a-thon: Have a beauty salon or vocational school hold a hair cut-a-thon for you. Getting teachers/staff involved will make more students excited to participate.

Coin Drive: Place containers in each department or classroom. Ask everyone to contribute spare change for a week or month period of time. (Optional: Give the winning class/team a prize such as a pizza party or ice cream social.)

Cook Off: Guests attending pay a set price which includes dinner and a school event (ex: basketball ticket for that night's game). Guests are served dinner as well as ballots to rank their favorite cook off items. Announce the top 3 at half time of game.

Cooking Class: If you are the next Mary Berry or Gordon Ramsey, offer to teach your neighbors, co-workers, classmates, family, and friends the latest recipes and ask for donations!

Christmas Party: Play carols, serve cookies and hot chocolate, decorate tree ornaments, have pictures with Santa and charge an admission.

Fundraising Ideas From A-Z Continued

D

Dress down day: For donations, employees or students (with uniforms) can dress down for the day. This can also work for a theme (such as pajama day).

Dog Wash: Set up a dog wash in your front yard and have all the dogs in the neighborhood come over and get a bath. Of course, ask for a donation!

Dances for Wishes: Students can hold a school dance. Adults can put together a dance at a local club or hall. Get a band or DJ to donate their services.

E

Eating Contest: Have a contest amongst co-workers, family, or friends to see who can eat the most! Have them donate an entrance fee or who they think will win.

F

Facebook Live Post: Hold a Facebook Live event highlighting Brave the Bay and your efforts in raising money for the event and Make-A-Wish. Share your team name and ask for friends and family to contribute to and/or join your team!

Fashion Show: Work with new or existing clothing stores to hold a fashion show. You could have it at the local mall, school or use a club hall.

Flower Sales: Work with your local florist or wholesaler and sell bouquets, potted flowers or individual stems (carnation or roses) at your workplace or school.

G

Game Night: Have a party with a purpose. Invite everyone to come to your house to play board games, charades etc. Charge an “entrance” fee.

Garage Sale: Ask all of your friends and neighbors to participate by donating items for a garage sale. Make signs that advertise that all proceeds are going to support Make-A-Wish.

Golf Tournament: Have your team put together a golf tournament with the proceeds benefiting Make-A-Wish.

H

How Many In That Jar?: Load up a jar full of goodies and ask co-workers, family, friends, or even neighbors to guess how many are in there. Ask them for a donation to guess and grant the winner a small prize.

Haunted House: This is the perfect fundraiser for Halloween. Organize a haunted house and charge admission. You can also sell treats, refreshments or bob for apples.

I

Ice Cream Socials: Plan one at your workplace or for friends, asking for donations to attend or sell ice cream, low-fat yogurt and other frozen treats for dessert at your school or workplace.

K

Karaoke: Students/guests pay \$2.00 per song or people can “donate” \$5 and pick someone in the audience to go up and sing (teachers, principal, peers, etc.).

L

“Loose Change Day”: Ask your child’s school to have a “Loose Change Day.” Make a flyer encouraging each child to bring in loose change from their house to be donated to Make-A-Wish. Encourage the school’s math classes to assist with counting, predicting, and rolling the change. This is a great way to involve the entire school. You can hold this event multiple times.

Letter Writing: A great way to ask for donations without asking in person. Send letters to your friends and family explaining what you’re doing and why. Ask for a specific amount (more than you want) seems to work best or leave it up to them. Tell them your personal goal and ask for their help. Some people write letters on behalf of their pets or babies, adding a little humor.



Fundraising Ideas From A-Z Continued

M, N, O

Mow-A-Lawn: Check with neighbors and friends and see if you can mow their lawn for a donation.

Movie Night: Invite your friends over for a night at the movies. You provide the popcorn and soda and charge admission. Or have a movie week during lunch hour at work. Charge admission and invite employees to eat their lunch while they watch.

No Bake Sale: Co-workers pay so they don't have to bake goodies at the bake sale.

P

Pancake Breakfast: Hold a pancake breakfast at a hall, school, work, or church on a specific day.

Parking Space Auction: Company employees can auction off a prime spot!

Pot Luck Lunches: Designate every Wednesday as Brave the Bay Pot Luck Day, where team members take turns making chili, salads, desserts, etc. and charge a fee to enjoy the lunch provided.

Q

Quilt Squares: Sell quilt squares. The squares can be sold in honor or in memory of a wish kid.

S

Star Sale: Sell Make-A-Wish paper stars to hang around the classroom, school lunch room or office. Contact us to get paper stars.

Spaghetti Dinner: Have your team put together a spaghetti dinner at a local hall or club. School teams have also done this with the help of their parents. The students take the tickets, wait, and clear tables.

Student/Faculty Basketball Game: Set up a benefit basketball game between students and faculty or put together an alumni game.

Super Bowl Party: Have a Super Bowl party and ask everyone for donations when they get there. The same can be done for the NCAA Championship basketball game, Indy 500, Masters final round etc. Great idea for the team member with a big screen TV!

Sell Space On Your Team Shirt: Sell small blocks of space on your team shirt you plan to wear at the event (suggested \$10 donation). Encourage donors to write a tribute message.

T, U, V

Turkey Drawing: Get a grocery store to donate a certificate for a turkey or ham to be picked up just in time for Thanksgiving, Easter, Christmas or a BBQ package for Labor Day or Memorial Day. Food is always a good item to raffle off.

Video Sale: Hold a video/DVD sale at work or school and have each team member bring in videos they don't watch anymore, especially kid movies their children have outgrown – other employees with younger children would appreciate this.

W, X, Y, Z

Wrap Presents: During holiday time set up a booth at a local mall, plaza or busy department store (with permission). Have your team members/classmates donate the paper and tape and raise money while helping holiday shoppers.

Yard Sales: Just like the garage sales, work together as a team, or have one individually.

