



November 11, 2019

Dear Friends:

As the Coordinator of Development at The IDEAL School of Manhattan, I want to share our story with you. Fifteen years ago, three families were searching for an inclusive elementary school in New York City for their children with Down Syndrome. They believed that a school with small class sizes, individualized attention, and a strong commitment to the arts would allow their children to flourish. They sought a school that would celebrate each child's unique identity and welcome them fully into the community. Unable to find such a school, they were inspired to start their own. Today, IDEAL's inclusion model has proven that when children of all abilities and backgrounds learn together, they benefit from one another.

On February 24, 2020, we will be celebrating our 15th Annual Gala at Pier Sixty at Chelsea Piers, where we will be honoring the contributions of four individuals who helped to make the founders' extraordinary inclusive vision for IDEAL come to life. This community event is our biggest fundraiser of the year and features a live and silent auction. The money raised through ticket sales, raffles, and the auctions goes directly to help support critical components of our program, such as academics, teacher salaries, athletics, art, music, and tuition assistance. I ask that you join us on this IDEAL journey and lend your support by donating to our auction so that our students may continue to thrive individually and grow as a community. All who donate will be recognized in our Annual Report of Giving.

Here's how you can help:

- Contribute an item to the silent auction. Items are donated by individuals, employers, and local businesses. Some items that have sold well at past auctions include destinations, summer homes, trips, unique experiences, theater tickets, children's experiences, clothing, accessories, beauty or personal services, and more. See page 2 of this document for a donation form to be completed by February 11, 2020. Or [click here](#) for the electronic version.
- Purchase tickets, sponsorships, or a table at the Gala. We encourage you to bring friends, family, and colleagues. [Click here to purchase your Gala tickets today.](#)

All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 212-769-1699 10311 or ckoota@theidealschool.org. Thank you so much in advance for your consideration and we look forward to partnering with you!

Ideally yours,
Claudia Koota
Coordinator of Development
The IDEAL School of Manhattan



2020 Gala Auction Donation Form

Contact Information

Donor/Company Name*: _____

Contact person (if different from above): _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

* As you would like it to appear in event materials

Auction Item Information

Name of auction item: _____

Donation is:

- ☐ Tangible Item
- ☐ Gift Certificate

Donor estimated value (required): _____ Solicited By: _____

Please describe the item below. For service prizes, include details with any restrictions, the expiration date, and include the actual service prize certificate when submitting this form. Examples of service prizes include, but are not limited to restaurants, hair salons, fitness training sessions, etc.

Signature: _____

Please return this form along with your donation to:

Claudia Koota

Coordinator of Development

The IDEAL School of Manhattan

314 W 91st St, New York, NY 10024

ckoota@theidealschool.org

212-769-1699 x10311