

We are very excited for the rescheduled 53rd *CET/Think^{TV} Action Auction*. The auction will be broadcast Wednesday, September 9 – Friday, September 11 from 7:00pm -11:00pm and on Saturday, September 12 from 3:00pm – midnight, for our ever popular Wine Day. This year the *Action Auction* will be broadcast on CET and Think^{TV} 16. With the safety of our volunteers and staff in mind, you will see completely new formats for both bidding and pick-ups this year.

Some things that won't change this year: we will still be sending a coupon for a large, two-topping pizza from LaRosa's for every item that sells for \$5.00 or more over face value and - there will still be great deals available!

GiveSmart Online Bidding

The first change that you may notice is that you are not receiving your usual Bidder Number in this letter. Although items will be shown on-air, all bidding will be handled online, using the **GiveSmart** platform. You can follow along on-air or bid anytime on your smart phone, your tablet or your computer by visiting: <https://ActionAuction.givesmart.com>.

At the end of each broadcast, all General Auction Items (value >\$500) that have been shown on-air that day will be sold. To see the items that will be offered, go to the *Action Auction* GiveSmart page (see link above) and select 'View Items.'

You can also preview items that will be sold on a specific night. From the *Action Auction* GiveSmart page, select 'View Items,' the 'Categories.' By selecting a date (Sept 9; Sept 10;...), the list will be narrowed to include only the items closing that evening. You will be able to browse all the items or you may narrow your search by choosing a Category of items.

Bidding on all items will open on Monday, September 7 at noon, but you will be able to preview them beginning Monday, August 31, also at noon. You do not need to register to browse the items. Before placing your first bid, you will need to register in the GiveSmart system. You may register before the auction begins or when you are ready to place your first bid. You will need a debit or credit card to register. If you choose, you may pay by check if you are picking up your item(s) at CET. All items purchased must be picked up at either CET or Think^{TV}. There will not be shipping available for any item purchased that is not a certificate. *Please note: all gift certificates will be mailed to winning bidders, even if you have items to pick up.*

Auction Item Types

As in the past, we will still have our Major Gifts (items <\$500) and, as usual, a short video highlighting each Major Gift will be shown on air. The process for bidding will be the same on these items as for our General Auction Items. The items usually found on our Bargain Boards, will still be available each night, but they will not be shown on-air. From the list of Categories, choose 'Major Gifts' or 'Bargains' to see what is available.

Need Assistance?

You will find the GiveSmart system to be user friendly. In the event you need assistance, there will be a small Phone Bank with volunteers to answer questions, help with registration and assist with bidding, if needed. To reach the Phone Bank while the *Action Auction* is being broadcast, call 800-808-0445 or 513-651-4800.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be fewer volunteers as part of our phone bank, so please remain on hold if you need assistance. For questions at any other time, please call 513-381-4033 ext. 0.

Pick-Up Process and Schedule

The Pick-Up process will also change this year. **All pick-ups will need to be scheduled in advance** using SignUpGenius. There will be four (4) pick-up appointments available every 15 minutes, **beginning Sunday, September 13 at CET**. If you choose to pick up your purchases at Think^{TV} **the first date for pick-up will be Friday, September 18**.

- **CET Pick-Up** - If you haven't paid by debit or credit card in advance, we will accept a check for payment of your items during your pick-up appointment at CET. We will **NOT** be able to accept cash or process your credit card payment during your pick-up appointment. Sorry...no exceptions. Due to limited parking, please do not arrive before your scheduled pick-up time.
- **Think^{TV} Pick-Up** - All pick-ups at Think^{TV} must be paid for by debit or credit card in advance. No items will be transported from CET to Think^{TV} unless payment has been received.

We encourage you to schedule your pick-up appointment as soon as possible. We realize that there will be a delay in being able to pick-up your items, but the changes are necessary this year to ensure your safety as well as that of our volunteers and staff. Only winning bidders with a confirmed scheduled pick-up time, in SignUpGenius, may receive their items. Walk-ins will be asked to make an appointment on SignUpGenius.

Anticipate winning an item? Schedule your pick-up for CET or Think^{TV} now by visiting: **<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/ActionAuction>**. When selecting your pick-up time, please note the location of either CET or Think^{TV}. After you have entered the requested information, please don't forget to scroll down to the bottom of the page to 'Save' your requested time.

Should you wish to decline an item at pick-up, there will be short form to complete and you will be contacted, by phone, within 48 hours to have a credit issued to your credit card. If you have any questions, please call 513-345-6579. Your patience with this process is greatly appreciated.

All of the above information will be available on CETconnect.org and ThinkTV.org, along with direct links to the GiveSmart and SignUpGenius pages.

We look forward to your participation in 53rd CET/Think^{TV} Action Auction. We are grateful for the support of our buyers and donors. Be sure and tune to see our great items and as always, "Bid High and Bid Often!"