

Dear Explorer West Families:

Save the date for the Annual Explorer West Auction and help us celebrate!

This fun and fabulous party, the biggest fundraiser of the year, will return to the Hall at Fauntleroy in West Seattle on **Friday, March 20, 2015**.

We are excited to present this year's theme: **Power the Future**—inspiring our students to dream, explore, build and flourish academically, emotionally and socially.

The most important part of this celebration is YOU!

It is essential that every family participate to keep excellent programs at Explorer West. Proceeds from our auction are used to provide an extraordinary and balanced education beyond the basics provided in most public and private schools. Here are a few examples:

- A generous financial aid program for deserving students. Approximately 30 percent of our students receive significant financial aid allowing us to attract students from a wide background, enhancing the learning, understanding and experience of all our students.
- An unparalleled arts program. The creative minds of our students greatly benefit from art and music supplies and innovative programs like Young Playwrights.
- Award winning outdoor and sustainability programs. Our students build on increasing skills and appreciation for the natural world that prepare them for life's challenges.
- Professional development. Our faculty and staff are the best our region. We encourage them to participate yearly in professional education to ensure that they stay at the top of their game.

These are just a few examples of how Explorer West students get an amazing education. We rely on our auction to help fund that one-of-a-kind education. **Here's how you can help:**

Procure Donations. Families can donate diverse talents, favorite places and experiences to create auctions filled with enticing items. **The deadline for submitting Auction Donation Forms is February 13, 2015** in order to be included in the auction catalog.

Procurement items can range from a stay at the family vacation home or destination to a gift certificate at favorite restaurant, just to name a few. This letter includes procurement ideas and forms. Additional forms are available in the school office, and on the web (www.explorer-west.org) under "Get Involved, Giving, Auction." Also available at school are request letters you can hand to your favorite restaurant to solicit a donation.

Volunteer Your Time. Don't miss the fun - get involved early! Contact Gino Larsen-Giacalone (gino@gmail.com) to discuss where you would like to offer your time and talents.

Attend the Auction. Procurement and attendance are probably the two most important components of a successful auction. So please remember to invite your friends and family to this truly fun, fabulous and inspirational event! Invitations will be mailed to you in March.

Thank you for your support of the **Explorer West 2015 Auction –Power the Future**.

The 2015 Explorer West Auction Team