

Ed Foundation's Wine Auction Raises Nearly \$250,000

May 14, 2021 -- The Santa Monica Education Foundation raised nearly \$250,000 this month during the second Wine Auction held online due to the coronavirus shutdown.

A total of \$249,500 was donated by the more than 450 people who participated in the sixth annual silent auction held on May 1 to support local public schools.

Broadcast on YouTube, the live online event allowed participants to place bids from home using their phones, organizers said.

It also included a Dessert Dash, where special desserts from local business were auctioned off and delivered to the winners during the event, which lasted about an hour and a half.

Attendees also enjoyed dinners and wine from the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows' FIG Restaurant, organizers said.

"It is heartwarming to see our community rally around students," said Ed Foundation Executive Director Linda Greenberg. "In spite of the virtual format, the Wine Auction was a truly fun celebration."

The community participated "by bidding, donating, posting in the event chat, and sending in selfies of themselves enjoying the event," Greenberg said.

"Each person's participation was a testament to this community's support for students," Greenberg said.

Money raised from the Wine Auction supports arts, STEM and wellness programs for Santa Monica students, Foundation officials said.

The Foundation's six Wine Auctions have raised a combined total of \$1.38 million.

The Wine Auction's presenting sponsors were the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows/MSD Capital, DLJ/Clarett West, Kilroy Realty, Saint John's Health Center Foundation Community Impact Fund, and Santa Monica Place/Macerich.