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A Unique Way of Life

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Let the Bidding Begin – the Catalog’s Here!

By Sarah A. Cart

What’s that insert in today’s *Ocean Reef Press*?

The All Charities 2022 Auction Catalog! It’s big, it’s bold, and it boasts all kinds of gems. It’s your invitation to an armchair treasure hunt, so get comfortable and help get the fun-raising off to a record-breaking start in anticipation of All Charities Weekend, which begins a week from today (**Feb. 11 and 12**).

In what has quickly become a beloved tradition, use your preferred device to go **online to www.bidORC.org**. Soon you’ll realize that bidding is as easily accessible as your favorite app and just as addictive. Place your opening bid on an item and set your maximum so, if necessary, the system can respond to competing bids on your behalf up to your established limit.

Start with First Dibs! You’ll find several **first come, first serve** opportunities (see catalog pp. 22-24): A limited edition custom-made Ocean Reef jigsaw from Liberty Puzzles with artwork by our own **Joan Birsh**, great opportunities for dining fun celebrating fabulous food and wine, an eye-opening spring migration birdwatching walk close to home, and a blast of a party on Buccaneer Island under December’s full moon.

Next, comb through the rest of the catalog. Be sure not to miss this season’s

Catalogs

new Wonders on the Water, followed by Showcase and UP Lifting Adventures, and as you peruse all the Silent Auction sections, feast your eyes on new subcategories Great Golf, Fantastic Fishing, Bags & Baubles, and Mind & Body (the complete Table of Contents will help you find all of those and more – you will find treasures and gems on *every* page).

Start bidding on your must-haves. Keep a list. Check it often. Dream. Plan. For the big items, team up with friends, make phone calls, and set strategies. Check your calendar to determine which adventure(s) can happen when.

Online bidding closes at 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 12, for everything *except* the Bucket Raffle for which the drawing will be held at that evening’s cocktails before the

Live Auction, which is black tie and by reservation only.

See something you **HAVE** to have? Call the All Charities office (see below) to discuss possibilities. Note that some items have been updated and a few more items have been added online since the catalog went to print; be sure to re-read the actual lot listing online or in person. So much great stuff – check out all of it!

Wine Tasting and Bucket Raffle: Plan to view your dream list items during the \$50 Opening Night Wine & Bourbon Tasting & Silent Auction 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 11, at Carysfort Hall. Or if Friday night isn’t an option, or you can’t get to everything in an evening, return between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, and enjoy complimentary “Burgers, Beers and Bidding” courtesy of the Ocean Reef Chamber of Commerce from noon to 2 p.m. Also on Saturday, take in the NetJets

aircraft display at the Airport 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

On both Friday and Saturday, you can purchase tickets for the Bucket Raffle.

The point of it all: Your shameless generosity will enable the Ocean Reef Community Foundation’s distribution of financial grants to assist thousands of our neighbors in Key Largo, Homestead and Florida City plus local entities vital to Ocean Reef: The Medical Center, Cultural Center, Academy, Art League, ORCAT and Conservation Association. Thanks to this community’s tradition of generosity, over \$50 million has been distributed since 2008.

Questions? Visit oceanreefcommunityfoundation.org or contact All Charities at 305-367-5996 or AllCharities@OceanReef.com.

Bid early, often and outrageously: It’s the All Charities tradition!