

# League Recognized Project Fundraising: Re-Imagining Auctions

Symphony Ball Auction 2023

Fran Peterson, presenter



REINVENTING THE STRUCTURE OF 2023 HOUSTON
SYMPHONY BALL WAS NOT AN OPTION



### **BUSY LIVES**

- Busy careers
- Volunteer burnout
- Over-burdened staff
- Personal commitments
- Pandemic-impacted businesses









### **FUNDRAISING GOAL:**

\$150,000

### CHALLENGES

- **†** TIME CONSUMING
- → BUSINESSES SUFFERING IMMEDIATELY AFTER PANDEMIC SHUT-DOWN
- FINDING VOLUNTEERS
- **→** SECURING ITEMS
- \* RELIEVE OVER-BURDENED STAFF
- \* STOP THE LAST-MINUTE SCRAMBLE

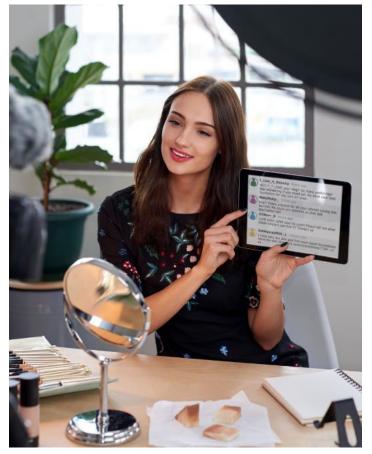


## NEW APPROACH NEEDED...





# INFLUENCERS!











### BRAINSTORMING **LUNCHEONS**

- · Co-Chairs for a month
- 2-to-4 Co-Chairs
- Various locations across town



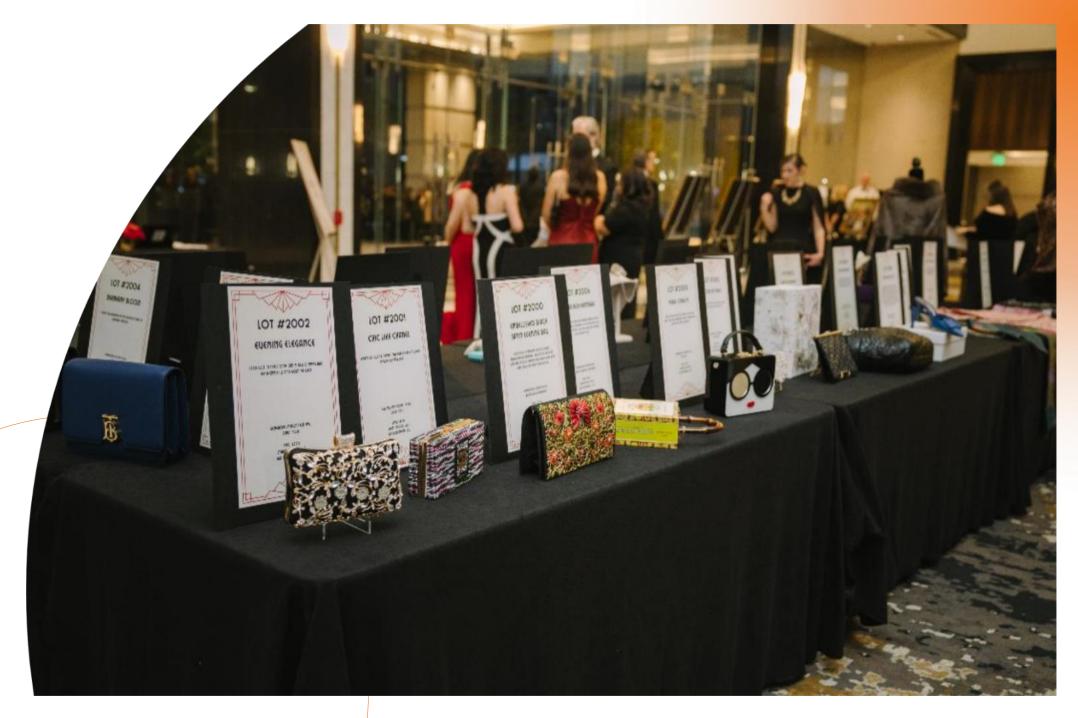
















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### And... then sold to the highest bidder!





### FINANCIALS

**GOAL** \$150,000 \$202,470

\$3,670

NET REVENUE \$198,800

#### IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Luncheons: \$8,000

Auction Catalog: \$3,780







#### **TIMELINE**

- + Re-invention of Auctions years in formation in Chairwoman's brain
- → With event in January most, if not all must be complete before holidays
- → Month 1: Auction Chair secures:
  - Co-Chairs for each of 4 months
  - Underwriting for luncheons
  - Invitation chair and 2-4 co-chairs for each of 4 months
  - Organizes brainstorming/demonstration luncheon
- → Month 2-5: Co-chairs host sponsored brainstorming luncheons for 35-40 committee members
- → Month 6-7: Volunteer committee tasks complete. Chair assists thank you notes while staff finalizes auction catalog
- → Month 8: Staff organizes auction display, payments & IRS receipts



### **VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS**

- Chair underwrote luncheons and with Symphony staff's help selected invitation chair and co-chairs
- → 2-4 Volunteer Co-chairs for each of 4 months totaling 15
- → 200+ Volunteers, including musicians & Board members participated
- Invitation Chair and 2 staff members kept data bases of volunteers & auction items ensuring collection, storing, photographing, etc...
- Musicians and Board Members donated auction item













REINVENTING THE STRUCTURE OF 2023 HOUSTON SYMPHONY BALL auction





### THANK YOU!