

vocaessence GALA

S E R E N G E T I
serenade

auction catalog

Saturday, May 3, 2008
The Historic Milwaukee Depot

Minnesota
Monthly

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Judy Drobeck
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Margene Fox
Jerry Johnson, Co-chair
Nikki Lewis, Co-chair
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Jennifer Vickerman
Linda Zelig

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Paul Olson
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Elise Brunelle
Doug Cody
Jon Cranney
Sharon Sudman, Image Spigot, LLC
VocalEssence Board of Directors
Polly Wright

VocalEssence would like to thank the dedicated volunteers who have made this year's Live and Silent Auction such a resounding success!

{ How the Auction Works }

About “Express Pay”

When you check in at the VocalEssence Gala, you will be given the option to select Express Pay for all your auction winnings. If you do so, your credit card will be swiped at the check-in table and you will sign a receipt that authorizes VocalEssence to charge that card for all items you win in the live and silent auctions (based on your bid number).

At the end of the evening, guests who opted for Express Pay will skip the Cashiers’ Area; simply retrieve your invoice from the Invoice Table and proceed directly to the Item Redemption Table to claim your auction winnings.

Bidding

Your bid number for the silent and live auctions is found on the cover of the Auction Catalog, provided to each guest at the check-in table.

To bid for an item in the Silent Auction, write your bid number and the amount you wish to bid on the bid sheet. Bidders must make counter bids in the minimum increments (raise) indicated on the bid sheet.

Please note: illegible bids will be disqualified — please observe the minimum raise or you may lose your item!

The Silent Auction will close in three increments during the course of dinner. Once a section is closed, no more bidding in that section will be allowed. The bid sheets will be immediately collected and turned in for processing.

{ Checking Out }

Check out

When the Silent Auction checkout area is ready for business, VocalEssence will project the item numbers and winning bid numbers on the screen near the stage.

We regret that no Silent Auction invoices or items may be processed until the bid numbers are projected.

How to check out

- 1.** Pick up your itemized invoice at the Invoice Table.
- 2.** Take your invoice to the Cashiers' Area for processing. (Express Pay guests may skip the Cashiers' Area.) Payment may be made by:
 - Cash
 - Check (payable to VocalEssence)
 - Credit card (VISA, MasterCard and American Express only)Your invoice will stamped "paid."
- 3.** Take your paid invoice to the Item Redemption Table. Our runners will collect your items and bring them to you.

Winning bidders must take items won at the end of the evening. In the case of Gift Certificates, winners should contact donors where appropriate.

Delivery

Delivery of certain items may be arranged for an additional fee of \$50—please request delivery at the Invoice Table.

Please take note of any expiration dates and restrictions when you bid. Happy bidding and good luck!

{ The Live Auction }

{ 1 } Shop the Farmer's Market with Lynne Rossetto Kasper

Lynne Rossetto Kasper, host of MPR's *The Splendid Table*, will take you and five of your friends shopping at the St. Paul Farmer's Market on August 2, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. Start the day by joining Lynne for breakfast at one of her favorite haunts near the market. Then head to the Farmer's Market where Lynne will help expand your culinary horizons by encouraging you to try out new ingredients from the locally-grown produce available there. [Cost of breakfast not included.] *Donor(s): Lynne Rossetto Kasper Value: Priceless*

{ 2 } A Week in Jackson Hole and Four Tickets to the Grand Teton Music Festival

You'll spend the week of July 27-August 2, 2008 at the guest house of Glen and Marilyn Nelson: Bloomerhas (Flower Garden House), a private, three-bedroom getaway at the foot of the Teton range. The residence has a full kitchen, living room, game room, hot tub and comes with a "house bug" — a Volkswagen Beetle that sports flower hubcaps. Includes four tickets to the internationally renowned Grand Teton Music Festival on August 2, 2008. [Sunday, July 27 to Sunday, August 3, 2008.] *Donor(s): Glen Nelson & Marilyn Carlson Nelson Value: Priceless*

{ 3 } VocalEssence England Tour for Two

Britannia rules! Join the VocalEssence Ensemble Singers on their January 2009 tour to the United Kingdom. The winning bidder of this item will receive airfare, hotel accommodations, breakfast, ground transportation for two and admittance to all of the Ensemble Singers concerts! The tour will include stops in London, Cambridge, Oxford, Birmingham and Manchester including concerts with the BBC Singers and at historic King's College. *Donor(s): VocalEssence Value: \$10,000*

{ 4 } Private Jet Flight for 8 with JetChoice

Plan an amazing getaway! Up to eight very fortunate people will fly in the lap of luxury anywhere in the continental United States with JetChoice. JetChoice is the leading provider of private jet memberships to many of today's top executives and provides the safest, most reliable private jet service anywhere. Board your flight at St. Paul's Holman Field without the all of the usual airport hassles. Then sit back and relax as you're pampered in style the JetChoice way. Choose your destination and dates; travel for the day or book your return flight for later. [Must book flight at least 14 days in advance. Expires May 3, 2009. Continental U.S. only.] *Donor(s): JetChoice Value: \$35,000*

{ 5 } Department 56 Venetian Christmas by Anna Griffin

Celebrate an unforgettable Christmas this year when your home is enhanced by Anna Griffin's rich and elegant "Venetian Christmas" line of decor. We'll deliver to your home a fully decorated 9-foot Christmas tree, adorned with hand-decorated European glass ornaments, etched Venetian glass icicles, gilded cherubs, and red flocked damask ribbon. Decorate your tabletops with matching antique-reproduction gold tabletop cherub candelabra, a beautiful velvet-trimmed damask print table runner, and a decorative ice bucket with gold accents. *Donor(s): Department 56 Value: \$8,060*

{ 6 } Prairie Home Companion Walk-On Role

Have you ever dreamed about making it big in the theater? How about putting your talent on the radio in front of 4 million listeners? The winner of this amazing auction item will have a walk-on role in one of Garrison Keillor's hilarious sketches on "A Prairie Home Companion." Will you be a villain, a cowpoke or a shill for the Catchup Advisory Board? Only Garrison Keillor knows. [Saturday date to be mutually determined. Role to be determined by Prairie Home Productions.] *Donor(s): Garrison Keillor Value: Priceless*

{ 7 } Musicale and Dinner for Eight

David and Ann Buran will host a spectacular dinner for eight at their lovely home, featuring a delightful menu prepared by Chef Jon Cranney. Following dinner, soprano extraordinaire Maria Jette will present a program of British art songs and ditties with Philip Brunelle at the piano. With these marvelous performers, hosts and chef, this will be an evening your friends will long remember! If you wish to close by singing "Land of Hope and Glory" (Pomp and Circumstance) they will be glad to accommodate with words for all to sing. [Date to be mutually agreed upon.] *Donor(s): David & Ann Buran; Jon Cranney & Katherine Ferrand; Maria Jette; Philip Brunelle Value: Priceless*

{ “Sign Up” Item }

{ 50 } “How to Eat Supper” with Lynne Rossetto Kasper

Watch and learn from the host of *The Splendid Table*, Lynne Rossetto Kasper, as she prepares a special dinner just for you from her newest book, *How to Eat Supper*, in the private event space at Cooks of Crocus Hill in St. Paul. Soak up Lynne’s insightful cooking tips and enjoy her hilarious anecdotes while you savor every bite of the menu and every sip of selected wines. Philip Brunelle chimes in with musical entertainment between courses — including his amazing “name that composer” variations on a theme. Limited to the first 30 people who sign up at \$100 per person.

Date: Monday, October 6 from 6 to 8 pm

Donor(s): Cooks of Crocus Hill; Lynne Rossetto Kasper

Value: \$100 per person

{ Section 100: Jewelry & Wearables }

{ 100 } **The Westin Edina Galleria Stay and Shopping Experience**

Whatever you want, whatever your style, you'll find it at Galleria. But it will be even more amazing when you and your guest stay for the weekend in a suite at The Westin Edina Galleria, the extraordinary brand new hotel and resident complex adjacent to Galleria's distinctive shopping environment. Enjoy special access to the concierge lounge at the hotel, then head over to the sophisticated shops at Galleria with a \$250 gift card and the assistance of a personal shopper for up to three hours. You're sure to bring home something fabulous! [Two night hotel stay valid Friday, Saturday or Sunday between October 2008-October 2009. Personal shopper available by appointment.] *Donor(s): The Westin Edina Galleria; Galleria Merchants Association Value: \$1,475*

{ 101 } **Judith Kinghorn Earrings**

Judith Kinghorn creates stunning award-winning jewelry which is sold to a private clientele, including Margaret Thatcher, Sandra Day O'Connor, Frank Gehry, and many others, as well as at juried art shows around the country. These particular earrings, called "Hops," are hand fabricated of 24-karat gold and oxidized sterling silver on 18-karat gold hooks. *Donor(s): Judith Kinghorn Value: \$750*

{ 102 } **Handwoven Necktie Purse**

It's a purse, but not just any purse. Maestro Brunelle has sacrificed some of his favorite neckties to be hand woven into a "Necktie Purse"! Truly a unique collectible for any VocalEssence fan. *Donor(s): Heather Cranney Willman Value: \$125*

{ 103 } **Handmade Silver Pendant**

This beautiful sterling silver pendant and chain is a lovely accessory for any music lover. Carved into the shape of a music note, the marcasite stone makes this a rare and unique piece of jewelry. *Donor(s): "B" Original Handmade Jewelry by Jane Balster Value: \$65*

{ 104 } **African Caftans and Shirt**

Dress up in Serengeti Style with this collection of three items of clothing from Africa: a beautiful blue damask print caftan, a two-tone brown caftan, and a green and purple print shirt. *Donor(s): Arlen Erdahl Value: \$300*

{ 105 } **Gift Card to Heimie's Haberdashery**

"The suit, the shirt, the tie." Enjoy a \$100 gift card to Heimie's Haberdashery, located in downtown Saint Paul. Choose from the finest men's products including pens, pocket watches, cigars, cuff links, and leather bags, belts, wallets, and other accouterments. Pick up something for your next special

occasion or enjoy the finest shave a man can receive by the famed Moustache Jim. *Donor(s): Heimie's Haberdashery Value: \$100*

{ 106 } South African Fulani Bronze Earrings

These traditional African earrings, handcrafted from brass by the talented artisans of the Fulani tribe of Mali, are very lightweight and comfortable to wear. They will add contemporary flair to your favorite outfit! *Donor(s): VocalEssence Board of Directors; Elise Brunelle Value: \$50*

{ 107 } Gift Card to Macy's

Experience the magic of Macy's with a \$500 shopping spree to one of the world's largest department stores. Macy's is known for selling a broad array of merchandise that helps individual customers express their personal style. You'll find the best designer brands in clothing and home accessories. Just imagine what you'll bring home from this shopping extravaganza! *Donor(s): Macy's Department Store Value: \$500*

{ 108 } Topaz and Sterling Men's Ring

Badda-bling! This spectacular sterling silver ring is encrusted with 16 sparkling light-blue topaz stones. Men's size 11. *Donor(s): Superb Living LLC, Paul Olson Value: \$229*

{ 109 } Men's Citrine and Sterling Ring

More manly bling! A huge 2.10 ctw citrine stone is set in sterling silver — beautiful clarity and cut! Men's size 11. *Donor(s): Superb Living LLC, Paul Olson Value: \$159*

{ 110 } Onyx and Cubic Zirconia Ring

This stunning ring is adorned with black onyx and cubic zirconia, set in a heavy 925 sterling silver band. Size 8. *Donor(s): Superb Living LLC, Paul Olson Value: \$219*

{ 111 } Multi Colored Felted Purse

Take home this beautifully designed multi-color wool knitted purse with crocheted ruffle, an original design by the talented Mariana Shulstad. *Donor(s): Mariana Shulstad Value: \$75*

{ 112 } Blue Felted Purse

Handmade and designed by Mariana Shulstad, this whimsical handbag is as much an accessory as a work of art! Made with Icelandic wool, the felted knitting technique gives this purse a soft texture. Adorned with a fun and bright eyelash trim, this accessory will catch the attention of all of your friends! *Donor(s): Mariana Shulstad Value: \$75*

{ 113 } Necklace and Earring Set

This gorgeous 16-inch necklace features a double strand of freshwater pearls, chalcedony, moonstones and sterling silver beads with a box clasp. And it comes with earrings made from matching stones. *Donor(s): Lonnie Louness Value: \$250*

{ 114 } Handcrafted Wood Jewelry Box

Exquisite craftsmanship and fine hardwoods have gone into the making of this jewelry box created by craftsman Gerard Sullivan. This is only a small sample of some of the incredible handcrafted woodworks he creates for homes around the metro. *Donor(s): Gerard Sullivan Value: \$150*

{ 115 } Shopping Experience at Neiman Marcus

What to wear? Let Neiman Marcus personal shopping consultant Mary Lou Will help you find what to wear for your next special occasion or night on the town. Then let the shopping begin with your \$500 Neiman Marcus gift card! You'll look fabulous and feel great. [Not redeemable for cash or credit or on sale or clearance items. Consultation expires November 1, 2008. Appointment must be made at least 2 weeks in advance.] *Donor(s): Neiman Marcus Value: \$500*

{ 116 } Designer Velvet Cocktail Dress

This lovely designer dress will make you a hit at your next party or event! You'll look gorgeous in black and wine colored velvet with long sleeves, staggered hemline in the flared skirt, and beautiful beading highlights. Hand made by a fashion designer. [Size M/L.] *Donor(s): Tom and Jan Kilton Value: \$200*

{ 117 } Handmade African Bead Necklace

This stunning necklace is brilliantly colored in red, orange, yellow and deep blue. The beads reflect the creativity of the Zulu people, and the colors, shapes and designs carry messages of love and longing in their patterns. *Donor(s): VocalEssence Board of Directors; Elise Brunelle Value: \$25*

{ 118 } Watch and Inlaid Box

This masculine men's watch will keep you on time in safari style! The Tokyo Bay "Spy" Watch has a green Italian leather strap and orange full numbered dial. The watch comes in a beautiful box, inlaid with mother of pearl in a checkerboard pattern on the outside and lacquered in silver on the inside. *Donor(s): Martin Patrick 3 Value: \$198*

{ 119 } Len Druskin Gift Card

Pick out something fabulous to wear at Len Druskin's elegant Edina Galleria store with this \$200 gift card. For over 30 years Len Druskin has been bringing the very latest, highly-wearable clothing to all kinds of savvy men and women. Their eclectic brands and styles come from all over the world. As they say, "If someone looks good around here, they probably shopped with us." [Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Len Druskin Value: \$200*

{ 120 } Breakfast at Tiffany & Co. Galleria

"Breakfast at Tiffany's" at the world's premier jeweler, Tiffany & Co., located in Edina Galleria. Up to 20 guests will have the rare opportunity to privately tour Tiffany & Co. before store hours and then enjoy an exquisite champagne breakfast. The guest of honor or hostess will be wardrobeed in Tiffany & Co.'s private collection of rare diamond pieces as the guests enjoy a presentation by store director, Kathy Buchanan. This event

is perfect for an anniversary or birthday celebration, a bridal or baby shower, or any unique gathering of friends. Includes a take home gift of Daisy Champagne Flutes, Mumm Napa Champagne and a *Breakfast at Tiffany's* DVD. [Not available in November or December. Expires May 2009.] *Donor(s): Tiffany & Company Value: \$2,560*

{ 121 } Handcrafted Necklace from Africa

This 24-inch glittering beaded necklace is hand crafted from multicolored beads. Truly a unique treasure for your wardrobe, it can be worn as a long necklace or doubled. *Donor(s): VocalEssence Board of Directors; Elise Brunelle Value: \$25*

{ Section 200: Travel & Leisure }

{ 200 } Three Nights Stay on the North Shore

Going up north? You'll want to head to Kay and Mike McCarthy's newly renovated guest cabin just seven miles north of Two Harbors in Encampment Forest. The cabin sleeps up to four people and has a full kitchen, dining room, and living room with a fireplace to curl up next to on those cool North Shore nights. A perfect retreat for hiking, cross country skiing, and watching the waves crash on the shore. [Adults only, no pets. Subject to availability, not available mid-July through Labor Day. Must be used by June 2009.] *Donor(s): Kay and Mike McCarthy Value: \$500*

{ 201 } Four Nights International Accommodation

Imagine this — you and your guest can enjoy the comfort and elegance of ANY Radisson Hotel & Resort around the globe for four nights. Radisson has fine hotels from Aruba, Egypt or Kazakhstan all the way to Mali, Senegal or the United Kingdom — practically anywhere you might want to visit! [Double occupancy, based on availability, offer expires 6/1/2009.] *Donor(s): Carlson Hotels Worldwide Value: \$1,200*

{ 202 } Roundtrip Airfare on Icelandair

Whale sushi, puffins, hot springs, ruggedly beautiful landscapes and the vibrant culture of Reykjavik await you in Iceland when you use these round-trip economy class airline tickets for two from any Icelandair U.S. gateway to Reykjavik, Iceland. Travel beyond Iceland to any Icelandair destination (including Scandinavia, the UK and continental Europe) is available upon request of the winning bidder. [Taxes and fees (approximately \$250 per ticket) are the winner's responsibility. Travel available September 5-December 15, 2008 only. Other restrictions apply.] *Donor(s): Icelandair Value: \$3,200*

{ 203 } Estetica Salon Certificate

Gorgeous hair, perfectly manicured nails, exquisite make-up — you can apply this gift certificate to any service you desire at Estetica, an Aveda salon in the Cathedral Hill neighborhood of Saint Paul. [Expires November 6, 2008.] *Donor(s): Estetica Salon Value: \$50*

{ 204 } Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge

Get away for a perfect summer weekend! Enjoy two nights accommodation for two at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge in the Mille Lacs area, including dinner and breakfast daily, unlimited golf on the Alec's Nine, reduced green fees on The Lakes, and use of all of the resort's amenities. [Subject to availability. Tax and gratuities not included. Cannot be redeemed for cash. Expires October 28, 2008.] *Donor(s): Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge Value: \$600*

{ 205 } Getaway at the Lafayette Club

It's Saturday night on the lake! Be our guest for an overnight stay at the exclusive Lafayette Club overlooking Lake Minnetonka. In the evening, watch the sun glinting off the water, clouds drifting by, the enchanting blues and greens of the lake. The next morning, enjoy the Club's famous brunch for two in one of their amazing dining rooms. [Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Lafayette Club Value: \$235*

{ 206 } 90-Minute Massage

Experience the skilled touch of massage therapist Mary Luger-Sartor in her peaceful Northeast Minneapolis studio. Find energy, balance and health through a 90-minute session of massage, healing touch, or CranioSacral therapy. [Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Mary Luger-Sartor Value: \$125*

{ 207 } Alaskan Cruise with Minnesota Boychoir

Plan ahead for an unforgettable summer musical experience with the Minnesota Boychoir in 2009 when you sail on an Alaskan voyage aboard the beautiful Carnival Spirit! Your accommodations will be a two-passenger inside stateroom (upgrade available at additional cost). This seven-day southbound cruise departs Anchorage on June 17, 2009 and cruises Prince William Sound to Sitka, Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan, and the Inside Passage before ending the voyage in Vancouver, BC, Canada on June 24, 2009. [Certificate is only good for the cruise specified. All taxes, fees, port charges, gratuities and fuel surcharges are included. Airfare not included. Make reservations by December 1, 2008 to establish the booking and passenger names.] *Donor(s): Minnesota Boychoir; Book It! Travel Value: \$2,182*

{ 208 } Juut Salonspa Gift Box

Indulge your senses with this "treasure box" from Juut Salonspa in Wayzata. The box includes a certificate for a 60-minute massage and a Replenishing Facial plus a selection of desirable Aveda products including Hand Relief, Caribbean Therapy Bath Soak and Body Creme. Enjoy! [Massage and facial at Wayzata location only. Expires August 2008.] *Donor(s): Juut Salonspa Value: \$300*

{ 209 } Accommodation at Heartwood Conference Center & Retreat

Come up north for a two-night stay at the Heartwood Conference Center & Retreat, located on 700 acres of natural woodlands surrounding two private lakes and the nationally protected Namekagon River in Wisconsin. Each newly updated room overlooks the private lakes and has two queen beds, wireless Internet, satellite TV and a private balcony or patio. Whether a relaxing getaway or family-fun vacation, expect quality service and a dedication to meeting your needs at Heartwood. [Applies to standard lodge hotel room. Reservations based on availability.] *Donor(s): Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Value: \$620*

{ 210 – 211 top two bidders win }

Haircut from Sassy Lu Salon by Brad

Refresh your hairstyle with a new cut from talent stylist

Brad at Sassy Lu Salon, a small boutique salon located in NE Minneapolis next to Erte and the Modern Cafe. [Certificate for haircut only. Expires January 15, 2009.] *Donor(s): Sassy Lu Salon Value: \$50*

{ 212 – 213 top two bidders win }

Haircut from Sassy Lu Salon by Sarah

Ready for a new look? Enjoy a style and cut from Sarah at Sassy Lu Salon, a small boutique salon located in NE Minneapolis next to Erte and the Modern Cafe. [For haircut only. Valid through January 15, 2009.] *Donor(s): Sassy Lu Salon Value: \$40*

{ 214 } Tranquility Spa Package

A leader in cutting edge service and design, Salon Avé day spa and wellness creates a positive setting where you will feel comfortable, pampered and cared for. Your Tranquility Spa Package includes a one-hour full body massage, a Salon Avé signature facial, a Salon Avé exclusive body treatment, a deluxe spa pedicure, spa manicure and a shampoo & style. A light cuisine spa lunch is served. [Shoreview location only. Reservations required; assume two weeks notice for appointment setting. No expiration date.] *Donor(s): Salon Avé day spa and wellness Value: \$245*

{ 215 } Men's Retreat Spa Package

Not just for women anymore...Salon Avé day spa and wellness offers a special retreat for men! Your Men's Retreat Spa Package includes a one-hour full body massage, a classic men's manicure and a purifying classic facial for men. A light cuisine spa lunch is served. [Shoreview location only. Reservations required; appointment setting 2 weeks in advance is recommended. No expiration date.] *Donor(s): Salon Avé day spa and wellness Value: \$160*

{ 216 } Romantic Getaway at Cove Point Lodge

Two nights of romance and relaxation will be yours at secluded Cove Point Lodge on the North Shore. Each beautifully decorated room has a spectacular view of Lake Superior, overlooking a unique and natural cove with a spectacular ledge rock point in Beaver Bay, MN. Also included in this package is a \$100 gift certificate for dining. *Donor(s): Linda, Steve and Anders Eckman Value: \$500*

{ 217 } Relaxing Therapeutic Massage

Jim Dale provides gentle deep tissue massage out of his home in the Western Metro. With ten years' experience, Jim specializes in therapy for sports injuries, migraine headaches and car accident whiplash pain. Enjoy a one hour relaxing therapeutic massage from Jim in a relaxing and safe environment. [Expires December 31, 2008.] *Donor(s): Jim Dale Certified Massage Therapist Value: \$75*

{ 218 } Luxury Accommodation at McCormick House Inn

The luxurious McCormick House is a Victorian style mansion with ultra-modern comforts located in Wisconsin's beautiful Northwoods. Stay for two nights and find your room appointed with a complimentary bottle of champagne, fruit

basket, handmade chocolates and a Penhaligon's of Covent Garden gift set. Their English breakfast includes English cuts of bacon and sausage and toasted crumpets served on fine Wedgewood China — and you can enjoy it in the beautiful dining room or have it brought to your room for a romantic breakfast in bed! [Reservations required. Restrictions may apply on busy summer or event weekends.] *Donor(s): McCormick House Inn - Hayward Value: \$550*

{ 219 } Alternative Health Care Body Work

This consultation on nutrition and wellness is combined with bodywork to compliment and enhance your well-being. Certified Nutritional Therapist Byron Jacobson is a holistic practitioner combining the best of bodywork and nutritional therapy into a powerful synergy. He uses a wide array of techniques depending on the client's needs and takes a "whole person approach to wellness." [Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Byron Jacobson Value: \$80*

{ 220 } Chauffeured Classic Limousine

Re-live days gone by and step into an elegant era as you spend a summer evening out in a chauffeured 1942 Packard Town Car Limousine. This classic beauty is your dream ride for up to three hours. [Valid for Summer 2008 season, subject to mutually agreeable date and time. Weather permitting.] *Donor(s): Richard Struthers Value: \$450*

{ 221 } South African Travel Experience for Two

Imagine the thrill of a South African travel experience including three nights' stay in Pretoria and two nights in Cape Town. You and a guest will enjoy accommodations in four-star hotels! This package also includes an arrival transfer in Johannesburg. [Accommodations are for two sharing a double room. Airfare not included, subject to availability, must be used before July 31, 2009. Arrangements should be made 60 days in advance of travel with Classical Movements, Inc.] *Donor(s): Classical Movements Inc. Value: \$1,000*

{ 222 } Four Nights Domestic Accommodation

Stay for four nights at any Radisson Hotels & Resorts location anywhere in North America. Relax in a quiet, spacious Radisson room featuring Sleep Number beds by Select Comfort™ for the perfect night's sleep. Enjoy Radisson's famous personalized, professional guest service and genuine hospitality wherever you stay. [Double occupancy, based on availability and expires on June 1, 2009. See certificate for other restrictions.] *Donor(s): Carlson Hotels Worldwide Value: \$800*

{ 223 } NYC Condo Stay and Lion King on Broadway

A really HOT ticket! Performed on Broadway for over ten years and in six countries around the world, you and a guest are sure to enjoy the Disney Broadway production of the Lion King in this perfect Serengeti experience! Includes two tickets to the Lion King on Broadway, a Lion King souvenir program book and poster. PLUS — stay in a sophisticated New York City condo, occupying the entire 14th floor with full city views! The east Midtown location is within walking

distance of Rockefeller Center, Saks Fifth Avenue, MOMA, theaters and countless fine restaurants. [Tickets are for any Friday or Sunday performance in September. Condo available any September 2008 weekend for three nights, either Thurs-Sun or Fri-Sun.] *Donor(s): Disney Theatrical Productions; John and Judith Benton Value: \$1,100*

{ 224 } A Day on the Mighty Mississippi

Is Huck Finn calling you to spend a day on the Mighty Miss? Our hosts will welcome six guests for the day to their beautiful private home just north of St. Cloud overlooking the river. Begin with Italian antipasta upon arrival, then enjoy the tennis courts, power boat, pontoon boat, fishing or swimming. Or you can bike along the river to see the Munsinger Gardens in St. Cloud. The day ends with a delectable chicken dinner and cocktails on the river. Painting the fence is not a requirement! [Summer months only, not available July 28-August 15, 2008. Expires September 15, 2009.] *Donor(s): Don Helgeson & Sue Shepard Value: \$600*

{ Section 300: Family & Entertainment }

{ 300 } Private Box at *A Prairie Home Companion*

"I can see Garrison's shoelaces from here!" It's the best seat to one of the hottest events in town — a live performance of *A Prairie Home Companion* with Garrison Keillor at the Fitzgerald Theater in Saint Paul. This is a private box for four people to attend the October 4, 2008 show. Over 4 million listeners hear the show live on the radio, but you'll be able to spot all of the crazy antics of the cast and crew from your lofty perch! [Tickets are for October 4th, 2008 only.] *Donor(s): Garrison Keillor Value: \$192*

{ 301 } Mall of America Family Fun Pack

You and your family will have an amazing time with their favorite children's characters with four passes to the first Nickelodeon Universe Theme Park at the Mall of America! After you've ridden all of the rides and met Spongebob Squarepants, head to Underwater Adventures to use your "Fishing Permits" for admission into the underwater aquarium! Then, if you haven't had enough fun, get out your coupon book for super savings all over the mall! [Coupon book expires December 31, 2008, Underwater Adventures passes valid through March 31, 2009.] *Donor(s): Mall of America Value: \$145*

{ 302 } African Folktale Books

A wonderful collection of African folktale books makes fine reading for the whole family. The fantastic illustrations will make you feel like you are on a safari! *Donor(s): Barnes & Noble, Inc Value: \$40*

{ 303 – 307 top five bidders win } Portrait Session Certificate

Whether commemorating a wedding or graduation, to preserving precious memories or simply updating a family portrait, the professionals at Dale Studios make the process of getting a picture taken simple and will capture you and your loved ones at your very best. [Limit one certificate per family per year. Expires on November 3rd, 2008.] *Donor(s): Dale Studios Value: \$200 (each certificate)*

{ 308 } Autographed Book by Patricia Hampl

The Florist's Daughter by Patricia Hampl is a beautiful memoir, a tribute to the ardor of supposedly ordinary people, and your copy of this fine book is autographed by the author. As bestselling author Pat Conroy has stated, "Sentence for sentence, Hampl writes the best prose of any American writer, period. The rest of us cannot touch her." *Donor(s): Patricia Hampl Value: \$25*

{ 309 } James Sewell Ballet Tickets

James Sewell Ballet was founded in 1990 by James Sewell and Sally Rousse. Together they envisioned their own small

company of artists willing to expand their notions about ballet and to perform work that challenged their physical limits. Today, the embodiment of James and Sally's original vision is a company that performs innovative works that explore the technical boundaries of ballet. Enjoy four tickets to a performance by the James Sewell Ballet company in the Fall of 2008 at The O'Shaughnessy in Saint Paul. [Choose from Oct. 24, Oct. 25, Nov. 1, or Nov. 2, 2008.] *Donor(s): James Sewell Ballet Value: \$80*

{ 310 } "Out of Africa" DVD Collection

Explore the continent of Africa through the vision of classic and contemporary filmmakers —from the sand dunes of Egypt (*The English Patient*) to the rivers of the Congo (*The African Queen*); from the Kalahari Desert (*The Gods Must Be Crazy*) to the end of apartheid (*Cry Freedom*), this amazing landscape and its people have inspired great stories. These 12 DVDs have been collected for you by the Gala Committee as a souvenir of Serengeti Serenade! *Donor(s): Gala Committee Value: \$240*

{ 311 } Magic Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle Tickets and Tour

Can you scuba dive in your bedroom? Roast marshmallows over a chandelier? Unearth pirate treasure in the fireplace? You can with Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle! Four guests will enjoy *The Magic of Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle* at The Children's Theatre Company, plus an exclusive backstage tour after the show with Autumn Ness, the actor who brings Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle's magic to life! [No exchanges, no extensions. Expires June 1, 2008.] *Donor(s): Children's Theatre Company Value: \$54*

{ 312 } Stage with Animal Hand Puppets

Your youngsters will have hours of imaginative fun with this charming theatrical stage and set of six adorable animal hand puppets. *Donor(s): Linda Ault Value: \$65*

{ 313 } Sing Minnesota — Arts Adventure for Kids

Bring out the creative talent in your young one! *Sing Minnesota* is a week-long day camp for boys and girls who have completed grades 2-6 (ages 8-12) that runs from August 11-15, 2008 at Concordia University in St. Paul. It's just the ticket for kids who are excited about experiences in the arts. While focusing on choral singing, campers also participate in drama and movement, visual arts, and outdoor fun and games. [Dates are August 11-15, 2008, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Parents are responsible for arranging transportation to and from Concordia University.] *Donor(s): Minnesota Boychoir Value: \$300*

{ 314 } African Textiles MIA Tour and Lunch for Six

The Minneapolis Institute of Arts textile collection holds more than 8,000 objects from an array of countries around the world. Your group of six will discover in-depth the artistry of African textiles with a personal behind-the-scenes tour conducted by Patricia Martinson. See the amazing technical achievements of these craftspeople, from the intricate interlacing of basketry to the sophisticated weaving of complex fabrics. After the tour, enjoy lunch at D'Amico with

a gift certificate for six. [Tour available after June 1, 2008.]
Donor(s): D'Amico and Sons; Minneapolis Institute of Arts
Value: \$300

{ 315 } Library of Minnesota Books

Minnesota is home to great authors and fascinating history. This assortment of books published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press includes *Sweet Land*, *The Minnesota Weather Almanac*, *Minnesota Vacation Days*, *Remembering the Good War*, *75 Memorable Moments in Minnesota Sports*, *Twin Cities Picture Show* and *Minnesota Goes to War*.
Donor(s): Karen A. Humphrey *Value: \$300*

{ 316 } Four Super Seats for Sesame Street Live

Four prime seats to see Elmo, Big Bird, Abby Cadabby, Cookie, Oscar the Grouch and all of your favorite Sesame Street friends at the Target Center in January 2009. Sesame Street Live, a Minnesota-based VEE Corporation production, is proud to bring this musical and dance extravaganza to Target Center in the company's 29th touring season. This is an all-new Sesame Street Live production promising fun and laughter for the entire family! *Donor(s): VEE Corporation*
Value: \$200

{ 317 } Arthur Murray Dance Lessons

Whether it's for a wedding, special event, or just a night on the town, you'll be ready to dance the night away after taking lessons at the legendary Arthur Murray Dance Studios. This one-week membership includes an introductory lesson, one private lesson, one group lesson and one party lesson. [Valid for adults only. Expires November 3, 2008.] *Donor(s): Arthur Murray Studio* *Value: \$129*

{ 318 } Books from Afton Historical Society Press

Expand your home library with a wonderful selection of books specially chosen for the Serengeti Serenade, representing the highest quality and artistic endeavor in publishing. *Donor(s): Malcolm and Patricia McDonald* *Value: \$150*

{ 319 } Art Supplies and Certificate to Wet Paint

Do you have an eye for color and texture? Develop your inner artist with a set of art supplies to get your first painting started, including a professional quality 12-inch square canvas, a set of six acrylic paints, and four paint brushes selected by visual artist Carolyn Brunelle. But don't stop there! Indulge your creative streak with a \$50 gift certificate to Wet Paint, an independently owned art supply store located on St. Paul's vibrant Grand Avenue. [Gift certificate expires on March 17, 2010.] *Donor(s): Wet Paint; Carolyn Brunelle* *Value: \$125*

{ Section 400: Sports }

{ 400 } Signed Vikings Jersey and Photo

It's a Minnesota Vikings fan dream come true! Take home a Vikings jersey autographed by record-breaking running back Chester Taylor and an incredible autographed photo of Minnesota Vikings player Jim Kleinsasser, one of the league's top blocking tight ends. *Donor(s): Minnesota Vikings Value: \$100*

{ 401 } Minneapolis Lakers Memorabilia

Some of us will never forget the brilliant days of the Minneapolis Lakers, Minnesota's first professional basketball team, and its legendary six-foot-ten player George Mikan. Take home a Limited Edition 1999 George Mikan lithograph of his statue in Target Center and two autographed books, *The Vern Mikkelsen Story* and *Unstoppable: The Story of George Mikan*. *Donor(s): Denny Schulstad Value: \$450*

{ 402 } Gopher Men's Hockey Tickets - Friday Game

Sport your Maroon and Gold with pride. Share in the excitement of Gopher Men's Hockey with two tickets in Section 22 for a Friday night game. [Date to be determined when the 2008-2009 scheduled is published.] *Donor(s): Philip Worrell Value: \$60*

{ 403 } Gopher Men's Hockey Tickets - Saturday Game

Watch the ice chips fly as the Gophers Men's Hockey team skate their way to victory with two tickets in Section 22 for a Saturday night. [Date to be determined once the 2008-2009 schedule is published.] *Donor(s): Philip Worrell Value: \$60*

{ 404 } Golf for Two at Minikahda Club

Two guests will join host Kip Colwell for lunch and a round of golf at the beautiful Minikahda Club course. This top 100 classic Donald Ross gem has hosted five different USGA events and has a long and storied history. Caddies or cart will be provided. [Mutually agreed upon date to be scheduled with the host.] *Donor(s): Kip Colwell Value: \$400*

{ 405 } Yogacise Bench

This Healthmark, Inc. Yogacise bench allows you to combine relaxing yoga positions with muscle toning exercises. Get a complete full-body work out with this portable device. A training manual is included to help you on your way to getting a beautiful body! *Donor(s): Charles and Julie Zelle Value: \$200*

{ 406 } Vikings vs. Giants Tickets

It's Purple Pride vs. Superbowl champion Giants. Show 'em what we're made of! This gift certificate can be redeemed for two end zone tickets in Section 203 for the Vikings/New York Giants game at the Metrodome. [Date to be announced. Tickets will be mailed after July 25, 2008.] *Donor(s): Dave Mona Value: \$90*

{ 407 } Twins Batting Practice Field Visit

Ever wanted to see the view from the field of the Metrodome? The winner of this item and three friends will get to watch Minnesota Twins players on the field during batting practice before a regular season home game of your choice and will receive lower reserved seat tickets to watch the game. [Must call to set up three weeks in advance. No autographs allowed during visit.] *Donor(s): Minnesota Twins Baseball Club*
Value: Priceless

{ 408 } Golf for Two at Hazeltine Golf Club

Enjoy lunch and a round of golf for two at Hazeltine National Golf Club with your host Bob Muschewske, Immediate Past President of the Hazeltine Board of Governors. Originally designed by Robert Trent Jones, Hazeltine has been home to several PGA Championships. *Donor(s): Robert C. Muschewske*
Value: \$350

{ 409 } Stretching Machine

The Precor StretchTrainer makes stretching simple. Engineered for efficiency, this machine is lightweight with a small footprint, so it will fit in any room in your house. Prepare your body for a more vigorous workout, and help prevent injury during and after exercise. Let this machine stretch your tight and aching muscles safely and effectively! *Donor(s): Charles and Julie Zelle*
Value: \$650

{ 410 } WCCO Sports Huddle with Sid and Dave

Are you a Sunday morning quarterback? Then you'll love spending two and a half hours in the WCCO radio studio with Sid Hartman and Dave Mona as they broadcast the Sports Huddle, the region's top-rated sports talk show for over 25 years! [Must be on a Sunday and a mutually agreed upon date.] *Donor(s): Dave Mona*
Value: Priceless

{ 411 } 2008 LPGA Package

The 2008 U.S. Women's Open will be hosted at the historic Interlachen Country Club in Edina, Minnesota from June 23-29, 2008. The greatest women golfers in the world including Annika Sorenstam, Lorena Ochoa, Paula Creamer, and defending champion Cristie Kerr will be in Minnesota to take part in the National Championship. The 2008 U.S. Women's Open is proud to offer a package which includes two week long grounds passes with access to the Patty Berg Pavilion, two championship logo hats, and two lanyards. This event is expected to sell out! *Donor(s): 2008 U.S. Women's Open*
Value: \$550

{ 412 } Vikings Jersey and Photo Signed by Kevin Williams

Go Vikes! Show your purple pride by wearing this Viking's jersey autographed by Kevin Williams and displaying an incredible autographed photo of this Pro-Bowl defensive tackle. *Donor(s): Minnesota Vikings*
Value: \$100

{ 413 } Golf for Two at Woodhill Country Club

Play 18 holes of golf at the beautiful Woodhill Country Club located in the western suburbs of the Twin Cities with your

host, David Fox. The course, a traditional Donald Ross design completed in 1917, was host to the Trans-Mississippi Tournament which Jack Nicklaus won in 1957. Finish off your good walk on the greens with a delicious lunch for three in the commendable clubhouse. [Date to be mutually agreed upon during the 2008 golf season.] *Donor(s): David and Margene Fox Value: \$450*

{ Section 500: Home & Garden }

{ 500 } Landscape Design Consultation

Dorothy Pedersen of Nature's Garden LLC will help you merge your unique personality with the environment of your home landscape in a two hour consultation. She is a Certified Landscape Designer who was recently featured as the winning designer of the January 2008 HGTV Landscaper's Challenge! She has designed low maintenance spaces, lake shore restorations, English cottage gardens, Asian influenced spaces, family gardens and portions of the Roseville Arboretum — see what magic she can bring to your yard. [Consultation by appointment at a mutually agreeable date and time.] *Donor(s): Nature's Garden LLC Value: \$200*

{ 501 } Caldrea Home Products Gift Basket

Keeping your home clean won't be a chore with Caldrea aromatherapeutic homekeeping products in Ginger Pomelo scent. This Caldrea Bucket includes liquid hand soap, hand lotion, home fragrance spray, scrubbing powder, counter top cleanser, liquid dish soap, all-purpose cleanser and stainless steel spray. *Donor(s): The Caldrea Company Value: \$100*

{ 502 } Piano Tuning

Perfect pitch acting up? Expert piano technician Tom Gunderson tunes the best of the best around the metro. Maestro Brunelle's preferred tuner, Tom will ensure that your piano is ready to go, whether for a special occasion or family sing-a-long. [Must be scheduled by December 31, 2008.] *Donor(s): Tom Gunderson Value: \$135*

{ 503 } Toro Electric Trimmer

This Toro 15-inch trim & edge electric trimmer will make grooming your garden easy. The powerful 4.4 amp motor handles tough trimming, the dual trigger handle allows for easy trimming and edging, and the exclusive variable cutting width system provides better control. A must-have for any gardener! *Donor(s): Toro Value: \$45*

{ 504 } Kitchen Design Consultation

The kitchen is the heart of the home. Spend two hours with James Bohn of Singular Design discussing how to turn your kitchen into a beautifully designed and functional workspace you will enjoy. The consultation includes an on-site visit and

drawing of proposed changes. [Date to be mutually agreed upon.] *Donor(s): James Bohn Value: \$500*

{ 505 } Tall Contempo Crystal Decanter

Show off your favorite scotch in this sleek, modern crystal decanter. Simply elegant for any decor, add this to your collection of beautiful items for your home. *Donor(s): Mark Baumgartner Value: \$95*

{ 506 } Garden Consultation and Subscription

Got a green thumb? Want one? Enjoy a one-year subscription to The Garden Letter, an illustrated quarterly publication to teach you all about gardening! If that's not enough, you will also enjoy a one hour garden consultation with the Editor of The Garden Letter, Bonnie Blodgett. *Donor(s): Bonnie Blodgett Value: \$225*

{ 507 } Halloween by Department 56

Set the stage for your Halloween festivities with "Sadie the Maid" — at over five feet tall she will leave your guests shaking in their boots as she rattles the monster martini glasses on her tray. Toss some witch finger candles into a taper holder and string your creepy chandelier from the ceiling and you've got instant ambiance. Spooky spider risers are a great place for treats, and appetizers pop against an orange and black flocked table runner. *Donor(s): Department 56 Value: \$1,210*

{ 508 } Two Throw Pillows

These two beautiful custom-made throw pillows by GunkelmanFlesher Interior Design will enhance your sofa, bed, or divan. Sized at 20 inches each, they feature tropical green leaf pattern. *Donor(s): GunkelmanFlesher Interior Design Value: \$400*

{ 509 } Rosewood British Colonial Document Box

This 19th Century British Colonial document box will add elegance and history to your home. The exterior has brass lift handles on the sides and brass corners that are mortised in so they lie flush with the surrounding wood. The box is joined with hidden dovetails and has self supporting hinges. Hinged and sliding compartments hold writing accessories and documents. *Donor(s): C.W. Smith Inc. Value: \$200*

{ 510 } Twelve Free Ink Cartridge Refills

Don't run out of ink for a year! Keep that printer working smoothly with a year's worth of inkjet cartridges. Receive one free inkjet cartridge refill each month for one year from Rapid Refill Ink in Plymouth. [Must be used within one year. Value up to \$250. Plymouth location only.] *Donor(s): Rapid Refill Ink Value: \$250*

{ 511 } Swedish Home Goods Basket

An assortment of Swedish home goods and gift items is presented in a decorative basket from the American Swedish Institute and is sure to bring a touch of Swedish culture to your home. Skål! *Donor(s): American Swedish Institute Value: \$100*

{ 512 } Two Hour Interior Design Consultation

Carol Belz is an award winning designer whose work has appeared in *Midwest Home*, *Renovation Concepts*, *Metropolitan Home*, *Better Homes and Gardens* and *Seattle Home & Lifestyles*. She'll come to your home for a two hour consult, or you can split the consult to include one hour at your home and one hour at International Market Square. [Expires on December 30, 2008, only one home visit.] *Donor(s): Carol and Jeff Belz Value: \$300*

{ 513 } Contemporary Crystal Decanter

This beautifully swirled, pyramid-shaped crystal is hand beveled to catch the light, shedding a brilliant glitter around the room. Use this wonderful item to display your favorite wine at your next special gathering. *Donor(s): Mark Baumgartner Value: \$85*

{ 514 } Home Depot Gift Card

Spring is the time of year when projects around the house come due. Pick up the supplies and materials you need with this \$100 gift card for purchases at any Home Depot store or EXPO Design Center in the United States. [Use for In Store purchases only.] *Donor(s): Anonymous Value: \$100*

{ 515 } "Shaken or Stirred" Cocktail Shaker

"Bond, James Bond." Whatever cocktail you are in the mood for, this vintage cocktail shaker is right for you. Rarely found on the market, this glass shaker has favorite cocktail recipes from the 1950s right on the shaker, and it comes with a stirring spoon for those who prefer their drinks stirred. *Donor(s): Mark Baumgartner Value: \$95*

{ 516 } Krinkles Christmas by Patience Brewster

Patience Brewster's whimsical and highly detailed characters always delight inquisitive eyes. Celebrate the joy of the holiday season with this incredible selection of her quirky creations, including twelve Christmas ornaments, a tabletop ornament tree, three stocking hangers, a dozen appetizer plates, a set of decorative nesting boxes and a dazzling sculpture of a Magi traveling on an elephant! *Donor(s): Department 56 Value: \$2,393*

{ 517 } Knitted Tan Lap Afghan

Take home this beautifully handmade tan lap afghan. Knit by VocalEssence Chorus member Kristi Mueller, this cozy lap blanket will keep you warm and comfortable with whatever you are doing, whether watching TV, curling up with a good book, or listening to your favorite VocalEssence CD! *Donor(s): Kristi Mueller Value: \$25*

{ 518 } Interior Design Consultation

Get top notch decor tips from interior designer, Joy Norenberg, who will help you transform your home or office during a two hour consultation. Joy's design firm, Joy and Co. Interior Designs, has over 20 years of experience creating beautiful environments that mirror personalities and reflect your individual style. *Donor(s): Joy and Co. Value: \$300*

{ 519 } Minnesota Sesquicentennial Basket

A basket of Minnesota Sesquicentennial year souvenirs commemorates our 150th year of statehood! The basket includes small flags, desk products, drinking mugs, lapel pins, tee shirts in two sizes, and commemorative coins. Also included is a copy of *Minnesota 150*, a book by Kate Roberts published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press. *Donor(s): N. Judge & Reatha King Value: \$100*

{ 520 } Hand Crafted Quilt

Sarah Henrich has designed, pieced and machine quilted this stunning Oriental themed quilt for you to take home and enjoy. As much a work of art as bedding, she calls this design "In A Japanese Garden." *Donor(s): John and Sarah Henrich Value: \$2,000*

{ 521 } Jack Wood British Colonial Document Box

This antique British Colonial jack wood document/writing box dates from the 19th Century. It has cast brass lift handles and brass corners which are mortised in so they lie flush with the surrounding wood. The well fitted, carved interior has hinged and sliding compartments for writing accessories and documents. *Donor(s): C.W. Smith Inc. Value: \$350*

{ 522 } Heat Surge Heater and Mantle

Everyone hates high heat bills, particularly in Minnesota! The new Heat Surge fireplaces have "Fireless Flame" technology that gives you the peaceful flicker of a real fire but without any flames, fumes, smells, ashes or mess. The latest craze in fireplaces, this heater requires no chimney or vent, simply plug it in and enjoy the warmth. *Donor(s): Charles and Julie Zelle Value: \$250*

{ 523 } Personal Geek Service

Don't we all need a little more geekiness in our lives? Ryan Hollom will provide on-site technical consultation for two hours. Past winners have had him create or update websites, teach them how to use a digital camera, or help them solve computer issues. This is a great item for your small business or personal home office. [Mutually agreed upon date and time. Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): The Sleek Geek Value: \$200*

{ 524 } Martini Shaker and Glasses

Mix your favorite martini in your very own vintage stainless steel martini shaker and pour it into the accompanying cut crystal glasses. Perfect for any romantic moment or to unwind after a hard day's work. *Donor(s): Mark Baumgartner Value: \$85*

{ 525 } Purple Knitted Lap Afghan

Kristi Mueller, VocalEssence chorus member, handmade this beautiful purple heather colored, diagonal knit afghan. The warm and cozy afghan would be a wonderful addition to any room and will keep you comfortable while relaxing. *Donor(s): Kristi Mueller Value: \$25*

{ 526 } Best Buy Shopping Spree

Pick up that new flat screen plasma TV, a pair of those cool new iPhones, or a GPS system for your car. Or have you been needing a new French door refrigerator? You can choose almost anything in the store with this \$1,000 shopping spree at Best Buy! [Redeemable for merchandise or services only. Not redeemable for cash.] *Donor(s): Best Buy Value: \$1,000*

{ 527 } Cut Crystal Ship Decanter

Just try to tip this decanter! It's made to withstand the rocking of a ship. This cut crystal decanter is perfect for your collection of beautiful tabletop items. *Donor(s): Mark Baumgartner Value: \$75*

{ 528 } South African Mohair Blanket

Minnesota summers are South African winters. Snuggle up in a rose colored handmade mohair blanket that's used on chilly evenings in the southern hemisphere. *Donor(s): VocalEssence Board of Directors; Elise Brunelle Value: \$85*

{ 529 - 530 top two bidders win }

Basket of African Violets

Beautify your home with a basket of color. These easy to care for African Violets will reward your attention with blooms all year long. *Donor(s): Linda Zelig Value: \$20*

{ Section 600: Food & Wine }

{ 600 } Dinner with the Brunelles at Tejas

Lively conversation, a flight of tequila and flavorful dining! You and three guests will be joined by Philip and Carolyn Brunelle for a memorable evening at Tejas, where the chef will prepare a special menu just for your table. The flavors of the American southwest will delight, as will the company! [Date to be mutually agreed upon. Reservations required two weeks in advance. Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Tejas Restaurant Value: \$600*

{ 601 } Dinner for Six at the St. Paul Grill

From the delicious menu, generous cocktails and outstanding wines, to the impeccable service and unrivaled location overlooking Rice Park, The St. Paul Grill is a destination restaurant with a reputation that spans generations. Enjoy this amazing dinner for six at The St. Paul Grill, a restaurant that is on "Everyone's List of Favorites." [Tax and gratuity not included. Reservations required. Expires May 1, 2009.] *Donor(s): The St. Paul Hotel Value: \$300*

{ 602 } Beer Tasting

Brewing historian, certified beer judge and VocalEssence bass section member Doug Hoverson will conduct a guided beer tasting at your next gathering. Learn about the ingredients, processes and traditions of the industry while sampling ten carefully selected varieties of specialty beers. Plus a personalized copy of Doug's award-winning new book *Land of Amber Waters: The History of Brewing in Minnesota*. [Limit 12 people, must be 21 or older. Mutually agreed upon date and location.] *Donor(s): Doug Hoverson Value: \$150*

{ 603 } African Dinner for Eight

Julie and Charlie Zelle invite eight people to their lovely Kenwood home for an authentic African dinner prepared by Asei Mannstein Tendle, a chef at Open Arms of Minnesota who specializes in African cuisine. Not only a chef, Asei is also a talented designer, visual artist, musician and skateboarder! [Date to be mutually agreed upon in 2008.] *Donor(s): Charles and Julie Zelle; Open Arms of Minnesota Value: \$450*

{ 604 } Cafe Latté Dessert

Let Cafe Latté make your event memorable with an award winning dessert. Their notorious Turtle Cake will delight your guests, or check out their entire variety of cakes, tarts, tortes and cupcakes made fresh every day. Cafe Latté never uses artificial flavors, colors or preservatives and you can tell by the delicious taste! [Place order two days in advance. Expires May 31, 2008.] *Donor(s): Cafe Latte Value: \$32*

{ 605 } Kramarczuk Gift Certificate

Treat yourself to \$25 worth of tasty treats from Kramarczuk's huge selection of fresh, homemade sausage and bakery

items, as well as imported European specialties. *Donor(s): Kramarczuk Sausage Company Value: \$25*

{ 606 } Restaurant Review with Rick Nelson

You'll be entertained, enlightened and educated about every morsel as you enjoy your dinner for two with Star Tribune restaurant critic Rick Nelson. The winning bidder will select the restaurant from Rick's upcoming review schedule. Don't forget your sunglasses, wig and scarf! [Date to be mutually agreed upon. Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Rick Nelson Value: \$150*

{ 607 } Downtowner Woodfire Grill

The Downtowner Woodfire Grill is one of St. Paul's favorite neighborhood restaurants. With an open floor plan and two fireplaces, the Downtowner offers a charming 21st century atmosphere. Dinner is enhanced by live jazz music on Friday and Saturday evenings or half-priced bottled wine with dinner on Monday & Tuesday nights. [Reservations recommended. Does not include beverages and gratuity. Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Moe Sharif, Downtowner Woodfire Grill Value: \$50*

{ 608 } Dinner at the Black Forest Inn

There's nothing like a German dinner on the lovely patio at the award winning Black Forest Inn on Eat Street in Minneapolis. Its famous specialties include homemade spaetzle, sauerbraten and apple strudel. Prost! [Expires May 3, 2009. Not redeemable for cash.] *Donor(s): Black Forest Inn Value: \$50*

{ 609 } Cooking Class with Vincent Francoual

You and five guests will participate in the once in a lifetime experience of a personal cooking lesson with renowned Chef Vincent Francoual, executive chef and owner of *Vincent - A Restaurant*. Born in France, Vincent spent much of his career studying and working in France, Italy and Great Britain, before establishing his now famous Minneapolis restaurant in 2001. Lunch with wine tasting to follow. [Date to be mutually agreed upon for a Saturday morning on or before May 30, 2009. Minors will not be served wine with lunch.] *Donor(s): Vincent: A Restaurant Value: Priceless*

{ 610 } Chef's Table for Four at Vincent - A Restaurant

Chef Vincent Francoual cordially invites you and three guests to enjoy an extraordinary six-course dinner at the kitchen table of his famous downtown establishment, *Vincent - A Restaurant*. He is certain to delight with his unique and contemporary interpretation of traditional French dishes — an experience you and your guests will long remember. [Redeemable on or before May 30, 2009.] *Donor(s): Vincent: A Restaurant Value: \$300*

{ 611 – 612 top two bidders win }

Murray's Dinner for Two

You and a lucky guest will savor the famous Silver Butter Knife Steak at Murray's, the original Minneapolis Steak Restaurant. Start with a side Caesar or house salad, then

share the most tender 28 oz. New York Strip Sirloin with choice of sides. [Additional courses and wine are extra. Tax and gratuities not included.] *Donor(s): Murray's Restaurant; Value: \$96*

{ 613 } Wall of Wine

Members of the VocalEssence Chorus, as well as Maestro Brunelle, have contributed a bottle of their favorite wine for you to enjoy. The total comes to five cases of wine that will fill your wine rack. Enjoy a wall's worth of our favorite selections, and one very good bottle of beer! *Donor(s): VocalEssence Chorus & Philip Brunelle Value: \$1,000*

{ 614 } Deep Roots Desserts

Take home a Sweet Potato Pie by Deep Roots Gourmet Desserts—a 9-inch, deep dish bit of heaven! This southern traditional Sweet Potato Pie is handmade from scratch using the highest quality ingredients. Featured in Minnesota Monthly Magazine by Sue Zelickson as being “Simply the best!” *Donor(s): Deep Roots Desserts Value: \$25*

{ 615 } Martini Gift Basket

For five generations, the Phillips family has been producing high quality products using the finest ingredients sourced from around the globe. Whether shaken or stirred, this gift basket from Phillips Distilling Company is sure to “add spirit” to your next gathering! The gift basket includes three bottles of UV Vodka, Martini Shaker, glasses, T-shirt and other goodies. *Donor(s): Phillips Distilling Company Value: \$100*

{ 616 } Dinner Party with the Jaffrays & Chef Ferris

Ten very lucky people will join their hosts, Pat & Ben Jaffray, at their stunning home for dinner prepared and presented by Ferris Shiffer, Executive Chef of the Minikahda Club, recognized as one of the Twin Cities' premier chefs. With this hostess and this chef, you are guaranteed an unforgettable evening — perfect hospitality and an exceptional culinary experience in a beautiful setting. [Date to be mutually agreed upon.] *Donor(s): Ben & Pat Jaffray; Ferris Shiffer Value: Priceless*

{ 617 } Formal English Afternoon Tea

Grab your fancy hats ladies, you'll feel like you're at high tea with the queen at this event! Enjoy a wonderful afternoon tea for eight at the lovely Lake Minnetonka home of Margene Fox, former owner of the Fox & Drake Tea Room. [Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Margene Fox Value: \$300*

{ 618 } Mixin' with Johnny at La Belle Vie

Four to six fortunate friends will enjoy a cocktail mixing demonstration with Johnny at La Belle Vie, said by critic Andrew Zimmern to have “the best hand-shaken cocktails in town, courtesy of the unflappable Johnny Michael, who mixes all his cocktails by hand with fresh-squeezed juices.” In addition to the cocktails, nibble on a selection of tasty hors d'oeuvres. [Certificate may not be used for dining.] *Donor(s): La Belle Vie Value: \$100*

{ 619 } “Victorian Elegance” Flourless Chocolate Cake

Indulge in a decadent, delicious dessert made from scratch. Two flourless chocolate cakes will serve 16-24 people at your next party or gathering. Rich, creamy, chocolaty — delightful! [Available by order 2 weeks in advance from donor.] *Donor(s): Richard and Jeanne Patterson Value: \$100*

{ 620 } A Taste of Africa Basket

Discover the rich, diverse cooking traditions of Africa in Marcus Samuelsson’s cookbook, *The Soul of a New Cuisine*. Season a chicken with Ras el-Hanout, a classic Moroccan spice blend. Pour yourself a glass of wine from the Western Cape, South Africa. Brew a cup of organic Ethiopian Peace Coffee or Mma Ramotswa’s red bush tea (rooibos) from South Africa. Nibble some dark chocolate mints from Ghana, and listen to the Putumayo World Music CD of African music. All of the fair-trade items are on display in a handcrafted basket from Uganda. *Donor(s): Anne Worrell and Vivian Stuck Value: \$150*

{ 621 } Custom Order Cake and Ice Cream

Talented pastry chef Erica Hollom will create a birthday or anniversary cake for your next special occasion. You may choose the cake, fillings, icing and special decorations, and she will create an extraordinary dessert for up to 50 guests. Plus, VocalEssence Ensemble Singer Eric Bartlett will make you two quarts of his delicious homemade ice cream. Yum! [Mutually agreed upon date and flavors. Delivery only within the metro area. Expires June 2009.] *Donor(s): Erica Hollom; Eric Bartlett Value: \$200*

{ 622 } Luncheon and Cooking Demonstration

It’s a learning experience and a delightful luncheon all in one at this cooking demonstration for six by Chef Tucker Benson. Chef Benson is the owner and chef of TRE Culinary LLC, which specializes in organizing food and beverage for any and all of your entertaining at home. Having worked through the ranks of several top Twin Cities restaurants, Chef Benson’s mission for TRE Culinary is “sharing our passion one bite at a time.” [Date to be mutually agreed upon.] *Donor(s): Chef Tucker Benson Value: \$300*

{ Section 700: Art }

{ 700 } Fine Art Photograph

Bring home the artistry of one of our WITNESS teaching artists with this beautiful print from Walter Griffin's Unique Image Series of Southern Houses and Shacks. This archival silver gelatin photograph is entitled "Florida View" and was taken in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida. Walter's photographs have been exhibited in museums and private collections. *Donor(s): Walter Griffin Value: \$1,200*

{ 701 } Handmade Zulu Baskets

A set of three hand crafted Zulu baskets from South Africa, these are made in traditional patterns from natural materials. Both beautiful and practical, you may use them for display or as a place to store your keepsakes. *Donor(s): VocalEssence Board of Directors; Elise Brunelle Value: \$155*

{ 702 } Watercolor by Birney Quick

Take home a fine watercolor entitled "Loaf and Fishes," painted in 1971 by one of the region's most acclaimed artists, Birney Quick. Birney Quick was a faculty member at the Minneapolis School of Art (now MCAD) and founded the Outdoor School of Painting in Grand Marais, Minnesota's oldest art colony. *Donor(s): General Mills Value: \$1,000*

{ 703 } Rustic Batik with Adinkra Symbols

This remarkable African fabric is made out of 100% hand dyed cotton and has been heat set. The crocodile or "Den Kyem" stamps on the fabric are a symbol of adaptability. With almost six yards, you can use it to make a garment or to decorate a room! *Donor(s): Akosua Addo Value: \$70*

{ 704 } Original Picasso Etching

Become the owner of an original etching by Pablo Picasso dated 1950. This simple line portrait, signed in reverse by modern history's greatest artist, will grace any home. The etching includes a certificate of authenticity. *Donor(s): Richard and Jeanne Patterson Value: \$1,000*

{ 705 – 708 top four bidders win }

Gift Certificate to Mhiripiri Gallery

Enjoy a gift certificate of \$105 to world-renowned Mhiripiri Gallery, featuring the artistry of Shona stone sculpture from Zimbabwe. [Certificate limited to artist Rex Mhiripiri.] *Donor(s): Rex & Julie Mhiripiri Value: \$105 (each certificate)*

{ 709 } Handcarved Wooden Creatures

Sold alongside almost every main road in the Zulu Kingdom, hand carved wooden animals are found in styles ranging from charmingly naive to breath-taking fine art found in galleries worldwide. These two animal sculptures were carved from Mgenge wood by artisans Widas Ntshali and Sibusio Gumende. *Donor(s): VocalEssence Board of Directors; Elise Brunelle Value: \$80*

{ 710 } Guatemalan Art Textiles

This attractive set of hand woven and embroidered Guatemalan textiles may be worn or displayed as works of art. A little child's tunic is decorated with brocade in cotton and rayon, with the image of a lion encoded in the brocade. The baby hat, or "gorra" was most likely woven in the Guatemala highlands. A child's apron is woven and then machine embroidered with amazing skill. Finally, a tzute (pronounced "zoot") in indigo blue is a utility cloth used to carry various items. *Donor(s): Ron and Nikki Lewis Value: \$270*

{ 711 } Set of White Resin Vases

Hot off the design room floor, this set of two tall white resin vases with black line drawing graphic and high gloss finish will add elegance to any room. Use them in an arrangement or enjoy their simple beauty as stand alone pieces to adorn your home. *Donor(s): Walsh Design Group/ID Inside Design Value: \$230*

{ 712 } Beaded Monkeybiz Doll

This colorful beaded 20-inch doll was handcrafted in South Africa through the Monkeybiz women's empowerment program. Women participating in this program are provided beads to create beautiful and one-of-a-kind works of art. This particular piece was made in the township of Guguletu and is a one-of-a-kind treasure for your home. *Donor(s): Charles and Julie Zelle Value: \$150*

{ 713 } Rolling Stones Cover Art

Autographed by rock's most famous bad boys (on the block, not hand-signed) this framed, fine art quality lithograph of the Stones' *Some Girls* album cover will take you all the way back to 1978, when *Some Girls* hit No. 1 on the US and UK charts. A must for those who know "it's only Rock n' Roll" but they like it! *Donor(s): Dave & Linda Mona Value: \$249*

{ 714 } Ceramic Sculpture by Erik Steen

This ceramic sculpture is reminiscent of the wind-swept landscapes of the Serengeti. California artist Erik Steen has created works of art for galleries and museums around the world. *Donor(s): Erik Steen Value: \$650*

{ 715 } Hand Crafted Paper Maché Birds

Bring home these charming orange and teal paper maché birds made in Africa. They are an "artistic cross breeding" of two species native to southern Africa, the Hadida Ibis (so named for its distinctive call) and Guinea fowl, recognized by its decorative feathers. *Donor(s): VocalEssence Board of Directors; Elise Brunelle Value: \$65*

{ 716 } Handblown Glass Bowl

You must see this gorgeous one-of-a-kind glass bowl made by glass artist Fred Kaemmer. The bowl is lined with silver leaf that is applied hot and therefore fused to the interior. It will not peel off and is food safe. Be sure to hand wash in lukewarm or cold water; do not use for hot liquids. *Donor(s): Fred Kaemmer Value: \$650*

{ 717 } Monkeybiz Beaded Springbok

This one-of-a-kind beaded Springbok (a species of gazelle native to Namibia, Botswana and South Africa) will be a charming art piece for your home. Through Monkeybiz, a women's empowerment program in South Africa that supplies richly colored glass beads to women in the township of Cape Town, traditional bead work has helped women sustain themselves and their families. *Donor(s): Open Arms of Minnesota Value: \$125*

{ 718 } Lithograph by Rex Mhiripiri

Rex Mhiripiri is the proprietor of his own gallery and an artist himself. This lithograph reproduction of his acrylic painting is of the well-known Berger Fountain (commonly known as the dandelion) in Loring Park, Minneapolis. The original painting was commissioned by a couple who sat next to the fountain when they got engaged. *Donor(s): Mhiripiri Gallery Value: \$125*

{ 719 } Framed Original Photograph

This exquisite framed digital photo was taken by the talented Diane Schroeder, a singer in the VocalEssence Chorus. Entitled "The Dancer," the beautiful branches of the staghorn sumac flowers evoke the graceful pose of a dancer. *Donor(s): Diane Schroeder Value: \$300*

{ 720 } Portrait Painting

Delight in an elegantly rendered oil painting portrait in classical or expressionistic style — a priceless work of art for you and your loved ones to enjoy for all time or give as a gift. [Session to be scheduled with the artist.] *Donor(s): Bethany Procopio Value: \$900*

{ 721 } Monkeybiz Beaded Pigs

More Monkeybiz! The Monkeybiz women's empowerment program in South Africa provides a sustainable way for women to earn income for their families while working from home. The traditional craft of beading in the communities of South Africa is passed on to each new generation. Affectionately known as "Louis Vuitton Pigs," this pair of hand-beaded pigs is irresistible! *Donor(s): Open Arms of Minnesota Value: \$128*

{ 722 } African Ceramic Bowls

All the way from Chasms Ceramics in Cape Town, South Africa, comes this brilliant set of bowls — one large for salad or soup, and four matching small bowls. They are hand decorated in bright colors and patterns. *Donor(s): VocalEssence Board of Director; Elise Brunelle Value: \$80*

{ 723 } Serengeti Landscape Framed Photograph

Experience the serenity of the African landscape through "Lion Pride," a beautiful 16 x 24-inch framed photograph taken in the Serengeti by talented photographer Gary Smaby. *Donor(s): Gary Smaby Value: \$1250*

{ 724 } Set of Minneapolis Prints

WACSO (Walkin' Around Checkin' Stuff Out) is a local artist

whose work can be seen in every Downtown and Southwest Journal as well as many national publications. As his name implies, WACSO likes to walk around and check stuff out, which includes travel to many cities around the world, but Minneapolis is his home and these four prints up for auction represent some of his favorite iconic Minneapolis scenes. *Donor: WACSO Value: \$500*

**{ 725 } “Slow Down” Shona Stone Sculpture
from Zimbabwe**

Fine art truly creates a world without borders. Display this superb Shona stone sculpture titled “Slow Down” from Zimbabwe in your home to create an atmosphere of peace and creativity. It is by internationally known artist Colleen Madamombe, who was born in Harare, Zimbabwe. Her work depicts women of the country in all facets of their emotional lives and her sculptures are exhibited around the world. Plus, three books from the Mhiripiri Gallery illustrate Colleen’s installations worldwide. *Donor(s): Mhiripiri Gallery Value: \$4,500*

{ Section 800: Music }

{ 800 } Autographed John Rutter Score

John Rutter's "What Sweeter Music" is a perennial Christmas favorite. Now you can have your own copy of the score... autographed for our Gala by the composer himself! Beloved around the world for his choral compositions, John Rutter is the Founding Director of the Cambridge Singers and an honorary member of the VocalEssence Board of Directors. *Donor(s): John Rutter Value: Priceless*

{ 801 } Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus CD and Tickets

Enjoy two top-price tickets to the Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus Pride Concert: "Love is a Many-Splendored Thing" on June 27th, 2008 at Ted Mann Concert Hall. Also included is their "25th Anniversary Collection" 2-disc CD set and a copy of "The Great Southern Sing-Out Tour" CD. *Donor(s): Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus Value: \$124*

{ 802 } Cabaret Tickets for Two at Ordway

Life is a cabaret! How about two tickets to the award winning performance of Cabaret between May 2-18, 2008 at Ordway Center for the Performing Arts? Set in Berlin at the beginning of the Third Reich, the story follows the romance of an English cabaret performer and an American writer. [Not valid on Friday and Saturday evenings.] *Donor(s): Ordway Center for the Performing Arts; David Rummel Value: \$136*

{ 803 } Four St. Olaf Christmas Festival Tickets

Lutefisk anyone? The St. Olaf Christmas Festival, a tradition started in 1912 by F. Melius Christiansen, is one of the toughest holiday tickets around, but you and three guests will get to go this year! Put on your Norwegian snowflake sweaters and head to "the Hill" for a Scandinavian smörgåsbord dinner; then be awed by The St. Olaf Orchestra and a 500 voice massed choir. [Must be used December 4-7, 2008.] *Donor(s): St. Olaf College Value: \$200*

{ 804 } Chanticleer CD Collection

Based in San Francisco, Chanticleer has developed a remarkable reputation for its vivid interpretations of vocal literature, from Renaissance to jazz, and from gospel to venturesome new music. With its seamless blend of twelve male voices, the Grammy winning ensemble has earned international renown as "an orchestra of voices." Delve into their repertoire with five assorted CDs. *Donor(s): Chanticleer Value: \$75*

{ 805 } Live Bluegrass Jam Session and CD Collection

Members of Long Time Gone Bluegrass Band will come to your special event to provide a bluegrass jam or performance. They can play acoustic around the campfire with you and your friends or perform with a professional sound system — you decide! Also, take home a bluegrass

CD collection: Long Time Gone's "Leavin' Home," two new Monroe Crossing CDs and a copy of the VocalEssence and Monroe Crossing CD "The World Beloved." [Expires May 3, 2009. Travel limited to Metro area.] *Donor(s): Ben Manning & Long Time Gone Value: \$800*

{ 806 } "Voices Raised" with Minnesota Orchestra

Enjoy a pair of Section 2 tickets to Minnesota Orchestra's May 17, 2008 performance of "Voices Raised—Masterworks with the Minnesota Chorale." No one else conducts the great choral-orchestral classics with the authority of Germany's brilliant conductor, Helmuth Rilling, an honorary member of the VocalEssence Board of Directors. [Certificate must be redeemed at least one week in advance. Seating subject to availability.] *Donor(s): The Minnesota Orchestral Association Value: \$136*

{ 807 } African Shekere

The shekere, a percussion instrument from Africa, is made from beads woven into a net covering a dried gourd. Throughout the continent it is called different things, such as the lilolo, axatse (Ghana), and chequere. It is predominantly called shekere in Nigeria. This hand crafted instrument may be used for percussion or simply displayed in your home. *Donor(s): Cadene Burdick Value: \$45*

{ 808 } Composition by Libby Larsen

Are you looking for a unique piece of music for a special occasion in your life, such as a wedding or family celebration? Commission your own! Composer Libby Larsen will create a 3-minute composition for one voice and one instrument. You will be able to choose the instrument and text to make this a personal and unique experience. [The piece must be completed between June 15, 2008 and June 1, 2009. Winning bidder is responsible for booking musicians to perform the finished piece.] *Donor(s): Libby Larsen Value: \$3,000*

{ 809 } Finale 2008 Music Notation Software

From inspiration to applause, music begins with Finale. Finale is the world's bestselling music notation software, preferred by professional musicians, composers and educators. The software includes everything you need to compose, arrange, play and print your music. [Mac and Windows XP/Vista compatible. Mac G4, OS 10.4 or higher recommended.] *Donor(s): MakeMusic, Inc. Value: \$600*

{ 810 } Voice Lessons from Sigrid Johnson

Philip Brunelle calls her "Ears Johnson" for a reason! VocalEssence Associate Conductor and St. Olaf College faculty member Sigrid Johnson offers three half-hour private voice lessons. Take advantage of the opportunity to enhance, polish and improve your voice. [Dates and times to be mutually agreed upon. Must take place by June 1, 2009.] *Donor(s): Sigrid Johnson Value: \$150*

{ 811 } Tickets to Penumbra Theatre

Enjoy four tickets to an inspirational performance in Penumbra Theatre's 2008-2009 season. Penumbra is the

nation's preeminent African American theater, producing "art for social change." Its professional productions are artistically excellent, thought-provoking, and relevant, illuminating the human condition through the prism of the African American experience. [Advance reservations required. Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Penumbra Theatre Company Value: \$146*

{ 812 } High in the Sky Musical Soiree

Enjoy a wonderful Soiree for ten people at Park Towers, an incredible location with a fabulous view of downtown Saint Paul and the beautiful Mississippi River. You will be served delicious fare and wine and entertained by the talented jazz pianist Richard Jones, sopranos Linda Zelig and Amy Ault, and baritone James Bohn. [Date to be mutually agreed upon. Hours are 6-9 p.m. Expires May 3, 2009. *Donor(s): Amy Ault; Richard Jones; Jim Bohn and Linda Zelig; Anonymous Value: Priceless*

{ 813 } National Lutheran Choir Tickets and CDs

Tickets for four to the National Lutheran Choir's Christmas Festival on Friday, December 12, 2008 at the Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis. Also in this package are two of NLC's recordings "Praise Parisienne," French choral music with guest artist Martin Jean, and "Hymns We Love to Sing," one of their bestselling recordings! [Tickets are for December 12, 2008; no exchanges.] *Donor(s): National Lutheran Choir Value: \$164*

{ 814 } Original Song Lyrics

Do you need a song to celebrate (or roast!) a friend, commemorate a birthday or anniversary or make an event extra special? You pick the tune, give Jo Beld the background (the dirt, the dish, the gossip — whatever you want!) and she'll write the lyrics. [Must make arrangements with lyricist at least three weeks before event.] *Donor(s): Jo Michelle Beld Value: \$50*

{ 815 } Children's Harp Lesson

Whitney Hanson, a member of the VocalEssence Chorus, invites you and your child (age 6-12) to her home for a 30-minute harp lesson on a Troubadour harp. Your child will be creating heavenly sounds by the time the lesson is done! [Parents are asked to attend the lesson.] *Donor(s): Whitney Hanson Value: \$20*

{ 816 } InChoir Season Tickets

Stretch your vocal cords with a pair of season tickets for the Minnesota Chorale's 2008-2009 InChoir series, where you get to sing side-by-side with members of the Chorale at a working rehearsal. Plus, you'll enjoy the option to purchase discounted tickets to the final performances of featured works with the Minnesota Orchestra. *Donor(s): Minnesota Chorale Value: \$60*

{ 817 } African Djembe Drum

This handmade Djembe Drum is a beautiful skin-covered drum meant to be played with bare hands. The djembe

originated in West Africa, and is an integral part of the region's musical tradition and culture. According to the Bamana people in Mali, the name of the djembe comes directly from the saying "Anke dje, anke be" which translates to "everyone gather together" and defines the drum's purpose. *Donor(s): Cadene Burdick Value: \$119*

{ 818 } Four Suite Tickets to Rush Concert

It's a "suite" deal! After a hugely successful 2007 tour, the fans have spoken and want more. Rush will return to the Xcel Energy Center on Thursday, May 22, 2008 at 7:30 pm. You will receive four executive suite passes along with free parking in the Kellogg Ramp located below the venue. Watch a classic rock concert in comfort! *Donor(s): Cay Shea Hellervik; Personnel Decisions International Value: \$384*

{ 819 } Christmas in Christ Chapel Package

Celebrate Christmas in the Swedish tradition with four tickets to the 36th Annual Christmas in Christ Chapel worship celebration at Gustavus Adolphus College on December 5, 2008. First, relish the Christmas Dinner Buffet at 5 p.m., then experience the thrill of the season as 350 students, faculty, and staff bring the Christmas spirit to life through choral, orchestral, brass, handbell and organ music, dance, spoken word and prayer. [Available Friday, December 5, 2008 only.] *Donor(s): Value: \$120*

{ 820 } William Bolcom Composition

William Bolcom — Grammy Award winner, Musical America Composer of the Year, Focus of the 2007 "Illuminating Bolcom" festival presented by VocalEssence and other Minnesota arts organizations—will compose a one-minute piano rag for you! Play it yourself, or give it to your favorite pianist to perform. A one-of-a-kind composition from the pen of this amazingly creative man. *Donor(s): William Bolcom Value: Priceless*

**{ 821 } Entertainment with Vern Sutton
and Philip Brunelle**

Entertaining songs of the stage at your request — for a party, special occasion or the event of your choice. Philip Brunelle and Vern Sutton have been performing together for more decades than they'll admit to, and with that kind of experience and rapport they can assemble 45 minutes of musical entertainment that will suit your situation and tastes. Always a hot item at benefits, bid this one NOW and HIGH! [Date and location to be mutually agreed upon.] *Donor(s): Vern Sutton; Philip Brunelle Value: Priceless*

{ 822 } Meet Maureen McGovern

Maureen is on tour across the country this year with a variety of shows: *The Great American Songbook, Gershwin & Friends, Holiday Specials* and also her new concert with companion CD, *A Long and Winding Road*, which features songs that have inspired her since the late '60s — classic and evocative tunes from singer-songwriters such as Joni Mitchell, Paul Simon, Carole King, James Taylor, Jimmy Webb and Laura Nyro among others. The winning bidder

will receive two tickets to one of her concerts in the next year, a backstage meet-and-greet with Maureen and a personally autographed copy of her new CD! Check out her itinerary at www.maureenmcgovern.com. [Mutually agreed upon date to be scheduled with tour manager. Travel expenses not included. Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Maureen McGovern Value: Priceless*

{ 823 } Cary John Franklin Composition

Say it with music. Cary will compose a short work (3-4 minutes) to celebrate or acknowledge a special event. Possibilities include a solo work, duet, small group or choral piece! Previous winners have selected a personalized song for a wedding anniversary and a choral anthem for a birthday. [Winning bidder is responsible for booking musicians to perform the finished piece.] *Donor(s): Cary John Franklin Value: \$2,000*

{ 824 } Performance by Sanford Moore

The one and only Sanford Moore will play a 45-minute performance featuring the music of Duke Ellington for you and your friends. Tap your toes and watch Sanford's fingers fly over the keys as only he can do with The Duke's great tunes! [Date to be mutually agreed upon. Host must provide tuned piano.] *Donor(s): Sanford Moore Value: \$1,000*

{ Section 900: Unique }

{ 900 } Coffee with Mayor R.T. Rybak

Since 2001, he's run the City of Minneapolis. Now you can have coffee and chat Mayor R.T. Rybak about whatever's on your mind at City Hall. Compliment him about the city's successes or complain about your potholes — it's up to you! [Date and time to be mutually agreed upon. Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Mayor R.T. Rybak Value: Priceless*

{ 901 } Personalized VocalEssence 40th Anniversary Photo

It's the ultimate 40th Birthday card — a personalized photo by Krivit Photography of Garrison Keillor, Philip Brunelle and a birthday cake with 40 blazing candles in honor of the VocalEssence 40th Anniversary coming up in 2008-2009. The photo will be autographed for the winning bidder by Garrison and Philip, framed, and delivered to you after the gala. *Donor(s): Garrison Keillor; Philip Brunelle; Krivit Photography Value: Priceless*

{ 902 } Drive a Front-End Loader

"Drive the Big Rig." Here is your chance to drive a front end loader with Fabcon. Fulfill your childhood truck dreams by getting into the driver's seat of this 40,000 pound, 26 foot-long machine! A souvenir Fabcon hard hat will be yours to take home to commemorate the experience of a lifetime. [Valid during Fabcon daylight working hours. Children must be 10 years of age or older.] *Donor(s): Fabcon Value: \$350*

{ 903 } Guided Trout Fishing Excursion

Enjoy a day fishing on a Wisconsin blue-ribbon trout stream with guide Art Kaemmer, VocalEssence Board Member and fisherman extraordinaire. All gear provided (if need be) plus a stream-side lunch. A guaranteed good time, maybe even a fish or two! And remember, a day spent fishing is not counted against one's allotted days on earth. [Valid only during the WI 2008 trout season. Winner must purchase a WI fishing license.] *Donor(s): Art Kaemmer Value: Priceless*

{ 904 } Limericks by Christopher Brunelle

There once was a writer named Chris, who said "I can always do this: write a limerick sublime, or one that is slime." And that is what this item is! Classics professor Brunelle will write a sequence of original limericks for you to suit any occasion and at any level of taste. [Expires May 3, 2009.] *Donor(s): Christopher Brunelle Value: \$80*

{ 905 } "Content Managed" Website

Dakota Street Design will work with you to create a 5-page template based site and get it launched. Includes one year of web hosting and free set up on Net Acceleration's Accelsite, a content management system that allows you to maintain the site yourself. You can add new sections,

pages and photos whenever you want to! [Winner pays for domain name registration and hosting after the first year.] *Donor(s): Dakota Street Design & Net Acceleration Value: \$1500*

{ 906 } Dinner with Senator Durenberger in D.C.

Have lunch for four in the United States Senate Dining Room in Washington, D.C. as guests of former Senator David Durenberger, who served the state of Minnesota from November 8, 1978 to January 3, 1995. His knowledge of public policy and politics is boundless, and he's a music lover too — he is a member of the VocalEssence Board of Directors. [Travel to Washington D.C. not included. Date and time to be mutually agreed upon.] *Donor(s): Sen. David Durenberger Value: \$200*

{ 907 } Signed Garrison Keillor Red Sneakers

These are some mighty big shoes to fill, but then who would dare wear these priceless treasures? Here's your own pair of Garrison Keillor's signature red sneakers, autographed by the famous star of *A Prairie Home Companion*. Never appearing without his comfortable footwear, even at black-tie affairs, the red sneakers have become a symbol of Lake Wobegon's legendary storyteller. *Donor(s): Garrison Keillor Value: Priceless*

{ 908 } Full Page, Color Ad in Minnesota Monthly

Make an indelible impact with a full page, four color ad in *Minnesota Monthly*, reaching a readership of 200,000. When it comes to affluence, education, and social engagement no other medium delivers an audience more influential than *Minnesota Monthly*. Your ad can run in any issue of *Minnesota Monthly* from July 2008 through June 2009. [Cannot be used to offset existing contracted ad schedule.] *Donor(s): Minnesota Monthly Value: \$6,740*

{ 909 } Paid Internship at MN Monthly

Here's a chance for an amazing experience for a talented young person (maybe you)! *Minnesota Monthly* is offering a paid internship within any department — editorial, art, sales, marketing, online — for up to 20 hours per week for a two month period. Work with the staff of one of the *Minnesota's* top magazines and gain experience that may lead to a career in publishing. [Internship must be completed between July 2008 and June 2009.] *Donor(s): Minnesota Monthly Value: Priceless*

{ 910 } Celebrity Voice Phone Greeting

Tim Russell, voiceover talent and announcer of "*A Prairie Home Companion*" and WCCO Radio, will provide you with a celebrity voice mp3 for your voice mail greeting. Tim is an expert voice impressionist! From Jessie Ventura to John McCain, Tim can mimic almost any male celebrity. *Donor(s): Tim Russell Value: \$100*

{ 911 } Summer Party on White Bear Lake with "The Ice Holes"

Head out to White Bear Lake for a wonderful fish bake,

beer and wine, and entertainment for your group of 14 at the Edwin Lundie designed home of Lynn and Linda Ault. The porch and deck provide a perfect view of the lovely and expansive lake. Providing entertainment for the evening are "The Ice Holes" band, an acoustic guitar group performing 60s and 70s rock classics with Brian Ruhl, Roy Nelson, John Crane, Dan Latham & Matt Tews. [Details to be arranged with the donors. Mutually agreed upon date, not available for the following dates: July 5, 11-13, 19-20 or August 15-17th.] *Donor(s): Lynn & Linda Ault; Brian Ruhl; Matt Tews; Roy Nelson; Dan Latham; John Crane Value: Priceless*

{ 912 } Original Work of Poetry

Commission an original poem by award winning poet Anna George Meek. She has been commissioned by Yale University, appeared in almost every major literary journal in the country, and been featured on Garrison Keillor's Writer's Almanac. As a part of your commission, the poet will meet with you to discuss topics, your tastes, your ideas, and any details you would like included in your work. *Donor(s): Anna George Meek Value: \$50*

{ 913 } Trapeze Lesson

Ever thought of running away to the circus? Ever wanted to learn how to fly? Here's your chance! Enjoy an hour-long private lesson with a professional coach and aerialist on the static trapeze or Spanish web at the Xelias Aerial Arts Studio in Minneapolis. Not for those with a fear of heights! [Mutually agreed upon date and time. Expires May 9, 2009.] *Donor(s): Xelias Aerial Arts Studio Value: \$80*

{ 914 } A Texas Hold'em Poker Experience

The Texas Hold'em phenomenon has exploded over the past ten years. Now you can learn the game from a former professional (and still semi-professional) poker player. The experience will include a 1-2 hour lesson and a mini-tournament following (and it wouldn't be poker without some \$\$ for the winner). Drinks and snacks will be provided. Happy bidding! [Mutually agreed upon date, time and place. Must be 18+ to participate. Restricted to 1-4 participants.] *Donor(s): Bjorn Bjorkund Value: \$200*

{ 915 } Disaster Kit and CPR Training

The American Red Cross are experts in emergency preparedness. Their disaster kit will help you to be prepared too. Packaged in a backpack, it contains enough food and water for an adult to survive for three days as well as radio, flashlight, batteries and first aid materials. With two gift certificates for adult CPR training, you will be ready to help out when disaster hits. *Donor(s): Twin Cities Red Cross Value: \$150*

{ 916 } Lunch with Mark Wheat

With his trademark British accent, Mark Wheat is the voice of cool on 89.3 The Current every evening, and now you'll get a personal backstage tour of Minnesota Public Radio's studios followed by lunch with Mark at a nearby restaurant. Plus a Current CD pack for your indie collection. [Date and

time to be mutually agreed upon. Cost of lunch not included.]
Donor(s): 89.3 The Current, Minnesota Public Radio Value: Priceless

{ 917 } Autographed Desmond Tutu Biography

Archbishop Desmond Tutu has emerged as the most powerfully eloquent, impassioned and compassionate voice for justice and reconciliation of our time. This authorized biography, *Rabble Rouser for Peace*, tells you his story through the detailed research and first person impressions of journalist John Allen. It is autographed by Archbishop Tutu. *Donor(s): VocalEssence Board of Directors; Elise Brunelle Value: Priceless*

{ 918 } Mercedes Convertible Ride

A perfect summer evening — does it get any better than this? With Tom Lockhart at the wheel, you and a friend will cruise the Lakes in a 1961 Mercedes 190 SL Convertible, then enjoy hors d'oeuvres and adult beverages on the patio at his home. For two guests, one of whom rides in the jump seat (smaller physique, under 150 lbs suggested). *Donor(s): Tom & Helen Lockhart Value: \$100*

{ 919 } Tour MPR with Alison Young

It's all things classical, when Classical Minnesota Public Radio host Alison Young will be your guide for a private tour of the marvelous new MPR building and studios where she is heard "on the air." If you choose, she is happy to join you for coffee or a snack following the tour. [Mutually agreed upon date and time.] *Donor(s): Alison Young Value: Priceless*

{ 920 } 500 Cans of SPAM

SPAM, SPAM, SPAM, SPAM! 500 cans of SPAM will keep you going for a year or two with your favorite breakfast: "Eggs, SPAM, sausage, toast, SPAM and ham." Your 500 cans also make unique party favors, or a worthwhile donation to a local food shelf. *Donor(s): Hormel Foods Corporation Value: \$1,500*

{ 921 – 922 top two bidders win }

Six Months Free Parking

Work in downtown Minneapolis? Enjoy six months of convenient underground heated valet parking in the Young Quinlan Building just below Haskell's. [Valid for six months of parking, must be used by May 2009.] *Donor(s): Robert Greenberg Value: \$1,476*

{ 923 } Half Page Ad in Mpls.St.Paul Magazine

Advertise your business in the leading lifestyle magazine of Minneapolis – Saint Paul. Your half-page (horizontal or vertical), four-color ad will reach an audience of 575,000 affluent, active readers of *Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*. Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your business in the hottest selling monthly magazine on local newsstands. [Restrictions: Must supply digital ready ad per deadlines posted on mspmag.com.] *Donor(s): Mpls.St.Paul Magazine Value: \$5,250*