Maadi British International School

Parent Teacher Association

PTA AUCTION OF PROMISES & BALL
FRIDAY 26th MARCH 2010

Dear Parents

You will have received an email in December announcing the details and date of the annual Auction of Promises & Ball on 26th March 2010. As stated this Black Tie event will be held under a grand marquee in our school grounds on Friday 26 March 2010 with a sumptuous 3 course dinner catered for by the Four Seasons First Residence Hotel, Giza. We are now in the detail planning phase and so it's a good time for you to start thinking about and donating your Promise. The earlier you submit your Promise the easier it is for the Promises Committee to prepare for the event.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with this now traditional event, the evening provides an opportunity to bid for promises and items donated by parents, teachers, and friends of the school. The evening is the PTA's largest social event for all parents and teachers and one of the highlights of the Cairo Social Calendar which MBIS Parents have initial exclusive access to. In addition, the Annual Promises Auction provides the PTA with its main mechanism for charitable fund raising. Last year 120,000 LE made at the event was set aside for charitable donations in Egypt. The charities are chosen by the PTA and are of a sustainable, reliable, multi-faith, child/education nature. All projects are in Egypt and address some or all of the following needs: Basic care; Education; Medical or Social. For more information on the charities we support please contact the PTA Charity co-ordinator Helen Gwinnutt at helen_gwinnutt@hotmail.com

So what is a Promises Auction?

At the event there will be 2 auctions – silent & live. All proceeds from the auctions go direct to the chosen charities. Details of the promises are issued a few days beforehand and on the night itself.

The silent auction takes place for approx an hour at the beginning of the evening whilst mingling with friends. Last year we had nearly 90 items/services donated so there is always something to suit everyone.

The live auction generally commences during dessert & coffee with less than 10 exclusive items bartered for under the watchful eye of our Auctioneer – Mr Gerard Flynn Headmaster of MBIS.

For security reasons no funds change hands on the night.

The evening will culminate with entertainment by Ahmed where you can dance or just enjoy the music and the company of your friends. Tickets will go on sale during mid February and you will have the chance to buy tickets as a complete table of 10 or individual tickets.

So what next?

We are now asking you to put this exciting date in your diary and make your promise/donation either personally, as a group of friends or through your business connections. All items will be auctioned on the night. You may consider getting together with a group of friends to combine your promises (e.g. purchase of a set of golf clubs or a food hamper) and remember no donation is too small. The committee combines items to create some very exciting prizes. ***If you wish to assist with the planning of this event please contact Kerry Dearden on the details below as volunteers are needed before and during the event.***

If you can't come to the Ball, we'd still love you to donate a promise!

Here are some ideas to give you inspiration; we have also attached a few pages from last year's catalogue to help you:

- Commissary wines, foods or candies
- Dance lessons or vouchers
- Dinner vouchers
- Wine Selection
- Whisky Selection
- Golf Lessons or vouchers
- Riding Lessons or vouchers
- Overseas shopping basket selection
- BBQ/Meal at your home
- Your garden for an afternoon
- Children's party voucher
- An item of new jewellery – homemade or shop bought
- Items of tableware from your home country – tablemats, glassware, etc.
- Airline tickets
- Weekend break or a week-long holiday in a ski chalet or holiday home
- Spa treatments
- Artwork
- Cookery lesson, either by yourself or by a professional
- Item of locally crafted furniture
- Bouncy Castle voucher
- A tour of a place you know
- A music or sports lesson

Please complete the attached form and return it with your item to the school office by Tuesday 16 March 2009, where a committee member will collect it. **No items will be accepted after this date.** If your promise is not tangible, e.g. offers to cook/host a dinner party, use of a garden, etc or is perishable, you must still complete the attached form and a voucher will be prepared for these items. We will send reminders in the New Year.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Kerry Dearden & Jacqui Garib for PTA Promises Ball & Auction Committee
kerrydearden@gmail.com
jgarib@mbisegypt.com

PTA PROMISES AUCTION & BALL Friday 26th March 2010	
Name of Donor/s: *(All names will be listed in the catalogue)*	
Contact Telephone No:	
Children & Year:	
Description of Promise:	
Please list any conditions which might apply: i.e. not available during school holidays; up to a maximum value; to be taken before a certain date, name and telephone number of person to contact if different from above, etc.	
Please return to the School Office for attention of PTA – Promises Auction Or email your Promise to jgarib@mbisegypt.com No later than Tuesday 16 March 2010	

Examples from 2009 Catalogue

Champers Darling?
Anyone for champagne? You can indulge your craving for the finer things in life with this promise of 10 bottles of champagne, 6 champagne flutes, one champagne cocktail book and box of chocolates. **(An example of a group donation)**

Spring Time
A lovely acrylic on canvas painting, depicting Maadi in Spring. Thao has painted this picture especially for the auction. Enjoy this special promise.

Play It Again Sam
She may not be Sam from Rick's Café American but Lynne can sure tinkle those ivories. She will perform 'cocktail' piano music during your dinner party. A piano in the home is not necessary as Lynne can provide her own electric piano. A truly unique promise.

Follow That Camel!
Enjoy a one night desert camping trip to the Wadi Rayan area for up to three families. A three course dinner will be cooked up by the Fenby's, complete with camping canapés at sunset. A two course children's dinner will also be provided. Breakfast will be provided by the Roy's and will include Shona's fab pancakes and a traditional desert fry up. The successful bidder will need to provide their own packed lunches, drinks, tents, sleeping bags and mats, chairs and 4X4 vehicle. This promise can only be taken on a Friday between mid-Jan and the end of the Spring Term 2010.

La Dolce Vita
You can live the sweet life with this fabulous basket of goodies from Italy. Wine, Peroni beer, olive oil, cheeses, passata, pasta, carnaroli rice, porcini mushrooms and more. All products are Italian and you can cook authentic food with these wonderful groceries. Finish off with chocolates and nougat. This promise has to be seen to be believed. **An example of a group donation from our Italian Community at MBIS.**

Aladdin's Lamp
Add an impressive style statement to your home with this traditional style Egyptian Fanouse lamp. This brass and copper lamp is ceiling mounted and will make any room worthy of a House and Garden photo shoot.

Alfresco
Bid for this promise and you could find yourself on the shores of Lake Como, Italy. The promise is for 1 week's accommodation in a beautiful 2 bedroom apartment. You will be close to the village in Lenno, 10 minutes from the beach in summer and 40 minutes from the snow in winter. To be taken by December 2009. N.B. Ladies – this is where George Clooney has a house!

Art Attack
Louise will fulfil your art desire with a piece of abstract art or mural. Liven up your home with this unique promise. Examples of Louise's work are on display.

Grape Night Out
A wine tasting for 8 people. Kathy and Rachel made the long trip home to New Zealand, just to source these wines for you to enjoy.
Wine Tasting: Indulge your palate in a (not so serious) wine tasting competition. NZ wines feature largely but a few "wild cards" may be thrown in. Prize for the winner (a bottle of NZ wine of course).
Dinner: Which wine did you most enjoy during the tasting? Enjoy a glass (or two) with a delicious three course meal at the home of Kathy and Jim. A fun evening for a group of friends is guaranteed. Must be taken by 10 December 2009. Promise includes 8 bottles of NZ wine and a few wild card bottles (imported or local).

Oriental Splendour
Take home this beautiful antique Chinese cabinet. It comes from the area of Mongonia in China and is made of pomegranate wood. Dimensions 85 x 35 x 76 cm high. This piece will grace any home.

Voyage to the Valley of the Kings
Have you not seen the most famous sights of Ancient Egypt yet? Leave the kids behind and escape with your loved one on an EgyptAir flight to Luxor. Stay for 2 nights in a double room on a half board basis at the Sofitel Karnak Luxor. Rekindle the romance and enjoy the Land of the Pharaohs at its best. This promise includes two economy return tickets and the hotel package.

My Thai
The committee love this one! Nicky has brought luxurious Thai goods back from her travels. The basket includes a Thai silk queen size duvet cover with matching pillow cases, 12 Thai silk placemats, 12 pairs of wooden chop sticks, a hanging triple photo frame tied together with rope and 3 wooden bowls with lids. Each bowl contains a handcrafted flower soap. Elbow the crowd aside and write down your bid.

Howzat!!
The English invented it, but cricket is now a truly international game. So go ahead and enjoy this promise of a six-a-side, 30 over match, followed by a BBQ lunch and refreshments. Dan and Shane will organise everything (and Umpire). All you have to do is get 12 people together. This promise must be taken during term time before 15 May 2009 or after the summer holidays.

Well Travelled
This multicultural necklace, earrings and bracelet contains beads from China, Malaysia, Thailand, Turkey and Italy. This set makes a fabulous statement and has been handmade for you by Jolanda (bead-a-boo).

Katameya Capers
All the hard work has been done for your next kid's party. All you need to do is provide 15 children to enjoy this Katameya garden, pool and climbing frame. Pizza, popcorn and a film in the home cinema are included. The planning is done!

Supper from the Sub-Continent
Enjoy a delicious Indian meal cooked in your home by Saira Hamilton. Saira will design a 3 course menu in consultation with you for up to 6 people. Your guests will be welcomed by the tantalising aromas of a home-cooked Indian meal using entirely authentic ingredients. A case of Corona should compliment those Indian flavours. Available during term time only.

Live Auction Items

A Street In Sakkara
A delightful watercolour painting depicting life in a Sakkara street. Take this painting home and you will always have a beautiful reminder of life in Egypt.

A Sound Investment
Take a break from checking your portfolio and escape to the Red Sea. This ultimate golf package includes two nights at Stella de Mare Golf Hotel, Ain Soukhna for 4 people, 2 rounds of golf each, 2 spa treatments up to £50 sterling each and 1000 LE behind the golf club bar. Accommodation is standard double rooms with breakfast and dinner. To be taken before April 2010. What credit crunch??

Casino Royale
Live like James Bond for the night. Have a glass of champagne on arrival then play the Blackjack and Roulette tables. 6 bottles of imported wine, beer, canapés and all night snacks are provided for 12 people. Dress code: Black Tie/Cocktail Dress. Aston Martins 12.30 a.m. Please give one month's notice and to be taken by 28 November 2009. Licence to thrill.

Precious Topaz
Tell your wife you love her or more importantly – show her! This is a stunning blue topaz necklace and earring set. The use of fine white and yellow gold sets off these sparkling jewels perfectly.

A Taste of Scotland In Maadi
They searched the hills and glens of the Highlands of Scotland and managed to catch a lovely plump haggis. Six people can enjoy the haggis as part of a 4 course traditional Scottish meal at the Walker's Maadi home. Hamish will offer a range of Scotch whisky for you to taste and see if you can you tell the difference between a malt, a single malt and a blended whisky. Aperitifs, imported red and white wine, whisky and after dinner drinks all included. Sláinte Mhath!

Joy of Friendship
Kimberly has captured a serene moment between two friends in her oil on canvas painting. Capture some of the serenity for yourself when you take home this work of art.

Head For A Day
Does your child dream of ultimate power? Make their wish can come true as Head Teacher of MBIS for a day. Help Mr Flynn carry out his duties, take a leading role in assembly, lunch in the staff room with the teachers and get inside the workings of MBIS. Date to be decided with Mr Flynn (before the end of June 2009).

The Sky's The Limit
Fly a multi-million dollar flight simulator. Eight people will get the chance of a lifetime with this promise. It includes a half-day at EgyptAir Maintenance and Engineering. You will receive a tour of the aircraft hangar to see various aircraft in for maintenance plus a tour of the engine workshop to see the aircraft engines in various states of undress. You will then have a look at the cabin crew simulator before the main event - the flight simulator. Fly a Boeing 777, Airbus A340, Airbus A330, Airbus A320 or Boeing 737 depending on availability. The flight simulator is limited to one hour including briefing and explanation time. Spectator space within the simulator is very limited. Passports will need to be provided in advance to arrange for an airside pass. Tour to be arranged at a mutually convenient time before the end of 2009. Ready for take off!