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Adopt-A-Classroom

Adopt-A-Classroom as a resource to help local classrooms. By signing up to "launch a local program," you will have access to Adopt-A-Classroom informational materials and outreach tools. There is no requirement. After registering, schools will be provided resources to help them inform the local education and giving communities about Adopt-A-Classroom, and tools to track the success of their efforts.

http://www.adoptaclassroom.org/index.aspx

Bank of America

Volunteer Grants & Matching

The Bank of America Volunteer Grants
Bank of America Charitable Foundation awards grants to nonprofit organizations (up to $500 per person each calendar year), donated in associates’ names. An unrestricted grant is made to any eligible nonprofit organization for which an associate has committed substantial volunteer hours within a calendar year:

- For 50 hours of volunteer time within a calendar year, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation will give a $250 grant
- For 100 hours of volunteer time within a calendar year, the grant is $500


The Bank of America Charitable Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Dollar-for-dollar, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation matches up to $5,000 per person each calendar year. Gifts must be personal contributions paid either in cash or securities. The amount of each gift must equal at least $25 to be eligible. The contribution must be actually paid, not simply pledged. Associates must complete an application and have the recipient organization verify the gift. This information must be received by March 31 after the year in which the gift was given.


Box Tops 4 Education

http://www.boxtops4education.com/default.aspx

3 Easy Ways to Earn Cash for Your School!
Help your school earn up to $20,000 each year by clipping Box Tops from your favorite products.
Earn up to $20,000* for your school by shopping online through the Box Tops Marketplace!
Use your Box Tops Visa when shopping online at the Box Tops Marketplace and earn 1% on top of the regular Marketplace donation!
FUNDRAISING SUGGESTIONS – rev. August 2011

Build-A-Bear Workshop reviews requests for charitable donations with priority given to schools and 501(c)(3) charities that help children, families and animals. In order to assist as many organizations as possible, in a cost effective and efficient manner, follow these guidelines:
Requests need to be made via our online request system. Requests are NOT accepted via U.S. mail, fax or email. Click on the link below to access the request system. All requests must be made at least 8 weeks prior to the date the donation is needed to allow sufficient processing time. A typical donation is a $10 Bear Buck$® gift card.  

http://www.buildabear.com/shopping/contents/content.jsp?catId=400002&id=700009

Matching Gifts
The Matching Gifts program provides CarMax Associates opportunity to help their favorite charities and organizations in two ways. The Matching Dollars program doubles the amount of money Associates donate to eligible charities. For every $25 you donate to a charitable organization, CarMax will donate the same amount, dollar for dollar. The Matching Hours program provides a financial contribution for volunteer work. For every hour you volunteer, CarMax will donate $10 to that charity. The program will match a maximum of $5,000 per associate each calendar year in any combination of volunteer hours or donations.

Volunteerism
Team-building activities
Through the CarMax Foundation, a store, regional, CAF, or Home Office manager can make a team-building event more rewarding. Not only does the team provide an important service to the community or organization, but the nonprofit organization is then eligible to receive a $500 grant from the CarMax Foundation.

Individual volunteers
If an individual CarMax Associate volunteers at least 10 hours with a charitable organization, the CarMax Foundation will match your time with a donation of $10 per hour.

Teachers use Digital Wish to find and share digital lesson plans. The site features a growing library of grants and fundraising ideas to help schools marshal community support. Like a wedding registry, teachers can create a "wish list" of needed technology products for their classrooms. Educators describe how each resource will be utilized, write project plans, and tell the story of their classroom. Their classroom stories are then posted online, for review by any donor. Visiting donors can elect to buy items directly from the teacher's wish lists, or donate money directly to a school so that wish list items can be purchased. Resources ship directly to the schools, so there is virtually no risk that grant funds will ever be misallocated. Digital Wish matches every dollar with an automatic 2% - 10% rebate on every product purchase. There is never any cost associated with making donations and 102% - 110% of all donated funds benefit classroom teachers and their students.
DonorsChoose.org is a simple way to provide students in need with resources that our public schools often lack. At this not-for-profit web site, teachers submit project proposals for materials or experiences their students need to learn. Any individual can search such proposals by areas of interest, learn about classroom needs, and choose to fund the project(s) they find most compelling. In completing a project, donors receive a feedback package of student photos and thank-you notes, and a teacher impact letter.

Elmer's is proud to sponsor the FIRST glue bottle and glue stick recycling program in partnership with Wal-Mart® for America's classrooms. Beginning Earth Day, April 22, 2011, bring empty Elmer's Washable School Glue and Glue-All bottles that are marked with a #1 or #2 recycling symbol to the nearest Wal-Mart retail store in your area. See website for complete details.

http://www.elmersgluecrew.com/index/how.aspx

Why choose Flower Power Fundraising?
- You make 50% profit on every sale, and keep your profit immediately
- Shipping is free
- Bulbs come with a 100% satisfaction guarantee

NGA is proud to endorse Flower Power Fundraising. This program gives schools and nonprofits a "healthy" option for fundraising — selling bulbs that will bloom into stunning floral displays. Flower Power has carefully selected easy-to-plant, easy-to-grow bulbs from among its most popular and best-selling varieties, ensuring a successful, appealing fundraising campaign. Flower Power bulbs for fundraising are priced to sell. Yet your organization still makes a profit of 50% on every sale and you get to keep your profit immediately. To help keep your profits high, Flower Power will ship your order free of charge. Two programs are offered annually: one for spring flowering bulbs and one for summer-blooming bulbs. Shipments are timed to arrive at the appropriate planting time for your area. Call 1-888-838-1093 for full details.


REGISTER: There is no cost to participate. Your Jump Start Kit will arrive within 10 business days. You will have immediate access to an online account

RECYCLE EMPTY PRINTER CARTRIDGES AND USED CELL PHONES:
- Inkjet Cartridges
- Laser Cartridges
- Cell Phones

REDEEM FOR NEW EQUIPMENT OR CASH:
Every qualifying cartridge and cell phone has a designated value
The values for all collected items are deposited into your online account
Spend your fundraiser earnings in FundingFactory's Rewards Catalog with thousands of great products or request a check.
The GE Foundation Matching Gifts Program supports GE employees and retirees in their personal philanthropy and fundraising efforts. This involves matching individual contributions of $25 or more. 
[http://www.ge.com/foundation/employee_programs/matching_gifts.jsp](http://www.ge.com/foundation/employee_programs/matching_gifts.jsp)

GoodSearch is a search engine powered by Yahoo! which donates 50-percent of its revenue to the charities and schools designated by its users. The search engine is used just like any other browser, but GoodSearch developed a patent-pending way to track and direct search-generated proceeds to charities. Each time a new search is entered, GoodSearch directs about one cent towards the designated school or charity as a result of searching the Internet at GoodSearch.com. [http://www.goodsearch.com/About.aspx](http://www.goodsearch.com/About.aspx)

When shopping through GoodShop’s online shopping mall of world-class merchants, GoodSearch is paid a commission. GoodSearch developed a way to track the shopping-generated proceeds and direct them to charities. Each purchase made via the GoodShop mall results in a donation to the user's designated charity or school – averaging approximately 3% of the sale, but going up to 20% or even more. [http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx](http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx)

Organizations are sent a check once a year in December for the combined funds earned on GoodSearch and GoodShop during the portal sites’ fiscal year of Oct. 1 through Sept. 30. The minimum check sent is $20.


**Google Grants** provides eligible organizations with in-kind keyword advertising using Google AdWords so you can connect directly with your target audience. Through simple, short text ads that run on Google.com, thousands (or even millions) of people can learn about your organization online as they are searching for related information. When someone enters keywords (short phrases specifying a particular search query) into Google.com, ads targeted to those keywords appear alongside the search results.


**GrantsAlert.com** is partnered with eFundraising to help groups reach their fundraising goals! eFundraising.com, helps select the perfect fundraiser for groups based on financial needs, group type, past fundraising experience, and the expected participation rate and motivation level of the group, as well as geographic location. Online store has a large variety of high quality fundraiser products at competitive prices, including chocolates, candy bars, scratch cards, magazines, gift brochures, cookie dough, candles, flowers and more.
The Home Depot Charitable Matching Gift Program allows associates and board members to use Foundation funds to increase their support of charities (including public schools) that reflect their personal interests and causes. The Home Depot Foundation will match individual associate gifts ranging from $25-$1000 per charity on a dollar for dollar basis for full-time and part-time associates. There is a $3,000 cap per associate per calendar year. The Home Depot Foundation will strengthen that gift by matching it dollar-for-dollar. Gifts will be matched on a quarterly basis with check distributions taking place in January, April, July and October.

When Home Depot Associate-Volunteers offer their expertise and service to nonprofit organizations, The Home Depot Foundation provides Team Depot Dollars grants to nonprofits to recognize and reward their service. For every hour Home Depot associates volunteer at a company-sponsored volunteer project, The Home Depot Foundation will match with a $15 contribution to the nonprofit organization of their choice, up to $120. Gifts will be matched on a quarterly basis with check distributions taking place in January, April, July and October.

MissionFish the way to fundraise on the eBay Giving Works Program allows sellers to give proceeds from their sales to a favorite nonprofit, and helps nonprofits raise funds by selling on eBay too. Nonprofits can also receive donations from eBay users through the Donate Now feature, which lets anyone with a PayPal account donate to nonprofits right away—without buying or selling anything.

Every time schools, teachers, students, parents and school supporters give a school's 5% Back to Schools Program ID number when buying school supplies at Office Depot, that school will receive credits equal to 5% of the qualifying purchases to use for free supplies. Credits are issued in the form of a merchandise card. A school must have a minimum of $10 in credits for a merchandise card to be issued. The program runs all year long and Office Depot tallies the credits for schools quarterly. Purchases made by schools also qualify for the program.

Recycling Fundraiser is a leader in cellular phone and ink jet printer cartridge fundraising and recycling. Working with over 12,000 educational, civic and religious organizations throughout the United States, EcoPhones is pioneering the large scale collection of electronic waste through its innovative EcoPhones Drive® concept. By offering a simple, no-cost fundraising solution while at the same time safeguarding the environment.

Fundraising supports PTA/PTO’s with a method of raising funds to provide much needed shade structures and sports shade canopies for outdoor areas, while educating children on sun protection. The fundraising kit includes the guideline booklet for your committee, donation forms, brochure, sample letters, press releases etc, tools that will help you make the most of your event. The various pieces of the kit are targeted to specific age groups and types of school/organization, and have been compiled to encourage full participation by children and parents.
The Staples Teacher Rewards Program offers great benefits that include: cash back rewards, Teacher Bonus Seasons, Free Delivery, Ink Recycling and more.

**Ink Recycling:**
ANY ink cartridge can be recycled - no matter which brand! This includes Brother®, Epson® and Canon ink or toner cartridges, **up to 10 per calendar month per customer** and receive $2 back in Staples Rewards per cartridge. Ink recycling rewards arrive each month, separately from the standard Staples Rewards statement.


**Local Giving:**
Staples provides charitable donations to 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations engaged in educational and youth–focused projects and events. Visit your local Staples store and speak with the general manager about how they can support your community organization. All requests are evaluated by your local Staples store and decisions are made at the discretion of store management.

http://www.staples.com/sbd/content/about/soul/localgiving.html

**State Farm Companies Foundation**

**Matching Gift Program**
The State Farm Companies Foundation Matching Gift Program encourages State Farm® associates to support higher education. The Foundation matches limited individual charitable contributions made by State Farm eligible associates, agents and retirees to eligible colleges and universities.


**Good Neighbor Grant™ Program**
Through the Good Neighbor Grant Program, the State Farm Companies Foundation awards a $500 grant on behalf of each eligible State Farm associate, agent or retiree who volunteers a minimum of 40 hours a year to an eligible nonprofit organization.

https://secure6.easymatch.com/StateFarmVH/CustomerContent/common/employeevh.asp

**TerraCycle** - [http://www.terracycle.net/](http://www.terracycle.net/)

TerraCycle runs free national collection programs that pay non-profits and schools. TerraCycle has exclusive partnerships with major companies such as Kraft Foods, Frito Lay (Pepsi), Stonyfield Farm, Mars Wrigley and many more. The partnerships create free collection programs that pay schools and non-profits nationwide to collect used packaging such as drink pouches, energy bar wrappers, yogurt cups, cookie wrappers, chip bags and more! The collected materials are upcycled into affordable, high quality products ranging from tote bags and purses to shower curtains and kites. You can be a part of the eco-revolution, by signing up for one of TerraCycle’s Brigades where you can earn cash for your trash!

**TI Technology Rewards Program**
The TI Technology Rewards program (formerly Volume Purchase Program) offers educators the opportunity to collect points from calculator purchases. Ask your students to save their points from the package after they purchase their calculators, and you can redeem these points for a wide variety of free TI products and services including: •TI-Nspire™ and TI-Nspire CAS technology •TI graphing and scientific calculators •TI-Nspire Navigator™ system •TI-Navigator system •Presentation tools •Professional development. TI will continue to honor Proofs of Purchase (POP’s) through December 2010.

Participating schools in the Tyson Project A+ national fund-raising program can earn up to $12,000 per academic year, and there are no restrictions on how the funds are used (field trips, computer equipment, sports gear, library books, etc.) Schools earn money from Tyson by collecting and redeeming the "Tyson Project A+™ label" worth 24¢ featured on the front of Tyson product packages. Labels may be turned in at any time during the year. The maximum number of labels that may be submitted within a calendar year (January–December) is 50,000 ($12,000 worth).

The Upromise Schools Program fundraising program is a free service that helps parents save for their child's college education, while raising dollars for their school. Schools earn funds when Upromise members engage in certain Upromise activities after they have linked their Upromise account to their participating school ("Bonus Funds"). Second, Members may allocate all or a portion of their Upromise rewards to participating schools ("Shared Rewards Funds"). Members may even elect to earn funds for subgroups within a participating school (e.g., a sports team or club). There is no cost for a school to enroll in the Program, and becoming a participating school does not create a corporate relationship between the school and Upromise. Payments of Bonus Funds and Shared Rewards will be made quarterly, in September, December, March and June. Please allow 4-6 weeks for check delivery. Only participating schools with a balance of $50.00 or more will be issued a check in a given quarter.

Verizon Foundation offers a variety of opportunities for Verizon employees to become involved in their communities. Through Verizon Volunteers, present and former Verizon employees services can be enlisted by filling out an online Volunteer Request Form. The Volunteer Incentive Program recognizes employees' contribution of time and talent to nonprofit organizations located in their community or surrounding areas. Under the program, employees are eligible to apply for a grant on behalf of the qualified organization where they volunteered 50 hours or more during the year. The Foundation rewards these employee volunteers with a $750 check for presentation to the designated organization. Employees may request VIP grants on behalf of two separate organizations for a total of $1,500 each year.

Walmart’s Volunteerism Always Pays recorded 800,000 hours volunteered by associates in 2004. As a result of this volunteer activity, the program gave $5 million to organizations where Wal-Mart and SAM'S CLUB associates volunteered. All requests for funding must be directed to the Good. Works. Coordinator at your local Wal-Mart store, SAM'S CLUB, Neighborhood Market or Distribution Center.

The Walmart Community Grants Program is designed primarily to enhance the impact of giving in the communities Walmart serves. To learn more about requesting a grant from your local Wal-Mart or Sam’s Club, contact the Community Involvement Coordinator at the Wal-Mart or Sam’s Club location closest to you.
Limitations to Grants
Question:
I know the good things about grants, namely, they enable you to do things which you would not otherwise be able
to do, or at least do as easily or quickly. What is the downside? What are the limitations with grants?

Answer:
We have two general answers. First, grants are seldom a source of “quick” money. If your organization needs
money right now, grants may not be the answer. The wheels of grantmaking turn slowly and you need to plan
nearly one year ahead of your anticipated expenditures. Second, not all needs can be solved by grants. Grants
represent only one source of fundraising in addition to others such as special events, planned giving, annual
campaigns, major gifts, and planned giving. Grants fund people, more so than things. If you need a new
building or to resurface a parking lot, for example, then you should consider
funding approaches other than grants. Most grants go to support various projects that will improve the lives of
people.

Joe Mizereck and partner Chad Stalvey developed GrantsAlert.com as a way to help financially strapped
teachers and schools who are trying to fill the gaps created by state, federal and local budget cuts.

"The single biggest problem facing grant writers today is the growing competition for limited funds, and this
struggle is only going to get worse," Mizereck says.

Planning is important, he says.

"But, it's not a matter of planning once the announcement is made," Mizereck says. "It really has to begin
months before. Being prepared to respond quickly is critical.

This is especially true with government opportunities where the window is only open for 30-50 days. If you
lose this year, immediately begin working on next year's proposal."

Top Five Tips for Successful Fundraising
It's easy to boost funding for your school or organization with successful fundraising programs like
Scratchcards, candy bars, lollipops, cookie dough and magazines, Mizereck says.

Here are Mizereck's top five tips for getting the most out of your fundraiser:
Tip #1 - Start Planning Early
The competition out there can be severe, so as we said at the beginning, plan early. Especially if you're
working with a large group like an entire school, it's always a good idea to start planning a few months in
advance. When you start early, you have the opportunity to look around at the different programs available,
determine the best option for your group, and organize your volunteers around your chosen fundraiser,
Mizereck says.

Tip #2 - Combine Programs
Combining different programs gives you the opportunity to get even more support by giving supporters
choices. Some great fundraiser combinations are lollipops and beef snacks, cookie dough and the online
magazine fundraiser, and candy bars and Scratchcards.

Tip #3 - Look for Quality Products at Bargain Prices
Buying products in bulk from a fundraising company means you're usually getting a much lower price than
you would in a store, but shop around to be sure you're getting the highest quality for your dollar.
Tip #4 - Kick Off Your Campaign
A proper campaign kick-off achieves two things: it informs your participants, and motivates them. Hold your kick-off event with great enthusiasm and your excitement will rub off on your participants. They'll be excited too, and your fundraiser will run strong from start to finish.
Also be sure to inform participants of how the fundraiser will run, and encourage them to ask questions so that everyone is in the know, Mizereck says.

Tip #5 - Prize Programs
Prizes, gifts and rewards are great motivators that can play a big role in keeping participants active throughout your fundraiser. Some programs, like cookie dough and gift brochures, come with free prize programs for qualified groups. On the other hand, it's fairly easy to develop your prize program.
This could include such things as small gifts to reward sales, a group party when the fundraising goal is reached, large prizes or rewards for top sellers, or a big prize draw at the end of the campaign, Mizereck says.
He notes that it helps to be a little quicker on the draw than your competitors.
"The opportunities are out there, but with the competition being so fierce," Mizereck says, "your approach has to be top quality...and this takes time and smart work."

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