



FOUNDATION BEYOND BELIEF

humanism at work

Beyond Belief Network Guides: Virtual Auction or Raffle Fundraiser

Auctions and raffles are usually a very successful way to raise money. Doing them completely online might be a little more complicated than in person, but that doesn't mean they have to be any less successful.

How To

1. Pick a method to organize your auction.
 - a. The easiest way to set up your auction is to use an online auction platform like [BiddingOwl](#) or [Give Lively](#). Keep in mind that any platform you use, logistics will likely be easier, but there will likely be fees or percentages taken in order to use them.
 - b. Alternatively, you can post a picture and description of each thing in the auction or raffle in your facebook group. Folks can make bids for items in the comments and when the auction is closed the winner can donate using your custom FBB donation portal (see below).
2. For a raffle, post the things on raffle to your facebook group or send an email. Explain how many raffle tickets a donor will have at different donation levels. For example, depending on what kinds of prizes you have, \$5 each and 3 for \$12, or \$10 each and 3 for \$25.
3. [Tell us about your fundraiser](#) so we can create your customized donation portal. We need:
 - a. High quality picture of your team or logo for the top of page (if you don't submit anything we'll use our Humanism at Work logo)
 - b. Name of your team
 - c. Name of your fundraiser
 - d. Short description of your fundraiser (2-3 sentences)

- e. The end date of your fundraiser so we can close the campaign on that day.
2. Ask members if they are willing to donate art, donate skills (that can be shared safely), unused gift cards. Ask local community businesses if they are willing to donate anything. Gift cards and certificates are particularly easy for online auctions and raffles since they can be mailed easily all over the country. Have any of you members moved away? They might want to participate.
3. Choose an end date and time. Consider hosting a video stream where the winners can be announced or winning raffle tickets picked from a hat. After the announcements are made, have some social fun together.

Some More Tips

- Start planning at least a month in advance so you have time to make arrangements and promote your event.
- Set a goal that is achievable, but not easy.
- Make an event page on Facebook, send invitations, announce it on your website, put an ad in local newsletters and newspapers, send email reminders a day or so before the event.
- Partner up with other groups! Let other local freethought groups know about your event. Consider contacting special interest clubs who would also support the charity you've chosen, or partner with religious groups and spark some friendly competition.
- Enjoy yourself!

Some Tech Options

1. Online auction platform
 - a. [BiddingOwl](#)
2. Video meeting options
 - a. [Zoom](#) – Free video conferencing for up to 100 people for up to 40 minutes. Paid plans available for longer meetings and more participants.
 - b. [Google Meet](#) — Free plans temporarily include longer than 60 minutes calls through March 2021 and can include up to 100 participants.
 - c. [Microsoft Teams](#)– Software for remote working. Free basic plan includes video conferencing up to 10,000 participants.
 - d. [Facebook Live](#)

- e. [Google Hangouts](#) – Free video chat for up to 10 people. Paid plans available for more participants.
- f. [Jitsi](#) – Multi-platform open-source video conferencing. To skip all the fancy customizations and just start a meeting, go straight to [Jitsi Meet](#).
- g. [Skype](#) – Free videoconferencing. Participant limit depends on your device.

For more ideas check out BBN fundraising idea guides on our [resources](#) page!

Questions or Concerns?

If you need help with planning your event or have additional questions, the best way to contact Foundation Beyond Belief is to use the [contact webform](#), which enables us to track the resolution of your question.