

July 2020

Dear Friend,

"The calamity that comes is never the one we had prepared ourselves for."
- Mark Twain, 1896

These are different and difficult times for you to do business and for us to plan fundraisers. But now, more than ever, we are all in this together and The Mark Twain House & Museum needs your help.

We are moving forward with a Virtual Gala on Friday, November 6 and, believe it or not, we expect it to be more exciting and robust than ever. Importantly, we can reach a wider audience with local, national, and global impact and no limit on venue capacity! That means more exposure and visibility for your business, with emphasis placed to distinguish our auction items appropriately for audience geography. There will be no ticket price for attendees and we can promise them a unique experience, very much in keeping with our mission and Mark Twain's legacy.

Twain remains important in the fabric of American culture. The Mark Twain House & Museum is a non-profit organization supported by friends like you, not by state or federal programs. We are dedicated to fostering an appreciation of Twain as one of America's defining cultural figures and a leading voice in American literature. Our goals are to promote literacy, love of literature, reading and writing, and enhance the education of teachers and children. We encourage critical thinking and foster humanity, humor, and social justice. We are taking our message virtual during these challenging times, finding ways to work with teachers and homeschoolers, and bringing entertaining, soul-enriching public programs to all.

With your help, the ongoing relevance of Mark Twain will continue. Please support our November 6 Virtual Gala with a generous and compelling auction item. Our event, themed "A Writer's Home, A Home for Writers" will be uniquely our own, in keeping with the Mark Twain mission and legacy. We also expect surprises and entertainment from well-known national celebrities. With free viewing and an extensive, far-reaching marketing campaign, there is no limit to the global audience we will reach.

Your name will be prominently in front of more viewers than our traditional gala could have promised and will be listed on the event and auction websites and in the digital program book. We are designating our auction items for local or national designations for our far-flung guests. We are looking to keep our auction fresh and relevant with items that stay-at-home guests might still need to enjoy. Whether it be housewares, wine & liquor, gift cards, puzzles and games, or practical solutions to pandemic life, creative ideas are welcome!

Please find attached our Auction Donation Fillable Form that can be completed and returned to Jacquelyn Andrews: Jacquelyn.andrews@marktwainhouse.org. For any questions, please contact Jacquelyn at (860) 280-3112.

We hope you will participate in our annual major fundraiser and we thank you for your interest and support. Your help is needed now more than ever!

With grateful thanks & appreciation,



Rosalie Roth
Director of Development



Tara Costanzo
Gala Co-Chair



Tony Costanzo
Gala Co-Chair

Auction Donation Form

The Mark Twain House & Museum Annual Gala: *A Writer's Home, A Home for Writers*

VIRTUAL Gala | Friday, November 6, 2020 | 8:00 p.m.

Co-Chairs Tara & Tony Costanzo

- Due to our current pandemic environment, we would like to request that all expiration dates extend to at least 1.5 years beyond our event, preferably through **June, 2022**.
- All items must be committed and received by **October 2, 2020** to ensure inclusion in the event.
- All donors will be recognized in the MTHM auction website and in the digital program book.
- Please provide name of company and information as you wish to be acknowledged for tax purposes and in any promotional materials.

Organization Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Date: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Description of donation: _____

Terms and conditions: _____

Authorizing Signature: _____

Estimated Value: \$ _____

Item is included/will be delivered or mailed.

I would like to make arrangements to have The Mark Twain House & Museum pick this item up.

Thank you for your support!

For submission/questions contact Jacquelyn Andrews

Email: jacquelyn.andrews@marktwainhouse.org

Phone: 860.280.3112

Fax: 860.278.8148

Mail: 351 Farmington Avenue | Hartford, CT | 06105

EIN 06-0685118

All items become the property of the MTHM and we may choose to use them for another fundraising effort. We reserve the right to combine the donation with other items, if necessary. Thank you!