



# Hope Gala Silent Auction Basket Ideas

Please consider supporting Alexandra House's Hope Gala event by donating a Silent Auction Basket. Themed gift baskets and entertainment packages do extremely well in our Silent Auction. Ideal basket/package prices are in the \$50-\$200 range. Here are some ideas to get you started:

## **Beer, Wine, & Spirits**

- **Mixologist's Wheelbarrow** - Stock a wheelbarrow full of alcoholic beverages, plus mixing tools and cocktail recipes.
- **Wine & Cheese Basket** - wine gift certificates, cheese tray/platter, wine glasses, corkscrew, wine topper, wine guide, wine vacuum, wine charms, decanter, napkins, different cheeses
- **Martini Basket** - martini glasses, gift certificate for martini mixes, olives, olive picks, shaker, napkins, plates, cocktail book
- **Wine Lover's Basket** - a wine basket with accessories (*corkscrew, small wine refrigerator, wine reference books, day trip to a local winery gift card, cheese, crackers, ice bucket*) and wine (*different varieties: red, white, dessert, etc.*),
- **Beer Sampler Basket** - beer glasses, bottle opener, different beer (world beers), beer tasting or brewery tours
- **Moscow Mule Basket** - copper Moscow mule mugs, shot glasses, Moscow Mule recipe book, bottle of vodka, ginger beer, limes, stirring rods
- **Margarita Basket** - Margarita Mix, salt rimmer, margarita glasses, tasty snacks (salsa, chips, queso), decorations, napkins, and tequila.
- **Rum & Coke Basket** - highball glasses, shot glasses, rum, regular and diet coke.

## **Pampering & Self-Care**

- **Weary Feet Gift Basket** - Fill a foot tub with Epsom salts, bubble bath, towel, pumice stone, foot lotion/ powder, comfortable slippers, nail clippers. \* **BONUS:** Add a pedicure gift certificate
- **Exercise for Health** - items to promote physical fitness: sweat band, pedometer, stress ball, water bottle, jump rope, etc.
- **Sports Therapy or Bath/Spa** - Bath gels, soaps, lotions, massage oil, mineral water, loofah sponge, nail care, candles, bath pillow, aromatherapy, eye covers, bath towel. \* **BONUS:** Add a massage gift certificate
- **Get Well Soon Basket** - books/ magazines, crossword puzzle, mug, soup, juice, tea/coffee, soup mixes, slippers, plant
- **Date Night Basket** - wine/champagne gift certificates, 2 glasses, nice restaurant gift certificate, hotel or bed & breakfast stay, truffles, gift certificate for flowers
- **Aveda Basket** - Aveda products, Aveda spa gift certificate
- **Yoga/Pilates Basket** - Pilates or yoga books, Pilates and yoga DVDs, yoga mat, yoga ball, yoga rubber bands, yoga wear, relaxing CD, tea. \* **BONUS:** Add a yoga class(es) gift certificate
- **Aromatherapy Basket** - candles, aromatherapy book, oils, and diffuser, massage oil, sachet

- **Spa Themed Gift Basket** - Offer bath salts, shower gels, soaps, loofa, sponge, pumice stone, a fluffy bathrobe, lotions, bubble bath, eye mask, bath pillow, massage oil, candles, slippers, nail polish, essential oils and a diffuser. \*BONUS: a gift card to a local spa good for weekly massages, manicures and skin scrubs.
- **Looking Suave** - Pair men's grooming essentials like a shaving kit, heated shaving cream dispenser, shower mirror and electric razor. \*BONUS: selection of 12 silk neckties from an exclusive Men's Shop.
- **Dude Crate** - a basket that will appeal to the men in the crowd (and their significant others) to fill out any den. Gather items like fine cigars, whiskey, savory snacks, darts, a poker table with poker chips and certificate for a round of golf, and display in a crate.

### **Travel & Entertainment**

- **Weekend Getaway** - Weekend stay at a cabin / hotel up north with a gift basket filled with goodies for the weekend
- **Trusty Traveler** - Everything business travelers need to jetset in style. Include a suit bag, leather briefcase, Bose headphones and travel pillow into a carry-on roller with wheels. \*BONUS: a gift card for flights or hotel stays.
- **Fun in the Sun** - designer sunglasses (his & hers), beach towels, sand toys, sunscreen, tropical beverages, waterproof cameras, beach balls, sand pails & shovels, blanket, towels, snorkel gear and an e-reader to enjoy at the beach. Store in a big straw tote, suitcase or on a beach chair, with bright decorations like paper umbrellas and leis.
- **Travel Gift Basket** - A travel alarm clock, miniature size toiletries, gift cards or traveler's checks, hard candies, gum, luggage tags, a journal, maps, travel guides and handy clothing solutions (*lint roller brush, formal clothes storage carrier covers*) are smart choices. Package it all in a piece of luggage or travel tote
- **Kid's Road Trip Basket** - Bookstore gift card (*for reading in the car or book on tape*) small travel toys-travel bingo etc. magna doodle, coloring books, crayons, small travel desk for coloring on, electronic toys-window cling-ons, etchasketch, color wonder markers with paper pad, crossword puzzles, CDS, travel diary, snacks, water, cooler, portable DVD player, headphones and splitter.

### **For the Kids**

- **Here Comes Baby** - Pack a basket with baby essentials. Include blankets, a baby monitor, tiny hangars, laundry detergent safe for sensitive skin, wet wipes, bibs, books, toys, grooming kit, safety set (*i.e., outlet plugs, cabinet locks*), bottles, pacifiers, sippy cups, books, booties, lullaby CD, Purell, baby lotion etc. You might also include one or two baby outfits for decoration, but don't overdo it - baby clothes are rarely one-size-fits-all and tend to be outgrown fast. \*BONUS: Pack in a laundry basket or diaper bag.
- **Princess/Dress-Up Basket** - tiaras, shoes, gloves, boas, make-up, mirrors, jewelry, dresses
- **I Love Books Basket** - favorite children's books, book characters, book marks, gift certificate to Barnes & Noble
- **Kids Birthday Party Basket** - (*Themed princess, Disney character, comic book, etc.*) tablecloth, plates, napkins, silverware, piñata, disposable camera, balloons, decorations. \*BONUS: gift certificate for DQ or bakery cake, or SkyZone, Chuck-e-Cheese.
- **Entertain the Kiddos Basket** - Children's Books, Cartoon Movies (DVDs), Book Markers, Toys, Kites, Scrap Books, Gift Card to Book Store

- **Kids Costume Dress-Up Trunk** – a collection dress-up costumes: hats, gloves, shoes, scarves, capes, play jewelry, boas, bandannas, eye patches, other accessories, old Halloween costumes, etc.
- **American Girl Basket** - American Girl doll, Clothes/accessories
- **Lego Party Basket** - assorted Lego sets, Lego sorter and storage solutions, gift card to Lego store
- **Play-Doh Basket** – assorted colors of play-doh, accessories, and tools
- **Summer Fun Basket** – assorted yard toys (*Frisbee, plastic bowling pins, balls*), nerf guns, flag football, bubbles, sidewalk chalk.
- **Fun With Science Basket** - science games, experiment kits, science puzzles, glow-in-the-dark ceiling stickers, goggles, a child-sized lab coat. \*BONUS: Tickets to science museum.

## **Arts & Music**

- **Creativity Unleashed** - Offer pottery, painting, ceramics, glass-blowing, etc. lessons from the local art studio plus art related tools ceramic tools like clay cutters, rolling pins and throwing tools.
- **Art Basket** - crayons, paints, construction paper, play dough, colored pencils, sidewalk chalk, paint brushes, finger paints, finger paint paper, glitter, markers, scissors, stickers
- **Concert/Music Basket** - concert tickets, instrument(s), music lessons, CDs, MP3 player, etc.
- **Learn to Knit Basket** - Knitting needles, yarn, pattern books, knitting magazine subscription, completed scarf, knitting class for winning bidder and friends with local knitting guru.
- **Kids Coloring Basket** - Fill a kid's backpack with coloring books, sketch pads, markers, crayons, drawing notebooks and colored pencils.
- **Kids Art Basket** - crayons, paints, construction paper, play dough, colored pencils, sidewalk chalk, paint brushes, finger paints, finger paint paper, glitter, markers, scissors, stickers
- **Paint for a Cause** - Jumpstart a workshop for aspiring painters with an easel, apron, canvases, oil and acrylic paints, watercolor, brushes, and palettes. \* BONUS: Include a private group painting lesson, like a paint-and-sip/corks and canvas.

## **Food**

- **Mexican Fiesta Basket** – Salsas, dips, terra cotta bowls, cumin spice, margarita mix, salt, margarita glasses, tequila, refried beans, chili peppers, flan mix, chip & dip bowl, plates or napkins with a fiesta theme, lime juice.
- **Morning Wake-up Call** - For the die-hard coffee enthusiasts. Offer a fresh cup of joe with a variety of top-rated, fair trade coffee beans, a French press or K-Cup machine, plus a heavy scoop, travel tumbler and sugar jar. \* BONUS: Caribou Coffee and/or Starbucks gift cards and mugs!
- **Spice of Life Gift Basket** - Compile a basket of unique spices, spice racks, and cookbooks. Create a basket with unique hard-to-find spices and delicacies. 2 dozen essential spices and seasoning blends, plus pepper and salt mills. Present on a spice rack. \* BONUS: a few copies and a gift subscription of a cooking magazine like *Cooking Light* or *Bon Appetit*.)
- **Coffee / Tea Baskets** - flavored coffees and/or teas, mugs, creamers, tea strainer, flavored spoons, teabag holders, serving tray, canister, carafe, cappuccino mix, coffee scoop, creamers, biscotti. \*BONUS: gift certificate to Dunkin Donuts, Caribou Coffee or Starbucks
- **Ice Cream Basket** - toppings, sundae dishes, waffle bowls and cones, sprinkles, ice cream scoop, cherries, Culver's gift certificate
- **Breakfast Basket** - pancake mix, waffle mix, preserves, syrup, coffee, creamer, mugs, wire whisk, omelet pan, mixing bowl, sugar and cinnamon, honey, oatmeal, coffee, creamer, juice

- **Fondue Basket** - fondue pot, chocolate fountain, fondue plates, fondue cookbook, fondue forks, sturnos, napkins
- **Asian Food Basket** - Chopsticks, teapot, tea cups and saucers, fortune cookies, bowls, teas, noodles, spices, peanut oil, sesame oil, table linens, cookbook. \*BONUS: gift certificate to restaurants
- **Snack Shack** – (Chocolate theme) – Big candy bars, bag of Hershey Kisses or M&Ms, hot chocolate, chocolate coffee, chocolate covered pretzels, spoons, nuts, fruit, chocolate cookies, brownie mix.
- **Baker's Dozen** - Baking mixes for cakes, brownies, pancakes, pie crust, pie fillings, rolling pin, glass pie pan and/or different chips/morsels, vanilla, sprinkles, frostings, baking powder, baking soda, cookie cutters, measuring cups, spoons, oven mitt, flour, sugar, brown sugar, powdered sugar, oil, apron.
- **Pizza Maker Basket** - children's pizza kit, cookbook, pans, pizza cutter and sauce. Round it out with a gift certificate from a local kitchen store or grocery store to complete this fun basket.
- **Tea Party** - A variety of teas, biscuits, petit fours or tiny cakes, tea set with cups and teapot.
- **Chocolate Lover's Basket** - hot cocoa, different chocolates, truffles, chocolate cookbook
- **Italian Basket** - pastas, red sauce, Alfredo sauce, pesto, olive oil, bread, cookbook, dipping oils, capers, wine, pasta bowls

### **Sports, Outdoors, & Backyard Entertainment**

- **Gone Fishing:** Include fishing gear: rods, reels, nets, fishing line, hats and a fully equipped tackle box tackle box (bobbers, lures, weights) and Swedish fish (candy). Store in a big metal chum bucket. \*BONUS: Up the ante by including Cuban cigars stored in a humidor
- **Wild World of Sports** – (Sports Theme) – Golf balls, tees, hockey pucks, balls, tennis balls, Gatorade, water bottles, sweat socks (adult or child), baseballs, nerf balls, energy bars, football tee, sweat bands (head or wrist), ball pump or needles.
- **Picnic Basket** - basket, plates, silverware, napkins, glasses, salt/pepper shakers, wine, cheese tray, cheese knife, corkscrew, tablecloth, blanket
- **Golfer's Delight** - golf tees, golf glove, golf balls, golf shirt, certificate for a golf lesson, golf pass, umbrella, round of golf at private golf course.
- **Tailgating Basket** - large wheeling cooler, mini-grill, beer, chairs, snacks, water, condiments, nerf football, radio, batteries, skewers, sauces, meat subs, marinades, spices, apron, grill brush, oven mitt, plastic dishes or tray.
- **Grill Master** - Stock a cooler with a picnic set, food & drink gift certificates and a stereo. Include pork and barbecue rubs, grilling spices, marinades and grill accessories like thermometers, rotisseries, mitts/pads, grill brush, vegetable basket, skewers, and an apron. \*BONUS: Up the ante by presenting right in a grill or barbecue.
- **Night Under the Stars** (Camping Theme) - Great for families and couples. Include items like a tent, sleeping bags, air mattress/pads, metal skewers, a cooler full of beer, a camp stove or fire pit, backpacks, thick knit blankets, LED lantern, camping dishes, pans, matches, pudgy pie makers, marshmallows, chocolate, graham crackers, batteries, radio, cards, and games.
- **Sports Package (for 4)**- Tickets to a local sports team game, parking pass, gift card/certificate for dinner at a nearby restaurant
- **Field of Dreams Basket** – (Gardening Theme) - Garden tools (adult and/or child), seeds, bulbs, kneeling pad, watering can, garden shove, plant markers, gloves, decorative pots, garden tote, fertilizer spikes. BONUS: gift certificates to a garden center.

## **Family Fun**

- **Family Day** - 4 annual passes to the zoo, museum tickets, theme parks, backstage passes at the county fair and gift cards to kid-friendly restaurants. \*BONUS: keep the party rolling at home with board games and a pizza gift certificate.
- **Movie Night** - candy, microwave popcorn, popcorn bowls and seasoning, movie gift cards, Red Box gift card, popcorn bowls. \*BONUS: add a popcorn maker and popcorn.
- **Game Night Theme** – Playing cards, travel games, Go Fish, Uno, Crazy Eights, regular deck of cards, Old Maids, board games (Yahtzee, Dominos, Scrabble, etc.) brain quest, books of card and travel game ideas, sudoku, crossword puzzles or word game books, assorted snack foods, storage tote.
- **Restaurant Gift Certificate Basket** - An auction basket full of gift certificates from local restaurants.
- **Family Fun Membership Basket** - Annual family memberships to kid friendly places like the zoo, museum of natural history, children's museum, etc.
- **Beach Blanket Bingo** - Colorful towels, plastic pail, shovels, beach ball, umbrella, cooler, Frisbee, radio, sun block, and funky sunglasses.

## **Mystery Purses/Baskets**

- **Lottery Basket** – assorted scratch off lottery tickets, folded money into flowers, and Payday and 100 Grand candy bars and gold coin chocolates.
- **Win Big – Mystery Basket/Purse** - Mystery purses (high-end handbags) filled with gift certificates, lottery tickets, and other surprises. Just be sure the surprises and bags are valuable enough to satisfy the winning bidder.

## **Pet's**

- **Dog Lover's Basket** - leash, collar, food dish, food/dish mat, bowls, toys, pillow/blanket, lint roller, brush/grooming tools, treats, shampoo, bones, sweater, food, poop scoop, pet frame/photo album, disposable camera
- **Cat Lover's Basket** - collar, toys, grooming tools, lint roller, food dishes, food mat, treats, cat food, litter, litter box, pet frame/photo album, disposable camera

## **Miscellaneous**

- **That's A Wrap Basket** – Be ready for any occasion with a basket full of gift wrap supplies, including: rolls of assorted wrapping paper, gift bags, gift boxes, bows, tissue paper, ribbon, pens, and tape.
- **Handy Person Kit** - Hammer, Tool Belt, Screws, Drill, Gloves, Safety Goggles, Wrench, Face Mask, Socket Set, DIY Books, etc.
- **Emergency Readiness Kit** - First-aid kit, bottled water, transistor radio with batteries, flashlight, matches, lightweight blanket, dried or freeze-dried food.
- **Rainy Day Survival** - Puzzles, board games, deck of cards, Mad Libs, popcorn, ingredients to make s'mores, classic books and movies.
- **Cards for All Occasions Basket** - Card organizer, address book, pens, stamps, cards (*i.e., thank you, sympathy, congratulations, new baby, happy birthday, seasonal, new home, retirement, wedding, anniversary, just because, encouragement, etc...*)
- **Throwback Gift Basket** - Back in Time with Your Favorite Treats from Your Favorite Decade. Were you a child of the '40s, '50s, '60s, '70s, or '80s? Do you miss that favorite candy or soft drink? These retro throwback gift baskets are full of decades of fun!

- **Maid Service Delivery** - Home maid service come to your home for a day and clean your entire house. \*BONUS: includes carpet cleaning and/or laundry service.
- **Off to College Basket** - shower caddy, binders/folders, sheets, mini fridge, laundry basket, towels
- **Car Care Basket** – Car wash supplies, armor all, car wax, car care cloths, window cleaner, tire gauge, snow scraper, emergency kit, small tool kit, bucket, sponges, air fresheners, cup holders, cell phone holder. \* BONUS: gift certificates for 12 car washes
- **Just for Dad** - Ideas for this basket would be tickets to a sporting event or a round of golf, gift certificate to Home Depot or Gander Mountain or anything that would make Dad feel special.
- **Harley Basket** - Harley calendar, t-shirt/sweatshirts, models, photo frames, key chain, mug/glasses, towel, blanket, framed picture, road atlas, decals
- **Deluxe Car Care Kit** - bucket, hose sprayer, tire/wheel brush, wheel whitener, tire wet, air freshener, car wash detergent, car wipes, window cleaner, upholstery cleaner, sponges, car mitt, shame. \* BONUS: oil change, car wash, and/or gas gift cards.

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