



november 10, 2016
THE ASTORIAN

honoring
sara speer selber

HONORARY CHAIR
lisa helfman

CELEBRATION CHAIRS
ryan leach
mitra woody

AUCTION CHAIR
beth bernal

AUCTION COMMITTEE
cindy herndon
nicola parente
sheleah reed
linda rieh



ADVICE TO A 3RD GRADER

What it takes is knowing
you are strong enough
to make whole
monuments in your
mind. Your own
superhero, the former of
every instant. Don't wait
until you are grown.
Because at every
second you are
powerful. You can
dance. You can write.
But first you must
imagine.

BY MACKENZIE, 10TH GRADE

WITSHOUSTON.ORG

PLEASE SUPPORT THE WITS AUCTION

I serve on the Board of Directors for Writers in the Schools and am proud to chair the *Free to Be* auction this November 10th at The Astorian. My 8-year-old daughter is a WITS kid, and I want every Houston child to learn literacy in a way that nurtures their curiosity, confidence, and creativity. Evidence shows that writing promotes stronger students and better jobs, leading to happier, healthier lives. Yet only one in four American kids can write proficiently. WITS is a solution to filling these educational gaps. The gala and auction raise the necessary funds. So, I ask you to join me in supporting our auction and our cause. Together, we can transform 36,000 children and their teachers into powerful writers and stronger Houstonians.

auction wish list

We appreciate all auction donations. We are especially looking for fun, experiential items that connect with our mission to engage children in the pleasure and power of reading and writing. Some successful items are included in our below wish list.

- HOUSTON ADVENTURES: museum tour, personalized visit of city, cooking class, celebrity lunch, personal party, celebrity assistant for the day
- LITERARY EXPERIENCES: commissioned poetry, naming rights for a character in a book, celebrity book list, Kindle
- GETAWAYS: home rental, hotel stay, airline tickets, rail tickets
- WORKS OF ART: paintings, sculptures, photography, jewelry, custom murals
- ENTERTAINMENT: Sporting event tickets, rodeo passes, concert tickets, spa retreat
- GIFT CARDS: Restaurants, book stores, Amazon, Apple, spa and health services
- WINE + SPIRITS: bottles, vineyard tours, brewery tours, Yeti cooler

reach new audiences

The silent auction is a great opportunity to be recognized publicly. Donations received in the WITS office by **OCTOBER 28, 2016** will be included in the event program to approximately 325 attendees and mentioned to a 15,740 person audience.

make a difference

The WITS mission is critical, and this is a cause worthy of your support. WITS reaches kids where others cannot, cultivating thoughtful, creative leaders for our community. Our goal this year is to reach more underserved children, grow our new digital program, expand the teen slam poetry movement, and coach teachers. We need your support now more than ever.

receive tax donation

WITS is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit (EIN: 76-0338549). Auction items and sponsorships are tax deductible to the extent of the law. We hope you will consider a meaningful gift to WITS.

Warmly,

Beth Bernal
WITS Auction Chair



honoring sara speer selber
thursday, november 10, 2016, 6pm | THE ASTORIAN

SILENT AUCTION DONATION
[visit WITSHOUSTON.ORG/GALA to register online]
AUCTION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 28, 2016

Anonymous

Name (for recognition)

Contact Person (if different)

Address

City

State

Zip

Email

Phone

DETAILED DESCRIPTION (Including limitations / instructions):

ESTIMATED VALUE (required) \$ _____ SUGGESTED MIN. BID \$ _____

Note: WITS reserves the right to determine the minimum bid for each auction item to ensure it sells

DELIVERY DETAILS

- Item is enclosed
- I will plan to drop off/ mail the item to WITS by auction deadline
- Please contact me to discuss pick-up arrangements

FOR ARTISTS

- I am not comfortable with WITS selling my artwork below my suggested min. bid. Please contact me.
- I would like to receive my artwork back if it is not sold
- If my artwork is not sold, WITS may retain the item and auction online or at a subsequent event

SUPPORT WITS

I am unable to participate in the auction, but would like to make a gift \$ _____

- Check payable to Writers in the Schools (WITS) enclosed
 - Charge credit card # _____ Expiration _____ CVV _____
- Name on Card _____

Signature

Date

- Please contact me about payment options

1523 W MAIN, HOUSTON, TX 77006 ● P: 713.523.3877 ● F: 866.793.4865 ● GIVE@WITSHOUSTON.ORG

CHARITABLE TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 76-0338549 | FAIR MARKET VALUE: \$125 PER SEAT

Writers in the Schools (WITS) is a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service code. WITS does not place a value on goods and services. This is a privilege and responsibility of the donor. Auction donor(s) agree to release, discharge, and indemnify WITS, its agents, representatives, or employees, from and against all claims, demands, actions, and judgments which may result from damage to or loss of any items the donor(s) has provided solely for displaying purposes during WITS' Celebration of Story. Donor is responsible for transit of donated items. The donor(s) represents that the donor(s) owns the auction item described above without encumbrance, and the donor(s) donates and gives the donation to WITS with the purpose and intent of transferring all right, title and interest in the donation to WITS.