Dear Member,

The Destinations International Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering destinations globally to excel through innovation and resource incubation.

The Annual Convention will take place in Dallas, Texas from July 18 – 20, 2023 and we expect to welcome approximately 1500 delegates. Destinations International Foundation will feature one silent auction and one Bags, Boots, and Buckles raffle at our Annual Convention that will raise funds and awareness for projects in research, advocacy, talent development, and global engagement.

We are requesting the following items:

- Silent Auction Items including destination trips, vendor packages, hotel stays, entrances to attractions or local festivals, experiences, and of course city swag. You will be able to upload your own donations this year and include items such as a full description of your prize, the value of your item, and pictures which will show potential winners what they are bidding on. For trips, please feel free to upload your organizations logo, pictures of your destination, etc.
- We will also be hosting a **Bags, Boots, and Buckles raffle** during the Annual Convention featuring purses and handbags, backpacks, buckles, and cowboy boots. Accessory items such as wallets, belts, sunglasses will also be accepted. Donations should be brought to Dallas, but we will collect information in advance of the event.

“Our members enjoy bidding against each other to receive amazing travel trips, experiences, and vendor packages” said Vail Ross, senior vice president of sales and marketing for STR and chair of the Destinations International Foundation. “The funds raised will provide critical tools and resources to help propel our industry today and in the future.”

To donate to our silent auction, please click here.

Once in the Givergy auction site, see “DONATE ITEM” on the left side of the page. This will direct you to a screen asking for your phone number and then a screen asking for your first and last name, email, phone number and then you will need to set a password. YOU DO NOT NEED TO PUT IN YOUR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION TO CONTINUE WITH YOUR DONATION.

You can click into add your phone or email for us to check in with you, but it is not mandatory. This should direct you to your donation screen where it will ask for a title, description, and terms, start price, estimated retail value, donated by, numbers of items available, and then load up your own pictures.

If you have any challenges loading your donations, please reach out to Amelia Lincoln at alincoln@destinationsinternational.org

To donate to the Bags, Boots, and Buckles Raffle, please click into the link below:

https://forms.office.com/r/eYZfqSw3vb

We will have further instructions for all of our donators to this raffle in regard to where to drop off your item upon arrival in Dallas. All raffle items will be available by registration starting on July 17th so that the items can be viewed by attendees. If you plan on donating boots, we make the recommendation that you purchase a gift certificate so the winner can purchase their specific size.

All donors for both the silent auction and raffle will be acknowledged at the event and part of our annual contributors to the Destinations International Foundation. Each donor for our silent auction will be responsible for distributing the prize to winners, but introductions will be made. This includes either bringing the prize to the event location or shipping directly to the winner. For Bags, Boots, and Buckles raffle, Destinations International Staff members will ensure that winners are notified, and prizes can be picked up, prior to their departure from Dallas.

With every dollar raised, the foundation takes aim at and helps ensure the continued growth of our industry worldwide. We know that destination organizations must compete with every other community for their share of the world's attention, customers, and investment. Efforts must be made to promote, market, sell, and engage potential visitors. However, we know that the need for destination promotion is for the benefit and well-being of every person in a community. We believe it is a common good and essential to develop opportunities for all the residents.

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to raising more awareness and financial support for the projects that give back to our industry.

Sincerely,



Don Welsh

President and CEO

Destinations International