

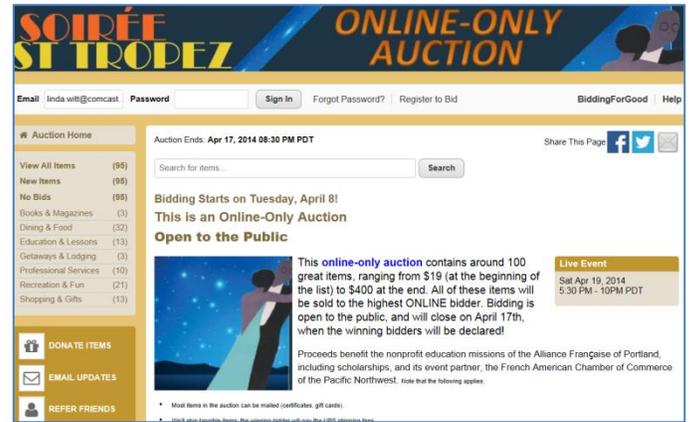
# It's Easy to Become an Online Bidder!

## Q: How do I register to bid?

A: Click the "Register to Bid" link at the top of any auction page. The Alliance's spring 2014 online-only auction is at <http://www.biddingforgood.com/afportland1/afportland1-14>.

As part of the sign-in process you'll pick a Nickname which will show up online in the bid activity. We recommend you create an inventive nickname for yourself, rather than use your real name. Anonymous bidding is more fun (think of it as your avatar!) and it's better for the auction results.

If you have previously registered to bid on Bidding for Good and have forgotten your password, click the "Forgot Password?" link and it will be emailed to you. You can also change your Nickname and passwords as many times as you like, and all your current bids will be transferred to the new nickname.



## Q: How do I sign in to bid?

A: Once you have registered, enter your email and password in the upper left corner and click the "sign in" button.

## Q: What is a proxy bid?

A: BiddingForGood's bidding engine allows you to bid "by proxy," or at the lowest possible increment needed - up to your specified maximum bid - enabling you to become the leading bidder. For example, an auction item has a starting bid of \$5, with a \$1 increment. Bidder A bids \$6, and Bidder B has specified a maximum bid of \$10. Bidder B becomes the leading bidder - through proxy bidding - with a bid of \$7.

## Q: What is a maximum bid?

A: A maximum bid is the highest price a bidder agrees to bid on an item via a proxy bidding scenario. In the above example, if Bidder A were to increase his bid to \$8 to outbid Bidder B's last bid of \$7, BiddingForGood's bidding engine automatically enters Bidder B's next proxy bid of \$9, making Bidder B the leading bidder. The proxy bidding system bids by the smallest increment needed for Bidder B to become the leading bidder, without exceeding his maximum bid. Bidders can always choose to increase the amount of their maximum bid on an item.

## Q: What is a straight bid?

A: A straight bid is placed when a bidder decides to bid a specified amount, outside the proxy bidding scenario. The objective of placing a straight bid could be to avoid the time-intensive process of a "bidding war," or simply to make a charitable (and oftentimes generous!) donation towards a good cause in return for a highly desired item.

## Q: What is a Buy Now item?

A: A "Buy Now" item has a set price designated by the organization running the auction. You can purchase Buy Now, items on the spot and don't have to get into a bidding war or wait until the end of the auction to make sure you're the winner. Here's how it works:

- Check to see if the item displays a "Buy Now" option
- To purchase the item outright, click the Buy Now button

- Enter the set price displayed for the item (note: you must enter or have credit card details on file) - And it's yours! You'll get a confirmation message and email with your purchase details

**Q: Why is my bid not showing?**

**A:** There are a few reasons why you might not see your bid:

1. Be sure that you click the "Confirm Bid" button. Once your bid value is entered, you are asked to confirm your bid. Bids are not placed if they are not confirmed.
2. You may need to provide further input prior to confirming your bid. This may be the case if:
  - The item has a reserve price that your bid did not meet or exceed. A reserve price is set by the organization and represents the minimum amount they will accept for the item. These items are noted with "Item has a reserve." In this case, you may enter a higher bid.
  - Your bid did not meet or exceed the next required minimum bid. In this case, you may enter a higher bid.
  - Your bid was exceptionally high. For exceptionally high bids, the bidder is asked twice to confirm the bid, to avoid potential errors.
3. Someone else may have outbid you before you clicked the Confirm Bid button. In this case, the next minimum bid has changed while you were bidding. You may enter a higher bid.

Contact [lindaw@afportland.org](mailto:lindaw@afportland.org) with questions!