



**“Taste of the Town”**  
Dearborn Heights Montessori Center

**March 18, 2010**

Dear Upper Elementary parents,

The largest upper elementary fundraiser of the year, “Taste of the Town,” is just around the corner. The proceeds from this fundraiser are used to offset the cost of the upper elementary trips to Rock Glen, Chicago and Washington, D.C. This year’s event will be held at DHMC on Thursday, March 18, 2010, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. and we need your help to make this event a success!

We need your help in obtaining baskets and other items for our basket raffle. We are asking each family to contribute a basket (or items that can be combined to form a basket). The donation form attached to this letter will give you some ideas. All items should be turned in with a donation form so that we can track our donations. You can find extra forms online in the Parent Resources section at [www.dhmontessori.org](http://www.dhmontessori.org).

We are looking for businesses and organizations to sponsor the event or to place advertisements in our Taste of the Town program. The sponsorship and ad form is enclosed and there are more online in the Parent Resources section of our website. Your child receives 80% of the value of each ad and sponsorship you obtain. This money is deposited in your child’s trip account. We want to respect our donors, so please email Kirste Moline at [tasteofthetown@wowway.com](mailto:tasteofthetown@wowway.com) before contacting a potential business to make sure that they have not already been contacted.

We would like to encourage you to pre-purchase your event tickets. Every year, we sell out tickets to Taste of the Town. While we do reserve a handful of tickets at the door, we prefer to have each family purchase tickets in advance. Each Upper Elementary family is asked to purchase or sell a total of five tickets to the event. After five tickets, your child receives 80% of the value of any additional tickets pre-purchased deposited into his/her trip account. The event ticket form is enclosed and additional forms are available online.

We would also like to encourage you to pre-purchase your raffle tickets. This year, we are offering a great service to families. Pre-purchase your raffle tickets and they will be waiting for you on the night of the event and every ticket will already have your family’s name and phone number on it! This saves you time. In addition, each ticket bundle comes with bonus tickets. Finally, you earn more money for your child’s account by pre-purchasing raffle tickets. All raffle tickets that are pre-purchased earn 80% toward your child’s account. If you wait until the night of the event, you receive 50% of the purchase toward your child’s account.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we need your help! Taste of the Town is a huge event. It requires the assistance of scores of volunteers. We are asking each family to contribute two hours of their time toward the event. This year, our volunteer coordination is being done through [volunteerspot.com](http://volunteerspot.com). Shelley Boatright will send an email invitation to all parents in our system. Please add any additional addresses on our volunteer and donation form. You can also sign up directly at <http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/3-62609382861>. Thank you in advance for your help!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Volunteer and Donations Coordinator, Kirste Moline, at [tasteofthetown@wowway.com](mailto:tasteofthetown@wowway.com). We look forward to an amazing event!

**Summary of opportunities to earn credit toward your child's end of year trip account**  
 (Balances carry over to the next year in Upper Elementary, so 4th/5th graders can offset the next year's trip this year.)

**ALL UPPER ELEMENTARY FAMILIES ARE ASKED TO:**

- Donate a minimum of two hours toward Taste of the Town;  
[www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/3-62609382861](http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/3-62609382861)
- Purchase or sell a total of five event tickets to the Taste of the Town;
- Donate a basket for the basket raffle (or an item or items that can be combined to form a basket).

Additionally, families have the opportunity to earn credit toward their child's trip account based on the following:

PRE-PURCHASED	NIGHT OF THE EVENT
<p><b>EVENT TICKETS</b>                      Earn 80% of the value of any tickets pre-purchased in excess of the five minimum (e.g., if you purchase 10 adult tickets, you receive <math>80\% \times \\$20 \times 5 = \\$80</math> toward your child's account).</p>	<p><b>EVENT TICKETS</b>                      Event tickets purchased at the door will not be credited toward a student's account.</p>
<p><b>RAFFLE TICKETS</b>                      Earn 80% of the value of any raffle tickets or raffle ticket bundles pre-purchased.</p>	<p><b>RAFFLE TICKETS</b>                      Earn 50% of the value of any raffle tickets or raffle ticket bundles purchased the night of the event.</p>
<p><b>ADS &amp; SPONSORSHIPS</b>                      Earn 80% of the value of any ads or sponsorships obtained.</p>	

**SAMPLE FAMILY EARNING:**  
 Family X pre-purchased two \$20 adult and four \$15 child event tickets, as well as a \$100 raffle ticket bundle. They also purchased a quarter-page ad (\$50) for their child. Their child's account is awarded:

- Tickets in excess of five:  $80\% \times \$20 \times 1 = \$16$
- Pre-purchased raffle tickets:  $80\% \times \$100 = \$80$
- Quarter-page ad:  $80\% \times \$50 = \$40$
- Total deposited in their child's trip account = \$136