



eARTH Exhibition

Climate Action Art

A fundraiser that benefits the environment in multiple ways.

eARTH is a three phase fundraiser that our club did on weekends over a three month period. First we collected trash in a public park or beach, either individually or in groups. Second, we met in a member's home using the found objects to create pieces of art (sculptures, stories, and reworked useful objects), and last, at a public venue to display and sell the artwork.

The first two phases are free. The exhibition and sale of the art work have a cost. An entrance fee is set or a request for a donation in lieu of a fee.

There are some items needed for this fundraiser: the trash found locally, canvas frames, and other items found in most homes to transform into something new and sellable. For example, glue, paint, rope, twine, yarn and other craft items are popular.

Preparation:

Art Objects that will be for sale in the exhibition are listed with their prices. Any pieces that have perhaps been donated by other club members should be added.

Items are priced by the organizers and are dependent on what they think club members and guests are willing to pay. A donation to attend instead of the sale of items might raise more money in some clubs.

There is no preparation needed to collect the trash. Several hours are needed to make the art. This can be done as a group or individually. Several hours over several days to collect and categorize the finished art pieces.

About four are needed for a group to set up the art for the exhibition.

We ran the exhibition in a gallery space open to the public for one week with a four hour opening party for club members. Our club funded the drinks and snacks at the exhibition opening event.

Six volunteers are needed to plan and run all three phases of this fundraiser. As many members as possible to create the art, attend the exhibition and buy the art.

Phase 1 - Trash collecting. We met up at specified locations and collected what you found.

Trash bags and gloves are definitely recommended.

Phase 2 - Art making from found objects. Found objects need to be cleaned and sorted ahead of this phase. Crafting/ enhancing supplies for use by members at the activity.

Phase 3 -Exhibition of Art. Items are arranged and priced for sale. There is an opening reception for members with food and drink.

Four hours are set for clean-up. The items that have been sold are set aside for collection if not picked up at the time of sale.

Our fundraiser was very successful because there was lots of time for members to get to meet and get to know one another during all three phases. Many members were able to be involved in many different ways.

The final venue and refreshments are the only expenditures so this kept our costs low. Many venues will offer space for free or in lieu of advertising if the funds raised are for charity.

This event gives time for members to reflect on the natural world where they live and how trash can be reinterpreted and reused.

The three event phases take some time and effort: The costs are minimal but reap a large reward.

Submitted by AWC Central Scotland

Be Creative!