

The Fabulous FUUSN Services Auction: Mardi Gras
2026 Voice Auction Catalog

FABULOUS FUUSN SERVICES AUCTION

2026 VOICE AUCTION CATALOG

Getaway Vacations

V1) Weekend in a Lovely Cabin in Chester Vermont

Donated by Anne D'Avenas

The Cabin has 4 bedrooms and the limit is 8 people. Hiking trails on the property, close to Okemo and Killington ski resorts. Gourmet kitchen. It is wonderful anytime of year, except mud season- end of March beginning of April. Summers it is usually occupied all the time, but any other time of year works.

Dates: Negotiable with Anne

Minimum Bid: \$500

Honor The Creative Spirit

V2) Home Concert with Outrageous Fortune

Donated by Rod Thomas and Chris Welles

A concert in your home (or outside) with Covid precautions as needed with “OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE”! Want to make a special event a night to remember? Have a house party with live jug band music! Chris Welles, Rod Thomas and Dan Dick will perform vintage acoustic folk, blues and swing, with three-part vocals, guitar, harmonicas, jug, washboard and bass, at your home for a house full of friends. One 60-minute or two 45-minute sets.

Minimum bid: \$350

V3) An Hour of Live Solo Guitar with Bob MacWilliams

Donated by Bob MacWilliams

You may have heard Bob play at FUUSN services. Now you have the opportunity to host a concert of Bob's music in your own home! Bob has been performing on acoustic guitar, piano, and voice for many years. He will bring a mix of mostly original songs and instrumentals along with a few other personal and crowd favorites. The intimate setting of a house concert offers a great opportunity to experience Bob's unique writing and performance style.

Minimum bid: \$150

Concert must be used within one year of auction

V4) Lois Shapiro Piano Concert (for up to 30 bidders)

Donated by Lois Shapiro and Hosted by Laurel Farnsworth at her home

Title: "Birds of a Feather: Mozart and Brahms"

Back by popular demand, Lois and her string-playing colleagues are cooking up another delicious musical "repast" for 2026. She and the other members of her Eleuthera Piano Trio---will be joined by the wonderful local violist, Elaine Leisinger-- on Sunday, November 22nd at 2pm, at Laurel's house for another special afternoon of luminous and much beloved piano quartets: this time, Mozart E-flat Major, K.493, and Brahms A Major, Op.26!

For Brahms, Mozart's clarity and classical musical values were a beacon of inspiration, as he rejected the thick textures and Romantic "too-muchness" of other composers in late 19th century Vienna. They also share the versatility of the piano quartet texture--the intimacy of four solo instruments combining in different permutations, to ultimately create a symphonic richness.

And, as Brahms expressed about both his own and Mozart's ambition: "the greatest joy is in creating something that speaks directly to the soul of another human being."

Date: November 22 at 2pm at Laurel's home

Set bid: \$50.00 per person includes beverages and light snacks.

Other Superb Services

V5) You Pick the Sermon Topic

Donated by our Minister Rev. Joel Miller

Do you have spiritual questions or longings you would like to explore? Questions of meaning or purpose that you've long to ask out loud? In keeping with FUUSN tradition, this is your chance to hear a Minister's reflections on the topic of your choice, to be offered during 2026.

Minimum Bid: \$200

V6) Fix it Up – 4 hours plus of handyman services

Donated by Dwight Golann

You can hire the man who refurbished the church signs, builds shelving, and fixes our broken doors and windows to attend to what needs fixing at YOUR house! Four hours of handyman services at your home, plus a trip to the hardware store if

necessary. You pay for the materials and Dwight does the rest -- anything other than licensed plumbing and electrical work. Prior bidders have had window sashes, wall and bathroom fixtures repaired, tables stabilized, counters sanded, shelves and pegboards mounted on walls – it's up to you!

Minimum bid \$175

V7) Home Improvement Labor by a Licensed Contractor and his Sidekick

Donated by Kieran Reynolds (licensed) and Todd Farrell (wanna-be sidekick)

Do you have a project you've been putting off? Or you don't have the time to complete? Let Kieran (a licensed contractor and registered home improvement contractor) and Todd (an experienced do-it-yourselfer with no certifications whatsoever) help. The pair will do 4 hours of carpentry/painting/other home improvement work. The one restriction will be to limit the electrical and plumbing requirements away from extensive plumbing and electrical work. If you have questions, feel free to ask.

Minimum Bid: \$200

V8) Computer/IT Services

Donated by Andrew Willinger, Senior Consultant at RCG Consulting

Andrew will provide up to two hours of onsite IT services, including computer repairs, upgrades, networking & Internet, malware removal, backups, installs, training, etc. Parts, if needed, are not included.

Estimated Value: \$300

Minimum Bid: \$125

V9) Spring Flower Walk in Webster Woods (for up to 20 bidders)

Donated by Barbara Bates and Jeannie Chaisson

Join Barbara Bates and Jeannie Chaisson as they point out Spring Flowers in Webster Woods. Approximately 1.5 miles, uneven ground. Following the walk, you will warm up at a tailgate event with a cup of homemade soup and other awesome snacks & drinks. We should be able to see Lady Slippers, nodding bellwort, star flower, jack-in-the-pulpit, and skunk cabbage, plus mosses and lichens. No pets allowed.

Date: Saturday May 2 at 10 AM to noon (rain date: Sunday May 3 at 2 PM to 4)

Fixed price \$25 per person (Limited to 20)

For the Home, or For Yourself!

V10) Flight of Flowers

Donated by Brooke Foucault Welles

Brighten your home or surprise a loved one with three beautiful seasonal floral arrangements, complete with vases! The winning bidder will receive three custom floral arrangements delivered anywhere in the Newton area. Choose one per month or get all three at once! Perfect for treating yourself or gifting to someone special. Each arrangement will be thoughtfully designed to bring joy and beauty to your space. As a bonus, the winner will take home tonight's sample arrangement!

Minimum bid: \$150



V11) Handmade Kit Ryan Quilt

Donated by Kit Ryan

It is handmade by Kit and is 100% cotton and machine washable and dryable.



Estimated Value: \$300

Minimum Bid: \$100

Fabulous Food and Fine Dining

V12) Vegetarian Dinner (for up to 8 winning bidders – at least TWICE!)

Donated by Jeannie Chaisson

Jeannie will prepare one of her famous vegetarian meals from the equally famous Moosewood Cookbook. She can host up to 8 people and will do so twice (or more if there is interest!). How good is that?!

Location: Chaisson/Persons home

Dates: TBA

Set bid: \$35 per person

V13) Greek Feast (for up to 6 winning bidders)

Donated by Chris Kyprianos and Barbara Schmitt

There will be both vegetarian (dolmades!) and non-vegetarian (lamb, anyone?) foods, and the world's best baklava for dessert. Hey, with a name like Kyprianos, you know it's authentic!

Location: the Schmitt residence

Date: Saturday, May 30, 2026

Minimum Bid: \$50 per person

V14) Dinner at the Revs (for up to 6 winning bidders)

Donated by Rev. Joel Miller and Rev. Debra Haffner

Six FUUSNites are invited to join the Revs at their home for a delicious gluten free homemade dinner. Begin with mocktails and charcuterie, followed by dinner and dessert. Meet Tsuki! *Value Priceless*

Date: May 9, 2026, 6:30 pm

Minimum Bid \$75 a person.

V15) Multi-course French dinner with Wine (for up to 7 winning bidders)

Donated by Urban Larson

French cuisine is synonymous with elegance yet also known for comforting traditional dishes. The cuisine lacks a signature dish like Italy's pasta and is often dismissed as stodgy. But the essence of the French approach to cooking is an insistence on high quality seasonal ingredients, prepared in a way that highlights their essential flavors, as part of a menu of foods and wines that complement each other. I will be drawing on my time living in France to prepare a multi-course fall meal in the French tradition, using seasonal, local ingredients and matched by French wines. The guests are invited to provide sparkling conversation to accompany the meal and to linger at the table.

Date: Saturday, September 26 at 7pm at Urban's home

Minimum Bid \$50 a person. Value Priceless

V16) Mediterranean Dinner (for up to 6 winning bidders)

Donated by Karen Bottar and Don Buonagurio

The Mediterranean calls us again. Italian cuisine never tires, never gets old, and is always inventive and satisfying. Northern and Southern Italian cuisine allows plenty of creativity. And we might veer a bit outside of Italy as the mood strikes us. We hope to make you happy in the exploration of first courses, second courses and dolci. Wine will accompany the courses. We look forward to great company.

Location: Bottar/Buonagurio home in Newton

Date: Saturday, April 18, 6:30PM

Minimum Bid: \$50 per person

V17) Native American Whole Food Plant-Based Dinner (for up to 6 winning bidders)

Donated by Julia Huston and John Dundon

John and Julia will prepare a delicious plant-based dinner drawing from the cookbook Seed to Plate: Soil to Sky - Modern Plant-Based Recipes Using Native American Ingredients. This three-course meal will center the "magic eight" plants that Native Americans introduced to the rest of the world: corn, beans, squash,

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chile, tomato, potato, vanilla, and cacao. The exact menu will be determined in accordance with participants' allergies and food preferences, and will incorporate fresh ingredients from local farms and gardens. Come and enjoy modern versions of recipes that have nourished indigenous people for thousands of years.

Location: Huston/Dundon Home in West Newton (please note that there is a flight of stairs to the dining area, and a dog and cat are in residence)

Date: Saturday, August 16 at 6pm

Minimum Bid: \$50 per person

V18) Pescatarian Dinner and Wine (for up to 8 winning bidders)

Donated by Julia Wolfe and Eric Moore

Julia & Eric will cook a pescatarian dinner for 8 adults at our home, which means vegetarian but with seafood. Appetizers, main dish with yummy sides, salad, and a Swedish Walnut Cake (from Julia's family recipe box) will be served, along with wine, coffee, and aperitifs. Drinks by the fire pit if weather allows. Come laugh with friends new and old! There will be dairy and wheat in some of the recipes.

Date and Time: 6:30pm on Saturday, June 6

Minimum bid: \$50 per person

V19) Superb Vegetarian Dinner (for up to 10 winning bidders)

Donated by Stephanie Kendall

Enjoy a home-cooked vegetarian dinner that celebrates the richness of modern vegetarian cooking. The evening will begin with a light appetizer, followed by dishes highlighting fresh, vegetable-forward ingredients, thoughtfully prepared to be shared and enjoyed. This dinner is about good food, good conversation, and a relaxed evening that both vegetarians and non-vegetarians will enjoy. The vegetarian menu will include vegan-friendly options. Dinner will be at Stephanie's home in Auburndale; home requires stairs to second floor. Small and friendly dog will also be in attendance.

Date and time: Saturday, April 11 at 6:00pm

Minimum Bid: \$40 per person

V20) Beer Tasting and Heavy Apps (for up to 20 winning bidders)

Donated by Saul and Christine Lookner

Come taste beers from all over the world! We will have heavy apps akin to dinner, just without formal seating. While this is not a sit-down meal, you will not leave hungry. All types of beer will be served. If you like beer, food, laughter, music and the inherent worth and dignity of every person, you will love this. Ages 21+

Date: Saturday, March 7 at 6:00pm at the Lookner home

Set Bid: \$50

V21) Wine Tasting Party (for up to 32 winning bidders)

Donated by Jay Flynn and Barbara Niles

This event will feature 4 pairs of European red wines from Italy, France, Spain, and Portugal, respectively. Each pair will feature a style of wine at two different price points. Initially, you will not be told which is the more expensive. We hope to hear from participants what they think are the differences in quality and appeal, if any, between a given pair of wines. If there are, do they think the price difference is worth it? Wines will not be available for sale at the event, but you will be provided with the information you need to buy them elsewhere.

Those details aside, our main purpose is to be together and enjoy each other's company. Light snacks will be provided.

Date: May 16, 2026 at 7pm in the FUUSN Parish Hall

Set bid: \$40 per person

V22) Tacos and Tequila (for up to 12 Adult Bidders)

Donated by Andy and Lauren Dale

A casual, lively, fun dinner hosted by the Dale Family for up to 12 adults. The menu will be "flexitarian" tacos (for vegans, vegetarians and meat eaters) and several tequila cocktails! It will be festive time to get to know community members better!

Date: June 20, 2026

Minimum bid: \$40

V23) Mexican Independence Day Gourmet Mexican Dinner (for up to 8 winning bidders)

Donated by RoseAnn Murray

Cinco de Mayo is NOT Mexican Independence Day. Mexican Independence Day is September 15th at midnight. Let's celebrate close to that date, with up to 8 guests!

Date: September 14, 2026

Minimum bid: \$50

Sea Adventures

V24) Scenic Boston Harbor Cruise with Lunch (for up to 10 winning bidders)

Donated by Jenny Lerner and Brian Gill

Join Jenny Lerner and Brian Gill for a Scenic Boston Harbor Cruise! Embark on a leisurely motorboat cruise around Boston Harbor, complete with a delicious lunch tailored to meet various dietary needs (your preferences will be collected closer to the cruise). This unique experience offers stunning views of Boston's iconic skyline, historic landmarks, and charming harbor islands, including Boston Light, the oldest continually operated lighthouse in the United States.

Enjoy the lively maritime activity—ranging from cargo ships to recreational vessels—and keep an eye out for local wildlife. You'll also have a front-row seat to Logan Airport's aircraft activity, blending natural beauty with the vibrancy of Boston's bustling waterfront.

The cruise will take place aboard a stable pontoon boat—a spacious and comfortable vessel (think "station wagon on water") that seats up to 10 passengers, plus Captain Brian and First Mate Jenny. While the boat is steady and well-suited for a relaxing trip, light splashing may occur, so dressing casually and considering a waterproof layer is recommended. Life jackets will be provided for all passengers. We're happy to take kids of any age if the parents can provide well-fitting and well-functioning life jackets for the kids.

We'll depart from Fan Pier in Boston's Seaport. Access to the dock involves a ramp; anyone requiring additional assistance is warmly welcomed. We look forward to sharing this delightful adventure with you!

Date: TBD, (Rain date: TBD)

Minimum bid: \$50