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and Dietetics  
**Foundation**

***Foundation Donor Suzi Baxter Encourages you to Support the Foundation Silent Auctions with Her Expert Shopping Tips!***

***Who am I?***

My name is Suzanne ("Suzi") Domel Baxter, PhD, RD, LD, FADA, FAND. I received my Bachelor's degree and completed a Coordinated Undergraduate Program at Texas Christian University. I received my MS and PhD from Texas Woman's University in Denton and completed a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Pediatric Nutrition Research at the Medical College of Georgia. I am a Registered and Licensed Dietitian, and Fellow of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. I am also a loyal donor and volunteer of our Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation.

***Why am I passionate about donating to the Academy Foundation?***

I was blessed to receive large fellowships for two years from the Academy Foundation when I was working on my PhD. As a member and then chair of the Academy Foundation's Scholarship Committee, two points became very clear to me. First, there is an enormous number of nutrition and dietetics students and interns in dire need of scholarships. Second, I was very fortunate to have had my undergraduate education paid for by my mother who was a widow as my father died unexpectedly when I was in the sixth grade. I have been blessed with well-paying jobs and thus have the opportunity to share with others in need. I was raised to believe that it is more blessed to give than to receive. I can remember as a child in elementary school eagerly saving ten dimes to fill a cardboard candle that each child had received and was to return at church in the offering plate on Christmas eve. The amount that I gave was less important than the fact that I was giving and that I was giving joyfully. Just imagine, if each of the 106,566 RD/RDNs plus 4,949 DTR/NDTRs shown on CDR's Registry Statistics (2020) were to donate a one-time gift of only \$10 to the Academy Foundation, we would raise \$1,115,150

and establish an endowed Diversity and Inclusion Scholarship! With this, the Foundation could award a \$5,000 scholarship to each of 15 students or interns from underrepresented groups on an **annual basis in perpetuity!**

### ***Where do you shop for items that you donate to the Foundation's silent auctions?***

My mother knew how to stretch a dollar to shop for quality items at bargain prices. She taught me, and I use those skills to shop for items to donate to silent auctions. I love to donate to the Academy Foundation's silent auctions because I love to shop and I love to stretch dollars! I spent \$866 on the 31 items that I donated to the Foundation's virtual silent auction at FNCE® 2020, and those 31 items raised a total of \$5,920! How's that for *s t r e t c h i n g* dollars! However, my acquired disability is slowing me down and it is time for me to pass the torch for some of my activities to others. Here are tips for online shopping for donations for silent auctions.

- Shop the TODAY show's "Steals & Deals" at <https://deals.today.com>. The segment is also known as "Jill's Steals and Deals" because Jill Martin is the host. The segment offers great deals on hot products ranging from fashion and beauty to home and tech and everything in between. The segment usually airs at 8:30am ET several times a month, but more often in December for holiday shopping. Each sale lasts for 24 to 48 hours; however, beware because the best deals and hottest products may sell out quickly! Go to the website to see the clock in days, hours, minutes and seconds for when the next TODAY Steals & Deals starts. Also, go to the website to sign up to be notified when there is a new TODAY deals offer. This is where I buy most of the items that I donate to silent auctions including mobile phone photography sets, designer sunglasses, high fashion jewelry, cookbook sets, Cashmere pieces, earbuds, designer purses, and children's books.
- Shop "View Your Deal" during ABC's show "The View" at <https://viewyourdeal.com>. The View team secures deep discounts from great brands on hot products. Each deal is available for a limited timeframe while supplies last. Deals are revealed weekdays at 11am ET and available for about 24 hours only.
- Shop "GMA Deals & Steals" hosted by Tory Johnson during the ABC's Good Morning America show at <https://gmadeals.com>. Tory and her team secure deep discounts from great brands of all sizes on hot products. Each deal is available for a limited timeframe while supplies last. Deals are revealed weekdays at 7am ET and available for about 24 hours only.
- Shop Brad's Deals at <https://www.bradsdeals.com>. You can shop by category (eg, women, men, shoes, home), to support Black-owned businesses, or by store name (eg, COACH, COACH Outlet, Vera Bradley, Vera Bradley Outlet). On the website, subscribe to have new deals and exclusives sent to your inbox.

### ***Why do I prefer silent auctions that are virtual instead of in person?***

I loved that the FNCE® 2020 silent auction was virtual because that allowed individuals to bid whether or not they attended FNCE.® Also, the virtual format allowed flexibility in scheduling so bids could be made 24 hours a day and the silent auction could be open for 5 days instead of the typical 2.5 days with the in-person format. I love that the Foundation is having a national virtual silent auction in Spring 2021 because many Affiliates will have virtual annual meetings in 2021 again which changes the fundraising options from those used in the past. A national virtual silent auction in the Spring also allows individuals to bid whether or not

they attend their Affiliate's annual meeting. I hope the Foundation continues to have two virtual silent auctions each year - one at FNCE® and one in the Spring.

***How can you help the Foundation raise more money during their Silent Auctions?***

The more quality items a silent auction has the better. I encourage Academy members, CDR, DPGs, MIGs, Affiliates, Committees and even vendors to contribute items to each silent auction. Donating items to silent auctions supports the Foundation and our profession, and provides excellent opportunities to publicize a business, DPG, and/or MIG to the entire Academy! It's a win however you view it!