

# THON™ NATION

Remote Fundraiser Ideas THON 2021



Questions? Contact [THON.Nation@THON.org](mailto:THON.Nation@THON.org)

THON™ is a student-run philanthropy committed to enhancing the lives of children and families impacted by childhood cancer. Our mission is to provide emotional and financial support, spread awareness and ensure funding for critical research - all in pursuit of a cure.

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# DISCLAIMERS

## Zoom

**Zoom Disclaimer:** If utilizing Zoom, host is recommended to have a paid Zoom subscription, preferably “business” or “enterprise” as it allows for more individuals on the call and a more seamless experience. Contact [thon.nation@thon.org](mailto:thon.nation@thon.org) to discuss additional features such as [screen sharing](#), [breakout rooms](#), and more.

## Financial

**Financial Disclaimer:** Be sure to have a secure method of payment- such as online payment services, checks, or cash. **Please note that DonorDrive may only be used to collect donations and no payments for goods or services may be processed through DonorDrive.** Once all funds are collected, you can mail the amount to THON, along with the donor confirmation document (sent to you when your event gets approved) to:

Penn State Dance Marathon  
Attn: THON Nation Captains  
227D HUB  
University Park, PA 16802

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## I. Alumni “Speed Dating” via Zoom

**Overview:** This event is easy to organize and enables alumni to meet each other in a virtual setting, which allows people from different parts of the world and different graduating classes to meet each other and share their various Penn State experiences. The breakout room feature will allow people to meet each other and then participants are encouraged to switch into a new room after 5-10 minutes. Members can pay \$5-10 to join the call, which will benefit THON.

### **Materials:**

- Electronic device with virtual meeting service capability (Zoom)
- Suggested topics or questions to discuss (feel free to add your own ideas)
  - ▶ Where do you live now? What do you do for a living?
  - ▶ How have you been handling quarantine?
  - ▶ What is your favorite Penn State memory from your time in college?
  - ▶ What is your favorite Penn State memory since your graduation?
  - ▶ Do you have any family members who have attended PSU after you?

**Important:** Refer to Zoom disclaimer. The breakout rooms must be enabled when you schedule the meeting! It is recommended that the host advertise this event through Facebook groups, other social media platforms, and by contacting prior friends from Penn State. Contact [thon.nation@thon.org](mailto:thon.nation@thon.org) to discuss the logistics of the event.

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 2. Alumni Reunions (Virtual)

**Overview:** While Alumni reunions typically take place in-person, the virtual setting allows specific groups to have larger reunions as more alumni are likely to attend due to ease of accessibility. Unlike “Alumni Speed Dating” this event allows alumni from specific organizations to bond over shared experiences no matter how far they may be from each other. The breakout room feature can be utilized for a more personal experience but is not a necessity. Alumni can pay the host \$5-10 to get on the call, which will benefit THON.

**Materials:**

- Electronic device with virtual meeting service capability (Zoom)
- Document of questions and topics for discussion tailored to the specific organization:

organization:

- ▶ How did this organization help you post-graduation?
- ▶ Have you talked to any of the current members in this organization?
- ▶ Most memorable experiences with this organization?

**Important:** Refer to Zoom disclaimer. Breakout rooms must be enabled when host schedules the meeting. It is further recommended that host notifies the student chapter of the event so they can make the entire alumni base aware.

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 3. At Home Drive-In Movie

**Overview:** Drive-in movies allow for many individuals to easily watch a movie while avoiding the high prices that may come along with watching one at the theatre. For this event, a host would need a big projector and a way to set it up in a place where cars could drive in and out. This event can easily work without cars as well by following the same steps but ensuring that there is adequate space between individuals. To raise funds, individuals attending would pay a base fee for admission and can choose to pay for snacks or make an additional donation.

### Materials:

- Projector
- Large backyard or place where cars can park and see the movie
- A white wall (optional)
- If no white wall is present, simply find a place to hang a white sheet up and the movie should display well
- Movies that are suitable for the audience that is viewing it
- THON Video to display prior to showing of the movie
- Snack table
- Secure method to collect funds

**Important:** A plan should be in place for cars to easily get in and out of the showing area. If hosting this event without cars, have designated areas where families or individuals can sit that abide to social distancing regulations. It is strongly recommended that individuals do not have this event in large residential areas or places with many neighbors due to noise concerns. Further, we recommend that all proceeds from snack sales be donated towards THON. It is encouraged to set up a rain date in the event of inclement weather.

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 4. Auction

**Overview:** In this event, each member attending the Zoom call can be auctioning an item and individuals can communicate using the microphone or chat feature as to what items they would like to bid on. A fee to participate can be charged and/or the money auctioned can be donated on its own. This aspect is up to the host and participants of the event. If desired, this could also be held via social media as an alternative. Items can be posted on an Instagram or Facebook page and can be auctioned on each post.

**Materials:**

- Electronic device with virtual meeting service capability (Zoom)
- Items for auction
- Secure method to collect funds

**Important:** Refer to Zoom disclaimer. Participants should live relatively close together in order to drive auction items to each other. If not, ensuring that shipping is factored into the auction price is imperative.

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 5. Bake/Meal Sales

Overview: Start by creating a “menu” of items that people can order. Items can be individually sold with a predetermined price or simply given out with any donation made to THON. This can be facilitated over social media, such as Facebook. A Google poll or Microsoft forms can be used to collect orders. These items can either be picked up at the location they were made or delivered for an additional fee.

### Materials:

- Social media platform to display and distribute the menu
- Ingredients to prepare the food that is being sold
- Containers/bags for the food
- Optional: plastic utensils and napkins to be handed out with the food
- Consider allergen-free options (nuts, gluten, etc.)
- Secure method to collect funds



# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 6. Bingo

Overview: Host your own virtual Bingo Night by having participants print out their board at home. The host can call out the numbers and participants can mark them as they are called. Participants can contribute funds to play and winners can be rewarded with a prize.

### Materials:

- Electronic device with virtual meeting service capability (Zoom)
- Online Bingo Number Generator
  - ▶ If you own a physical one, you can pick the numbers and show the participants
- Bingo board(s)
- Bingo chips/dobber/small pieces of paper/coins to mark your board
- Prizes - such as gift cards
- Secure method to collect funds

Important: Refer to Zoom disclaimer.

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

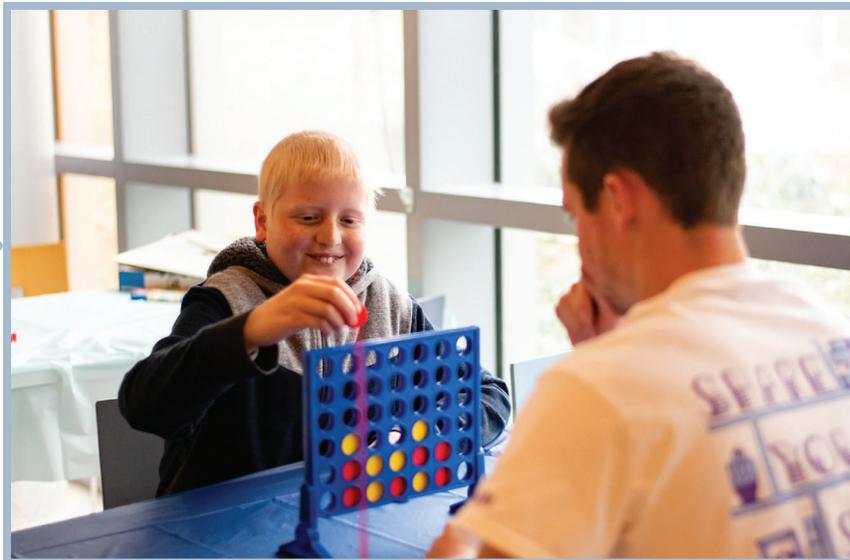
## 7. Game Night

Overview: Host your own game night by having participants play from the comfort of their home. You can play Jackbox, Skribbl.io, Scattergories, and more. Participants can pay a fee to play and winners can be rewarded with a prize.

### Materials:

- Electronic device with virtual meeting service capability (Zoom)
- Jackbox.tv must be purchased (only one person needs to own it), but many other games are free to play online
- Prizes
- Secure method to collect funds

Important: Refer to Zoom disclaimer.



# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 8. Garage Sale

Overview: Host a “garage sale” in your community. Allow members of the community to purchase a table to sell various items- such as homemade masks, clothes, toys, and more. Items can be individually sold with a predetermined price or simply given out with any donation made to THON. Be sure to provide clear rules and regulations to members of the community who choose to participate (i.e..... cannot sell anything inappropriate, limiting physical contact, etc.). Consider having food such as hot dogs and chips around lunchtime to earn funds. If in-person garage sales are not an option, use social media (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat) to promote the items you are selling and collect money using an online payment service. You can ship the items, personally deliver them, or have the buyer pick them up.

### Materials:

- Signs directing to the garage sale
- Secure method to collect funds
- Optional: Food (donated by participants)
- Rules for the participants
  - ▶ Maintaining 6 feet between buyers
  - ▶ Selling appropriate items
  - ▶ Ensure that methods follow the CDC guidelines
- Table with THON information
- Thank you notes for volunteers
- Boxes and packing tape if you are shipping items

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 9. Online Gaming Tournament

**Overview:** A tournament for a popular video game (NBA 2K, Madden, etc.) where the winner earns a prize, while the money collected goes to THON. There would be a base amount to enter and the tournament can be streamed online to build even more supporters who could potentially donate.

**Materials:**

- Gaming system (Xbox, PlayStation, etc.)
- Appropriate game
- Brackets that show the matchups between users
- Streaming site like Twitch so other users can watch and donate
- Prizes such as gift cards

**Important:** Contact [thon.nation@thon.org](mailto:thon.nation@thon.org) if you are interested in hosting this event.

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 10. Talent Show/Open Mic

Overview: Many dance studios, choirs, and other performance geared groups haven't had the chance to showcase their talents due to this time in quarantine. A virtual talent show, or open mic night would allow family members and friends of these performance groups to watch this event even during these challenging times. A fee can be donated to watch the online event, whether it be singing, a dance recital, or even standup comedy. This virtual event can be run using Zoom. A winner can be chosen at the end through the viewers' votes and top performers receive a prize.

### Materials:

- Electronic device with virtual meeting service capability (Zoom)
- Performers
- Google Polls/Microsoft Forms for voting
- Small prize for the winner of the performances - such as a gift card
- Secure method to collect funds

Important: Refer to Zoom disclaimer.



# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 11. “Ted Talk” Events

**Overview:** Invite prominent speakers or figures in the local community for a speaker series. There could be a specific theme, or just various speakers that would engage the audience. An example would be a discussion on the coronavirus featuring a panel of doctors. Each viewer will attend the meeting via Zoom and will pay a base fee to attend the event.

**Materials:**

- Speaker(s) with expertise on certain subjects
- Electronic device with virtual meeting service capability (Zoom)
- Secure method to collect funds

**Important:** Refer to Zoom disclaimer. The mute feature on Zoom should be enabled for the attendees so that the speaker does not encounter any distractions from the audience. Contact [thon.nation@thon.org](mailto:thon.nation@thon.org) for logistical information.

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 12. Trivia

**Overview:** This event can be held over Zoom or another virtual meeting service platform. Players can compete individually or in teams. Feel free to randomize selections using breakout rooms or make it more personalized by creating your own groups of however many players each.

**Materials:**

- Electronic device with virtual meeting service capability (Zoom)
- Host to ask the questions and participants to **\*\*privately message\*\*** their answers
- Secure method to collect funds

**Important:** Refer to the Zoom disclaimer. Encourage having a “buy-in” price to participate of how much or as little as you see fit. Then, winner(s) can get a prize/portion of the money and the rest goes to THON!



# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 13. Virtual Classes

Overview: Can be classes of any sort which are taught to viewers. Some examples include art, cooking, fitness, but the possibilities are endless! If the host of the event has certain expertise in a specific area, they could host a live teaching session via Zoom. Or, if the person who wants to host the event would rather have someone else be brought in to teach the course, that would also work just as well. This allows the instructor to pass on their skills to others and allow viewers to feel both a sense of connection and learn a new trait to pass the time. A base payment for the class would go towards THON.

### Materials:

- Electronic device with virtual meeting service capability (Zoom)
- Instructor
- Desire to learn a new skill/trait
- Secure method to collect funds

Important: Refer to Zoom disclaimer.

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## **14. Virtual Race/Fitness Challenge**

Overview: Runners or participants can complete the fitness event wherever/ whenever they would like to within a certain deadline. People who sign-up to join can pay a certain amount of funds which would be donated back to THON. We recommend that all of the proceeds be donated to THON while the winner(s) receive a prizes from sponsoring organization.

### Materials:

- Computer or mobile device to sign-up
- Area to perform challenges or treadmill to run the length of the race
- Optional: prize
- Proper running attire
- Timing device (watch, phone)
- Adequate fluids (water, sports hydration beverages, etc.)

Important: Contact [thon.nation@thon.org](mailto:thon.nation@thon.org) to discuss logistics.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Who can fundraise through THON Nation?

- Alumni, Four Diamonds Families, and Friends of THON are eligible to fundraise through THON Nation. Students are NOT allowed to organize the event but are still encouraged to participate.

### How do I submit an application?

- Submitting an application is simple! Once your event is planned out, visit the [THON Nation Event Application](#) and fill out the form. A THON Nation representative will be in touch with you shortly afterward to send you materials and answer any pressing questions. Please note that we are requiring all event hosts to describe how they will adhere to COVID-19 guidelines for THON 2021.

### What rules do I have to follow for my fundraiser?

- Please refer to this policies document ([link](#)). Refer to the CDC's and your state's policies regarding COVID-19.

### How do I submit my collected funds?

- Once all funds are collected from your event, you can mail the amount directly to THON, along with the donor confirmation document (sent to you when your event gets approved) to:

Penn State Dance Marathon  
Attn: THON Nation Captains  
227D HUB  
University Park, PA 16802

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Can I credit an organization or IDC?

- Yes! We absolutely welcome and encourage crediting be a part of your fundraiser. An option to credit can be found in the event application.

### How else can I get involved with THON Nation?

- You can host as many event fundraisers as you like- for this year and for the future. THON Nation participants can also create their own Donor Drive page [here](#).

