



## Weekend Auction Planned In Memory Of 6-Year-Old

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Web produced by: [PJ O'Keefe](#), [Laura Hornsby](#)

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The memory of a six-year-old girl who passed away late last year is living on through a "once in a lifetime" event.

Elena Desserich was diagnosed with an incurable brain tumor and when her family searched for assistance, they found very little.

Now Elena's family has put together "The Cure Starts Now: Once In A Lifetime Auction And Gala" in hopes to raise money to prevent future tragedies.

Unique events will be auctioned off including a vacation to haunted hotel, a four-day getaway to a spa in Arizona, taking a "Father's Day Leap" by going sky diving with your father for Father's Day and the chance to design your own Graeter's ice cream flavor.

The auction will be held at 6 p.m. Friday at Music Hall.

### Ultimate Auction Item: Make Your Own Graeter's Flavor

Reported by: [Stephanie Edmunds](#)

Photographed by: [Greg Singleton](#)

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"Oh, what a great thing! We'll make this fun flavor, this person will get the chance to make whatever they want."

Chip Graeter is excited about the "Make Your Own Graeter's Flavor" wish.

His family owns and operates the popular Graeter's ice cream shops.

And while his name itself sounds like one of the fantastic flavors, his expertise is really in making them.

On the day we visited the reading road Graeter's, mint chip was in full swing. But bid on the "Cure Starts Now" website and you may get to create your own flavor.

And apparently all it starts with custard.

"That's what makes Graeter's ice cream really, really smooth and creamy," said Graeter.

Then, the secret ingredient: "Super Premium Ice Cream Mix."

Here's where you come in.

Peek inside their freezer and you'll see you've got a lot of options:

Heath bars. Oreo cookies. Almonds. Maybe some fruit? Or how about a dose of their "black

raspberry puree?"

After you pick your favorite flavor combination, the mix is off to take a spin in these giant cooling mixers.

Inside the mixers, the ice cream looks more like a work of art.

Keep in mind, if you choose chocolate, there's a trick!

To get those giant chocolate chunks that Graeter's ice cream is famous for, the ice cream has to come out of the coolers in one minute or less. Any slower and the chocolate shatters into tiny chips!

Now it's off to the packing sight. But don't expect any factory machines here.

Graeter's ice cream is all hand-packed.

After you and the Graeter's team selects the flavor, they'll scoop it out for customers as one of their premiere monthly flavors.

"I would love for this flavor to become the next Black Raspberry Chip, our most popular flavor. That would be great," Graeter told us.

#### **Ultimate Auction Item: Play With The Penguins**

**Reported by:** [Stephanie Edmunds](#)

**Photographed by:** [Greg Singleton](#)

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It's hard to beat the greeting you get from these three African penguins at the Newport Aquarium.

Ric Urban happens to be their favorite caretaker. They even get a little vocal when it comes to craving his attention. But they love to have other guests as well.

"This is one of those interesting experiences. You get to hear them, you get to feel them," said Urban.

Bidders are already putting their money down on the "penguin experience" for the Once in a Lifetime auction, but we found it's something you can't put a price on.

Their waddle is certainly worth the wait.

Then it's off to a much colder exhibit: The Antarctic Penguins.

If you've been the Newport Aquarium lately, you've probably seen the penguins from the other side of the glass.

But in this experience, it's up close and personal.

The male penguins stand guard up here, but at 36-degrees, we can hardly call it a warm-welcome.

Ric calls this the VIP section. Only stars and politicians have been back here before.

Maybe you'll be the next VIP.



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