

Aesculapians Plan Auction of Local and Handmade Items for Charity

The Wayne State University School of Medicine's Aesculapians Service Honor Society has long been known for producing the annual Lampoon comedy show as a fundraiser for charity. Watching these skits of professors and students making fun of themselves has been a highlight of the medical school social calendar throughout the years. During this year of the COVID-19 pandemic we know that laughs are needed more than ever, so the show will go on in a format that is safe for everyone. This year's show, "When it Waynes it Pours," is scheduled for April 17.

Due to the pandemic, the Aesculapians are finding creative ways to fundraise for Detroit charities. During the month of February, we are hosting an online auction geared toward members of the Alumni Association. Items are largely items made by students and local artists, but other items of interest include Detroit sports memorabilia and gifts from local businesses. Items include a dining experience at She Wolf, signed posters from the Detroit Pistons and handknit shawls. Please check out our website, www.aesculapians.org, Facebook page Aesculapians Honor Society and our Instagram @Aesculapians for more information and to bid. All profits go to the nonprofit Know Allegiance Nation located in Detroit.

The Aesculapians' mission is to mitigate disparities in Detroit through volunteerism and fundraising for a Detroit nonprofit, fondly referred to as the Charity of the Year. This year's charity is Know Allegiance Nation, or KAN, , a 501c3 nonprofit that "seeks to educate through alternative models of learning that support the nurturing of literacy, survival literacy and entrepreneurship in young people." To achieve this mission, KAN runs a poetry and entrepreneurship program, multiple urban gardens, a co-op bookstore that highlights Detroit authors and authors of color, and a radio station. The Aesculapians have enjoyed digging in the dirt at KAN's gardens and creating podcasts for the KAN radio station.

Thank you for checking out our auction for KAN. We hope you find an item of interest. We are also accepting monetary donations for KAN on our website, www.aesculapians.org. One-hundred percent of donations through the auction or received through the website support the work KAN does with our Detroit community. Donations of any amount toward our goal of raising \$11,000 for KAN are greatly appreciated.