

## **FUNDRAISERS - *Events***

### **BALLOON POP**

Fill a room with balloons, hide prizes inside a select few, and sell needles to event-goers for a chance to “pop for prizes.”

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### **FASHION SHOW**

Got a catwalk? Got models? Got some haute couture? You actually don't need any of the above to pull off a fundraising fashion show. All you need is floor space, benefit t-shirts and a few staff members willing to put themselves out there and be goofy. You'll be selling your organization's merchandise in no time.

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### **CARNIVAL**

A carnival is always a fun way to raise funds. And you can invest whatever level of overhead feels appropriate. Skip the antique carousels and make up your own games with homemade booths and costumes for a lower cost and more personalized event experience.

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### **PAMPER-YOURSELF FESTIVAL**

Curate a selection of stalls offering things like luxury beauty treatments, chair massage, makeovers, wellness items, and clothing from local boutiques.

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### **CRAFT FAIR**

Get a bunch of artisans on board and charge tickets at the door. This idea is perfect for the holidays, when people are keen to buy unique, original gifts for their loved ones. You can charge for the booths or charge admission (or both) to raise funds.

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### **NEIGHBORHOOD STREET PARTY**

This is a great way to make money for DECA, a charity or a recent calamity. Have neighbors donate food, drinks and lawn chairs.

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### **COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE**

Most people have tons of stuff they are secretly dying to get rid of. Have them donate it to your sale with proceeds going to DECA. May get local company to donate a POD to store item during donation period and pick up after sale is over.

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### **CAR WASH**

This classic works great to build teamwork and spirit. Run it like a true business with floor mats (print a thank you on 11x14 copy paper and place on drive side).

## DOG WASH

Invite the public to come get their pooch polished up.

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## SINGLES CHARITY NIGHT

Bring dating hopefuls together to honor a cause with activities that tie directly back to your cause: making dog toys for a local animal shelter or cooking meals for the homeless, for instance. Add an admittance fee as the fundraiser for DECA

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## A "NIGHT IN"

Host a relaxed, laid-back gathering (dress code: PJs and sweats) and ask guests to donate what they typically spend on a big night out.

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## UGLY SWEATER PARTY

We all have that one horrible sweater a well-intentioned family member knitted us. It's time to put it to good use.

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## MORNING DANCE PARTY

An alcohol-free dance party with fancy mocktails made from energizing fresh-squeezed juice.

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## SKY LANTERN SENDOFF

Host an evening celebration where partygoers make a wish on a paper lantern, light a flame inside, and send it off in the sky.

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## CLOTHING SWAP

Everyone brings a bag of clothes they don't wear anymore. Set everything up on retail racks and let participants "shop" the swap for one new piece of apparel. Admission bag gets attendees a swap item and ability to shop for additional items priced yard sale style.

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## GOLF TOURNAMENT

If there is a particularly ritzy golf course nearby, ask them to donate some less popular hours to DECA.

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## ROSHAMBO TOURNAMENT

You do not need any special equipment to play rock-paper-scissors, just your hands and some black-and-white-clad referees. Set up the rules and get the crowd riled to bet on their favorite contenders.

## 5K RACE

Fundraising runs are a timeless way to raise money for DECA. Make yours stand out with a costume requirement or unusual location.

Make it virtual:

- <https://neonone.com/blog/virtual-5k-fundraiser/>
  - <https://www.racedirectorshq.com/how-to-organize-a-virtual-race/>
  - <https://www.mobilecause.com/blog-7-tips-for-organizing-a-virtual-run-walk/>
  - <https://runsignup.com/Race/GoVirtual/Page/planning>
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## BUDDY RUN

The buddy being your dog. Like a canine-friendly 5k. Great for fundraisers benefiting animals!

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## HOME RUN DERBY

Take a cue from Major League Baseball and hold a home-run-hitting contest. Charge for entry or take bets on the winner. Maybe partner with your school's baseball team and split the work and profit.

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## KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

For most of us, this was the first sport we ever learned in school. Everyone knows the rules. Charge for teams to enter. Charge admission. Set up concessions.

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## TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Host round-robin tennis matches with doubles teams and sell refreshments to participants and viewers.

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## SLAM DUNK COMPETITION

Recruit some local basketball players to act as judges on made-up categories like "form" and "panache."

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## CLIMBING CHALLENGE

Rent a climbing wall or team up with a local climbing gym to hold a race to the top.

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## TRIVIA NIGHT

Host a trivia night at a local restaurant and have participants pay to play. For extra credit, the restaurant can donate a portion of proceeds of drinks and food sold.

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## POLAR BEAR PLUNGE

Participants gather sponsors for their dive into icy cold water. You provide the warm blankets and hot chocolate.

### **BOWL-A-THON**

Bowling is a crowd-pleaser, and this one is a great rain-or-shine activity. You can set up informational and merch booths in the bowling alley, too.

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### **DUNK TANK**

Rent a dunk tank and charge participants for a chance to dunk willing local celebrities.

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### **GAME NIGHT**

Rent arcade machines or old Atari or Nintendo games for a throwback game night!

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### **ACTIVITY MARATHON**

Dream up an activity volunteers can try to do for 24 straight hours, and stream it live or get the local news to cover it. EX: Dance marathons.

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### **SKATING EVENT**

Host a roller skating or ice-skating event and charge an admission fee.

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### **WORKOUT CLASS FUNDRAISER**

Ask a hot local workout spot to host and help promote your fundraiser. Charge an extra fee for entrance to this special one-time class with everyone's favorite instructor.

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### **CAKE WALK**

Like musical chairs, except the winner gets cake, not a chair. Ask a local bakery to contribute the beautiful (and delicious) prizes.

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### **BATTLE OF THE BANDS**

Invite some local guitar heroes and give your donors a chance to support DECA and enjoy the performance.

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### **KARAOKE CONTEST**

Recruit a local celebrity or two to judge participants willing to put themselves out there, *The Voice*-style.

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### **FAMILY FRIENDLY MUD RUN**

Create a down-and-dirty obstacle course and invite the kids to dive in.

## **TALENT SHOW**

A great way to get youth involved with your mission, especially if your cause is one that benefits youth in the first place.

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## **FILM SCREENING**

Is there a documentary related to your cause? Host a night at the movies replete with popcorn and candy.

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## **AUCTION A DATE**

This works great if the date in question is someone well known or beloved in the community. Think outside the box on this one. Your Principal — dressed up for the date as the winner's choice character from history?

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## **SILENT AUCTION**

You don't have to auction off gift baskets. Get creative with the auction items. Think about experiences instead of things. Perhaps you have a donor willing to grant access to his vacation home for the weekend or passes to a local attraction.

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## **PHOTO EXHIBITION**

Have participants contribute photographs they have taken that relate to DECA, school or community. Have an art opening where eventgoers buy a ticket to attend, then auction off the photos.

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## **CHILI COOK-OFF**

Charge by the steamy, spicy bowl and ask a few local businesses to donate the drinks

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## **FOOD TRUCK RODEO**

You simply need a parking lot, a permit, and a handful of local food trucks willing to attend. Charge for entrance, and the food trucks can still charge their normal prices inside.

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## **BAKE SALE**

This is an oldie but still a goodie. Stand out with a theme that is on point with your fundraising focus.

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## **POPSICLE STAND**

Another summertime fave. You can freeze anything liquid in a popsicle mold. Be creative with your flavors

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### ALL-INCLUSIVE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Make sure you offer options for everyone the gluten free, the vegan, the sugar-free, *and* the foodie who will eat anything.

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### PIE-THROWING CONTEST

Invite people to come take out their aggressions and indulge their sweet tooth.

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### STAIR CLIMBING CONTEST

Find a venue with a lot of stairs, like a stadium with 360-degree bleachers. Have participants recruit sponsors.

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### WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT PARTY

Give guests a list of “highly attainable world records” they can attempt to break at your event.

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### BABY PHOTO CONTEST

Charge a small entry fee for participants to upload their baby photos, and then have the crowd vote on categories like “cutest,” “chubbiest,” and “most improved.” Could also do a guess who it is with local business leaders or administrators.

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### PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

Invite people to pay a small fee to come carve a pumpkin and enter it into the competition. You could give them a limited time to challenge their skills or take entries all day to encourage as many people as possible to take part. Set a selection of categories or awards for people to win, from Best Pumpkin Carved by a Child, to Scariest Pumpkin, or Most Original Design.

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### CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

Cornhole is the perfect game for the no frills, easy to organize tournament. Charge a small entrance fee to enter the tournament and charge small admission fee to watch. Consider having refreshments and maybe entertainment. This is a great event to combine with other events at the same time.

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### LEGO NIGHT

Charge a reasonable entrance fee and invite children of all ages to build their coolest creations in hopes of winning a prize. You could also sell baked goods or concessions at the event.

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### BREAKFAST WITH A CHARACTER

Host a breakfast with the Easter Bunny, Santa Claus, or other character. Attendees pay a fee and receive breakfast (pancakes are easy) and a photo with the character.

### SLEEPOVER PARTY

Let parents have the night off! Rent a space (or use space in your school), play movies, and organize games to keep kids busy until they fall asleep. A local day care may be willing to loan you cots.

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### COWPIE BINGO

This is a favorite for county fairs and rural communities. Find an open grassy area and paint numbered squares on it. Get your local farmer to bring in one or two cows and some corral fencing. Sell the squares and whichever number lands a cowpie wins the 50/50 proceeds. Cows deliver 1-2 times per hour, so you can run this game all day if the cow is well fed.

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### DUCT TAPE THE ADMINISTRATOR

Charge students and staff a small fee for a strip of duct tape. Have your administrators take shifts during lunches or at an event to sit in a visible spot. Participants pay for their strip of tape and get to tape the administrator to the chair. You will be amazed at how many students want to tape an administrator down.