2017 Gift Guide: 8 Great Ways to Give and Give Back

Embrace the holiday spirit with these gift ideas that raise awareness and funds for organizations that fight HIV and AIDS.

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Giving is always good. But when the gift you buy for a loved one (or yourself) also raises money to fight HIV and AIDS, giving is even better. This holiday season when you choose one of our top picks as a present, you'll be doing more than spreading good cheer, you'll also be raising awareness of HIV and helping to improve the lives of those living with the virus. Remember, the following are just our faves, so if there's a gift you'd like to give or receive this season that you think we should include in our roundup, please email us at news@poz.com.

Broadway Legends Carol Burnett Christmas Ornament, $65

Although she's best known for her TV roles, Carol Burnett's no slouch in the theater department, having made her Broadway debut in 1959 as Princess Winnifred in the musical Once Upon a Mattress, for which she was nominated for a Tony. This year, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS (BCEFA), the nation's leading industry-based, not-for-profit AIDS fundraising and grant-making organization, pays tribute to Burnett with the 10th Christmas ornament in its Broadway Legends series. The bright glass ornament depicts Burnett as Winnifred in a royal dress flashing her trademark toothy smile. Proceeds benefit BCEFA, which draws on the resources, talents and generosity of the theater community to help individuals across the country receive lifesaving medications, health care, nutritious meals, counseling and emergency financial assistance. Click here to purchase.

Broadway Legends: Carol BurnettCourtesy of the Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS' Online Store

Viva Glam Taraji P. Henson Lipglass, $17.50

These lipsticks can help complete a holiday party look or bring out the inner diva in anyone any time of year. Available in two shades—a deep coppery brown with gold pearl or a matte fuchsia with pearl—these lipsticks are inspired by the style of Viva Glam spokeswoman and Emmy-winning actress Taraji P. Henson. Since 1994, 100 percent of the selling price of every Viva Glam lipstick benefits the MAC AIDS Fund, which funds innovative programs that address HIV and AIDS among individuals in the most marginalized and stigmatized communities. Click here to purchase.

Lipstick/Viva Glam Taraji P. HensonCourtesy of MAC

Visual AIDS Postcard Artwork Gift Certificate, $85

Since 1998, arts organization Visual AIDS has produced the Postcards From the Edge exhibition and benefit, during which attendees can buy postcard-sized works by established and emerging artists. This gift certificate allows the bearer to buy one such artwork on display during next year's benefit sale January 20 through 21 (there's also a preview party on January 19 but artworks don't go on sale until the next day). Each artwork is exhibited anonymously, and the identity of the artist is revealed only after the piece has been purchased. It's a great way to start building an art collection (or grow an already existing one) and support a good cause. Proceeds benefit Visual AIDS, which since 1988 has been providing grants, supplies and other support to artists living with HIV or AIDS. Click here to learn more about the Postcards From the Edige benefits.

2018 Postcard Artwork Gift CertificateCourtesy of Visual AIDS

God’s Love We Deliver Holiday Tribute Cards, $15 minimum

For a minimum of $15 per name, God’s Love We Deliver (GLWD) will address, stamp and mail tribute cards to your friends and loved ones with a message letting them know that you’ve made a donation to the food preparation and delivery organization in their honor. Choose from seven different designs, including ones by GLWD supporters artist Roy Lichtenstein and photographer Matt Weber (pictured below). It’s a way to help GLWD keep doing the good work it’s been doing since 1985: delivering meals and providing nutrition counseling to more than 6,000 clients living with serious health conditions, including HIV and AIDS, each year. Click here to purchase.

2nd Avenue DeliCourtesy of God’s Love We Deliver/Matt Weber

Blunt (RED) Metro Umbrella, $60

An ultra-compact umbrella you can fit in a large pocket with soft rounded edges that won’t poke passersby is the perfect accessory for those iffy-weather days. The super durable Blunt Metro umbrella has been tested in wind tunnels against 72 mile-per-hour winds and features patented technology that makes it easy to open and keeps the umbrella’s canopy intact—plus it comes with a five-year warranty. Even better, Blunt’s partnership with Product (RED) means that 15 percent of the purchase price of every Blunt (RED) umbrella will benefit The Global Fund’s mother-to-child HIV transmission prevention efforts. Click here to purchase.

Blunt Metro Umbrella (Product)REDCourtesy of BLUNT Umbrellas

Until There’s a Cure Leather ID Bracelet, $25

This chic and subtle leather ID bracelet not only makes a statement, but it also goes with everything. It features a magnetic clasp and a stainless steel plate engraved with a ribbon for HIV/AIDS awareness that’ll serve as a conversation starter and a reminder that we’re still on a mission to find a cure for the virus. Proceeds benefit the Until There’s a Cure foundation, which was started in 1993 to raise money to fund prevention education, care services and vaccine development and to increase public awareness of HIV and AIDS. Click here to purchase.

ID BraceletCourtesy of Until There’s A Cure

I’m Epic V-Neck T-Shirt, $25

This boastful tee is the perfect gift for your most awesome—or just over-the-top—friend or loved one. And how’s this for on trend? The bright and colorful eye-catching lettering against a black background includes a touch of ultra violet, recently named the Pantone Color Institute’s Pantone Color of the Year. Sixty percent of proceeds benefit amfAR’s search for an HIV cure, including the organization’s Countdown to a Cure for AIDS research initiative, which is meant to intensify amfAR’s cure-focused HIV program through strategic investments of $100 million over the next five years.Click here to purchase.

I’m Epic V-Neck T-ShirtCourtesy of amFAR

Love & White Diamonds by Elizabeth Taylor Fragrance, $69

When Elizabeth Taylor launched White Diamonds in 1991, the fragrance was an instant hit. More than 25 years later, the scent is a classic. Now fans of the original’s floral (lily, rose, tuberose), patchouli and sandalwood mix have a 2017 update to add to their perfume shelf. Love & White Diamonds has some of the same floral notes that fans of the original will recognize with a bit of citrus and musk thrown into the spritz for good measure. As directed by Taylor, a portion of the proceeds of every sale of her fragrances benefits The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation, which has been providing grants to existing organizations for domestic and international programs that offer direct care services to people living with HIV and AIDS since 1991. Click here to purchase.

Love & White DiamondsCourtesy of Macy’s

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