

Filling an Empty Bowl

An upcoming fundraiser is your chance to sample over 20 different soups. Oshkosh Empty Bowls will feature a large display of ceramic bowls, big tables surrounded by friends and family, and at the border of the room, soup being served by gracious volunteers. Over 100 gallons of soup is donated by local restaurants with the intention to make a difference, and with a little support from the community it sure does.

Over \$11,000 was donated to food pantries as a result of the last Oshkosh Empty Bowls event. Purchasing a ticket to the fundraiser means you get to enjoy 20 delicious varieties of soup, fresh bread, great company, and even take home a hand painted ceramic bowl. The best part of this event is the big impact it makes by donating funds directly to those organizations helping to fight hunger in our community, filling empty bowls long after the last soup spoon has been cleaned.

The fundraiser is set for Sunday November 10th from 4-7PM at becket's and tickets are on sale now. Empty Bowls is hosted in many communities across the US as a grass-roots event. Each event is run independently, but no matter the city it is hosted in, the idea for every fundraiser is the same; to bring people, art, and food together to fight hunger locally. You can make an influence and help the fundraiser before it even starts in a really simple way too: painting a ceramic bowl.

Fire Escape, a DIY art studio downtown, will be hosting bowl painting for the fundraiser. Rebecca Graf comments that the community has loved the option to paint fundraiser bowls at the studio "we always hear how it is more fun and relaxing to create a project for someone else". Her daughter and co-owner Jessica added, "I can't imagine a better way to spend an afternoon than by being creative and helping a great cause all at the same time".

Fire Escape will have bowls available for painting anytime during their walk-in hours until November 3rd. They can be purchased for \$20, and if donated to the Empty Bowls fundraiser you get a \$10 voucher to return and paint something for yourself. Groups are welcome to create bowls; they have hosted troops, churches, sports teams, and work outings.

"The most effective way to help our food pantries is through monetary donations" says Jody Harrell who leads the Empty Bowls planning. Donating food is helpful but food pantries can make the biggest impact when they get to purchase food directly. One dollar donated to the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry buys 5 pounds of food.

Tickets for the November 10th fundraiser are on sale now. It's your chance to sample delicious soup and make an impact. You can purchase tickets online, at becket's, or Fire Escape. Reach out to the Oshkosh Empty Bowls team if you have questions, would like to volunteer, or become a sponsor.

OshkoshEmptyBowls@gmail.com 920-420-0700

Jessica Graf, Owner

Fire Escape

423 N Main St, Oshkosh, WI 54901

info@FireEscapeArt.com

FireEscapeArt.com