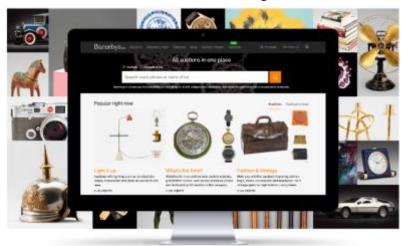
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What a brilliant and worthy concept: The Benefit Shop Foundation in Mount Kisco, New York receives donations from the finest estates in Westchester County and beyond and showcases them in one convenient and beautifully-staged location. The estates get a tax deduction, the buyer gets a great deal and not-for-profits in the community get the money. The four-year-old company is the brainchild of Pam Stone, a former Wall Street investment banker who chucked it all to encourage people to make high-quality item donations for the satisfaction of helping a host of community organizations.

Everything sold through The Benefit Shop Foundation has a starting price of \$5, just to make sure things get rolling, and the merchandise mix is wildly diverse, to include mid-century lamps, Imari tea sets, antique pine servers, re-covered sofas, sets of china and crystal, antique linens, fine art and collectibles. The item shown here



is in their upcoming Nov. 16th auction: a lovely circa 1880s diamond and ruby bee brooch, made in either France or Belgium and intricately set in 14kt yellow gold. It's expected to bring \$2,000-\$3,000 (but bidding starts at \$5!). Visit www.thebenefitshop.org.

This lovely circa 1880s diamond and ruby bee brooch, made in either France or Belgium, will be sold on Wednesday, Nov. 16th. (photo courtesy The Benefit Shop Foundation).

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