

Movie fans can wear the pants in this fundraiser

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Philanthropists can join the sisterhood.

The Sisterhood of the Travelling Pants, a new feature film, has teamed up with the YWCA to raise money for girls programs here in Toronto.

Four pairs of the pants, individually decorated by a Toronto artists and signed by the four main actresses in the film - Amber Tamblyn, America Ferrera, Blake Lively and Alexis Bledel - went on sale on Ebay Thursday evening.

The young actresses were in Toronto earlier this week, and appeared at Much Music.

The partnership was formed when one of this year's Women of Distinction Award recipients Diane Schwalm (a vice-president of marketing with Warner Bros.) suggested a joint venture.

"She thought it would be good for us to partner with them in promoting the movie," said Sharilyn Hale, director of philanthropy at the YWCA.

The film features four young women who find a pair of pants at a thrift store that fits each of them perfectly.

Based on Ann Brashares's best-selling novel, *The Sisterhood of the Traveling pants* shows these best friends, separated for the first time.

They use the pants to keep in touch, each one wearing the jeans for a week before sending them off to the next girl.

Schwalm who is being honoured by the YWCA next week at their annual Women of Distinction Awards will receive the award for mentor-ship.

"She's been an outstanding mentor to women in her field that has been male dominated," said Hale.

The opening bid for the pants on Ebay is \$100.

All the proceeds will go towards the YWCA's youth programming in Toronto, which includes peer support, employment readiness programs, a teen mother's program and a summer camp.

To find out more visit www.ywcatoronto.org.