

#1 Resource for Northern New Mexico Families

# Tumbleweeds

MAGAZINE

Fall 2021



## *Staying* **STRONG**

Back to School  
Back to Our New Normal

Youth & Family Counseling  
Expanding Childcare Options  
Family Event Calendar

FIND THE FALL  
AFTER-SCHOOL  
DIRECTORY  
PG. 32

# Fall Into New Mexico's History

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Delicious Food ♦ Costumed Revelry



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Grape Stomping ♦ Pumpkin Patch  
Tortilla Making ♦ Amazing Artisans



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We invite you to check us out!

The United Church of Santa Fe  
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Rev. Talitha Arnold, Pastor

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# Notes from Jen

# Dream BIG!

By Jen Schroer

## In July, I had the opportunity

to attend the Virgin Galactic #unity22 space launch with Sir Richard Branson as one of the astronauts. Throughout the event, they shared how traveling to space was a lifelong dream of Branson's. Years ago, New Mexico dreamed big with Virgin Galactic and built Spaceport America. People doubted. People complained. It seemed impossible, and time kept ticking away. But it happened.

The excitement of launch day was overwhelming. As I looked up to the sky and saw the jet burners flare and the space rocket soar into space, I was distracted by a group of children next to me, a classroom of kids who squealed with joy and wonder as the spaceship blasted off. Once the spaceship entered space, the live broadcast camera pointed toward Branson, and he described his raw emotions as he realized his childhood dream. He made it a point to speak directly to the children, encouraging them to dream big.

The children stopped cheering. Their eyes widened as they realized Sir Richard Branson was talking to them. As I observed these kids who were now deep in thought, I wondered what dreams they would relentlessly chase. Would they give up? I suddenly thought of some of my dreams and the struggles to achieve them.

For almost a decade, Justin and I dreamed about owning a business together. We would watch *Shark Tank* together, convinced that we should be there telling Mr. Wonderful about our exciting new product. We came up with one idea after another, but nothing felt right, until ...

I was flipping through the Fall 2019 *Tumbleweeds* issue while our son, Ryker, played with his Legos and Justin cooked dinner. I was pregnant with Aviva and new-ish to Santa Fe. *Tumbleweeds* had quickly become my go-to for all things parenting. Convinced that this pregnancy would not slow

*Continued on page 6*



Classmates from a local school enjoyed the #unity22 space launch and celebrated its success with Sir Richard Branson.

## Tumbleweeds MAGAZINE

Volume 26  
Number 2

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### THE PUBLICATION

#### Distribution

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#### Discount Bulk Orders

If you or your organization would like to purchase copies of Tumbleweeds Magazine, bulk orders of 25 copies or more may be requested via email at: [Info@TumbleweedsMag.com](mailto:Info@TumbleweedsMag.com)

#### Calendar of Events

Tumbleweeds Magazine offers event organizers FREE online event listings and promotion. Submit your event online at: [TumbleweedsMag.com/eventcalendar](http://TumbleweedsMag.com/eventcalendar)

#### Family Directory

As the #1 resource for northern New Mexico families, you may include your business in Tumbleweeds Magazine's online Family Directory. Submit your business information at: [FamilyDirectory@TumbleweedsMag.com](mailto:FamilyDirectory@TumbleweedsMag.com)

#### Tumbleweeds Magazine

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Photo provided by Virgin Galactic.

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## Be a Part of Tumbleweeds Magazine!

### Winter 2021 - 2022 Deadlines

Tumbleweeds Magazine's Winter Issue will be published December 6, 2021.

Are you interested in contributing an article? Or do you have a story idea?

Contact Claudette Sutton at [Claudette@TumbleweedsMag.com](mailto:Claudette@TumbleweedsMag.com)  
Article Submissions Deadline: November 1, 2021

Do you want your product or service showcased in the magazine?

Contact Brittany Espinoza at [Brittany@TumbleweedsMag.com](mailto:Brittany@TumbleweedsMag.com)

Winter Camp Directory Deadline: November 1, 2021  
Print Ad Reservations & Copy Deadline: November 1, 2021  
Online Ad Reservations & Copy Deadline: November 15, 2021

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**On the Cover:** Layla Hope Madrid (Layla), age 5 1/2, just completed three years at Garcia Street Club and will be starting kindergarten at Rio Grande School in the fall. She swims on the Northern Aquatic Club swim team and loves swimming underwater doing mermaid body-dolphin. She loves traveling to the ocean in an airplane and she also loves ballet, bugs, dinosaurs and riding her bike. Photo © Tumbleweeds Magazine 2021. Cover Kid photograph taken at Genoveva Chavez Community Center Pool.

**Artwork in this issue:** Tumbleweeds Magazine partnered with Santa Fe Public Schools (SFPS) to share children and teen artwork. SFPS has a dedicated Arts Education Department that offers a comprehensive, culturally responsive, standards-based program of art education to K-12 students. The department consists of 39 teachers, two staff and one content-specific instructional coach. Look for more artwork on our website, [TumbleweedsMag.com](http://TumbleweedsMag.com).

Continued from page 4

down this working mom, I was delighted to see the publication was for sale and immediately yelled over the kitchen commotion from the couch, telling Justin we should buy it. He affectionately chuckled as he reminded me that now wasn't exactly a good time; I was "cooking a baby."

Fortunately, I came across *Tumbleweeds* again in the summer of 2020, but this time online. We were all struggling with what to do with our kiddos during the pandemic. *Tumbleweeds* came through by continuing to serve families and the community. The best part (in my opinion) was that it was still for sale, and I was no longer pregnant! As they say, the rest is history.

Dreams come in all sizes. The struggle, the timing and the journey will look different for everyone. But believing you and the dream are worth it is the first step, and the second, and the third.

As we get back into the swing of things like school, work, sports and activities, we may wonder what the future holds. The pandemic was so unexpected and so difficult to endure. But we did. We will heal and transition back to our new normal, which includes living with this virus. We will continue to be resilient when variants pop up. But as we move forward, we, too, must start to dream again and dream big for our children, our family and our community because dreams do come true.

Justin and I are so excited to be *Tumbleweeds*' new owners, and to launch our dream with many of the former "Team *Tumbleweeds*" members on our crew. We have some exciting changes in the works, and plan to continue offering the features that have helped our family and yours. Please be a part of the journey with us. Follow us on social media or email us with your ideas. We'd love to hear from you!



"Orbital Geometrics" - Sixth through eighth graders' artwork submitted by Santa Fe Public School's Art Education Department.

# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET



***School fall registration open now!***

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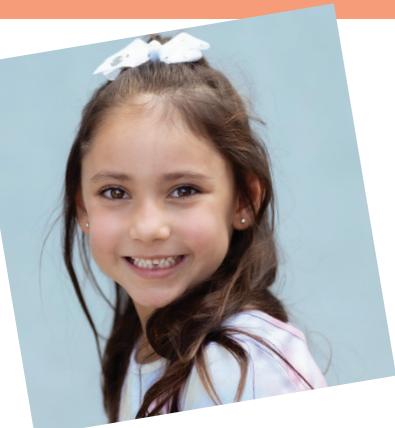
For new student registration and information call  
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**[aspensantafeballet.com](http://aspensantafeballet.com)**

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PHOTO: AUDREY DERELL

# Posted



## Cover Kid Q & A

Cover Kid: Layla Hope Madrid (Layla), age 5 1/2

**1. What do you like most about yourself right now?**

I like that I can ride my bike all day, all by myself.

**2. What do you think your future job will be?**

My future job will be helping animals, every kind like panda bears, dogs, wild dogs and a barn cat.

**3. What are you good at?**

I'm good at playing dodgeball.

**4. Who are your best friends and why do you like each other?**

My best friend is Henry, and he is really nice, and I want to marry him but I'm going to be separated from

him. I want to go to his school and find him but I can't so I'm just going to go to my new school and he is going to his new school.

**5. What do you think your parents do at work all day?**

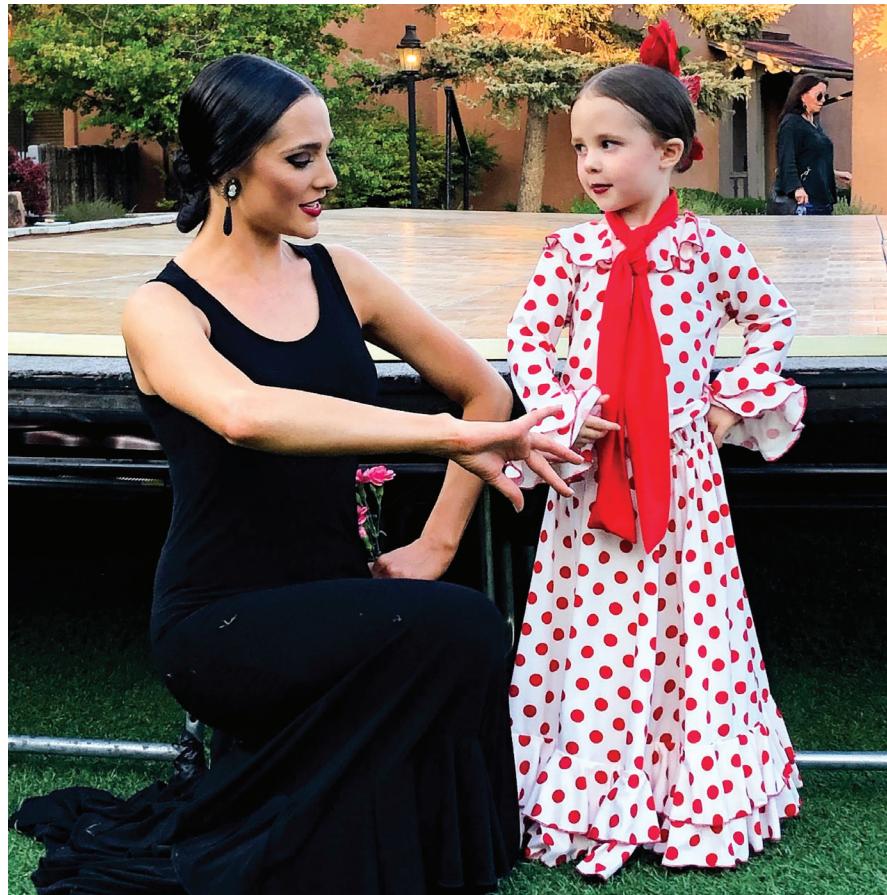
They make money.

**6. What's the most important rule that you know of?**

To be careful with glass.

**7. Why do you think kids go to school?**

To learn so they can get smarter and smarter. Grown ups need to go to school, too, to get smarter, too.



La Emi and Maxine Zayas were photographed by Maxine's father, Mike Zayas. Maxine is 4 years old and attends pre-K at Nina Otero Community School.

## 2021 SUMMER PHOTO CONTEST

Thank you to all those who participated in the 2021 Summer Photo Contest. Parents posted photos of family summer fun on Tumbleweeds Magazine's social media July 8 through August 11 for a chance to win a \$50 gift card to Tomasita's.

**Congratulations to our photo contest winner!**

This photo of Maxine and La Emi was taken at The Lodge at Santa Fe after a performance by Flamenco Youth de Santa Fe, the youth company of EmiArteFlamenco. Maxine was lucky enough to have started dancing with La Emi right after her third birthday in December 2019. During the early part of the pandemic, weekly virtual lessons taught by La Emi offered Maxine connection and companionship during a very challenging time. Once in-person classes and performances resumed, Maxine found a welcoming community and many role models among the dedicated young women of Flamenco Youth de Santa Fe.

**Join the Conversation**

Write to us at [Info@TumbleweedsMag.com](mailto:Info@TumbleweedsMag.com), or by mail at Tumbleweeds Magazine, P.O. Box 29162, Santa Fe, NM 87592. Letters, artwork and articles from our readers on personal and professional experiences with children are welcome. Tumbleweeds Magazine strives to connect families to resources and to each other.



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# Infants

# CLOSING THE GAP

How New Mexico is supporting better, more affordable child care

By Micah Micoy

## It's a story all too familiar for many parents.

When it's time to go back to work, finding child care can prove an almost insurmountable challenge. Many child care centers don't serve infants and toddlers, wait lists for admission can stretch on for months or even years, and some areas are "child care deserts" with hardly any options at all. Even when child care is readily available, the high costs of tuition can hurt some families financially and put it completely out of reach for others.

I remember all too well the struggles of finding care when our daughter, Beatriz, was born three years ago. I was fortunate enough to have three months of parental leave, and my wife cobbled together enough vacation and sick leave to stay home for most of that time as well. But as we came closer to our leave running out, we became increasingly anxious about finding care for our infant daughter. We wanted to find a place close to my wife's work so she could visit on her breaks to breastfeed; we needed a place that accepted infants; and we needed a place that wasn't completely full and was accepting new children. Both my wife and I earned modest salaries at our nonprofit jobs, so the cost of care was an important consideration as well.

Our options were slim. Running out of time, we ended up settling on the closest and most affordable option. The facilities weren't as nice as would have liked, with the children all together in one big noisy space. The different age groups were separated only by waist-high dividers, and the monthly tuition was still comparable to our mortgage payment. The quality was low, the costs were high, and — although the staff was lovely and caring — there was regular turnover as educators left for higher-paying jobs. About a year after we enrolled, the center went out of business and shut its doors forever.

Those issues are all symptoms of a child care system that is fundamentally broken. The cost of providing high-quality early childhood education and care is simply greater than what most families can afford to pay out-of-pocket. Most child care providers are forced to operate on razor-thin margins, paying low wages and deferring improvements to their facilities, programs and classrooms to keep tuition low enough that parents can afford it. In some communities, especially in rural and lower-income areas, the gap between the costs of care and what parents can afford is so great that they become child care deserts.

These problems aren't unique to New Mexico — communities across the nation are struggling with these issues. New Mexico is unique, however, in how we are tackling the problem. In 2019, Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham made good on a long-standing promise to create a Cabinet-level department dedicated to early education and care. In July 2020, the New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) officially launched, making our state one of the first in the nation to consolidate all early childhood programs and services in one agency. These investments are already paying off for New Mexico's children and families.

Last month, Grisham and ECECD announced the single-largest expansion of child care assistance in state history. Previously, families could only qualify to receive child care assistance from the state if their annual income was at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), which for a family of four is about \$53,000 a year. That means if that same family of four earned \$55,000 a year — just slightly above the median family income for New Mexico — they wouldn't qualify for help. If you assume their child care costs are around \$2,000 per month for their two kids, nearly half of that family's pre-tax income would be spent on child care alone. A huge portion of our state's families are stuck in a position where they don't qualify for assistance but can't afford private-pay tuition.

To provide these families some relief, the New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department has allocated a portion of the agency's emergency coronavirus relief funds provided through the American Rescue Plan Act to expand income eligibility for child care assistance in New Mexico up to 350% of FPL, or \$92,750 per year for that same family of four. This expansion will be transformational for many newly qualified families. Parents who might otherwise be forced to drop out of the workforce due to the cost of child care will be able to continue their careers. Middle-class families who might have otherwise had a huge portion of their income eaten up by child care can now set some money aside for a down payment on a house, college savings or an emergency fund.

In tandem with the eligibility expansion, ECECD has made another groundbreaking change by adopting a cost-estimation model to set the child care subsidy rates that our agency pays out to child care providers on behalf of families receiving assistance. This model is specifically calibrated to set rates based on the true costs of providing high-quality early education and care in our state, rather than relying on the artificially low market rate pegged to what parents can locally afford. Following the District of Columbia, New Mexico is the first state in the country to use this process to set its rates.

This may sound complicated, but the bottom line is that we have used this sophisticated new model to raise the subsidy rates here in New Mexico across the board



Courtesy photos

The state's new cost-estimation model means child care providers will receive higher subsidy rates in every setting and quality level.

— for every provider, in every setting, at every quality level. Making quality care affordable through increased subsidies to providers will mean that they will better be able to staff their classrooms with diverse, credentialed and well-compensated early childhood professionals. It



(Left) Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham, accompanied by Early Childhood Education and Care Department Secretary Elizabeth Groginsky, Lt. Gov. Howie Morales and a passel of kids, announced a major expansion of the state's child care assistance program at a press conference in June. Micah Micoy and Beatriz, age 3, experienced firsthand the challenges of finding affordable, high-quality care when Beatriz was an infant.

means supporting programs that honor and incorporate students' diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. It means creating learning environments that promote the physical, social, emotional, linguistic and intellectual growth of young children during their most important developmental years.

For parents and caregivers of young children these changes will mean more choices and improved access to high-quality, affordable child care as providers are incentivized to expand their capacity and open new businesses. It means fewer child care deserts and greater equity as child care businesses open to serve lower-income areas with the widest affordability gap for care. It means that parents who have been sidelined by the pandemic

will have improved access to the support they need to get back to work.

For the business community, these changes will mean that the costs of child care are less likely to price parents out of the workforce; consumers will have more discretionary income as child care costs go down; widespread availability of quality early childhood education will make New Mexico more attractive for companies looking to expand or relocate; and our state's talent pool will continue to improve as our early childhood education system serves as a launching pad for a rising generation of New Mexicans.

Today, this administration is closing gaps, reforming broken systems and finding a balance that has eluded our early childhood education system for so long. We

still have much work to do, but right-sizing our child care assistance program for parents and providers is an important landmark on our journey towards creating a true cradle-to-career education system that helps all New Mexicans thrive.

To find out if your family qualifies under New Mexico's expanded child care assistance program, take a brief survey at [www.eligibility.ececd.state.nm.us](http://www.eligibility.ececd.state.nm.us) or call (800) 832-1321 to speak with a representative from our call center. For help accessing home-visiting or early-intervention services, or for help finding a child care center, home-based provider or preK near you, call our resource and referral line at (800) 691-9067 or email [support@newmexicokids.org](mailto:support@newmexicokids.org).

*Micah McCoy is the communications director for the New Mexico Early Childhood Education & Care Department.*



# Celebrate Balloon Fiesta ... All Year Long



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The book cover for 'The Best Day Ever!' by Ross Van Dusen. It features a colorful hot air balloon with the text 'ALBUQUERQUE INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FIESTA' and 'THE BEST DAY EVER!' in large, bold letters. The book is set against a background of a hot air balloon festival with many balloons in the sky.

# Preschool

# Comfort on the Page

Books to ease your child's back-to-school journey (and yours) • By Zoey Barnes

## The time of new school days is upon us. By now

your little one may already be settled at school after a year of closures and concerns. Crinkly new backpacks and twinkly lunch boxes, loveys and blankies packed with care, snacks and snacks and snacks galore. Or maybe your little one is home with you or another care provider. With the amount of time I have spent obsessing over choosing a preschool for my daughter or keeping her home this past year, I could have written a book, read a novel, or slept for 14 hours straight (if my daughter ever gave me the opportunity to do so). This year has been racked with anxiety for me and many parents about where/if to send school-aged children to school. Throw in a global pandemic, concerns about the social-emotional wellbeing of my toddler, and the difficulty to get any work done *at all* with a toddler at home and you get anxiety soup.

Dear parent, I am here to tell you that all of this is normal and then some. Some of you may be feeling anxious with having sent your child to school for the first time. Some of you may be feeling relieved at having — what is the word? — oh yes, *quiet* again. Some of you may be sitting it out again or waiting with bated breath, concerned with the prospect of what COVID will look like this winter. And so, dear parent, these books are for your little ones to ease starting-school jitters, but they are also for you. These books are about back to school in new and different ways. They inspire conversations about what school looks like for different kids across the United States and the world. I hope, most of all, they allow you to breathe a deep breath, give your child a big hug, and feel a little bit of awe. One day, your child will come up to you and say something surprising that they have learned, and it will be a beautiful thing.

A note: If these books seem too advanced at first, take a moment to explore the pictures together or paraphrase the books for your child. Eventually, they will spend longer and longer with you on each page or book.

***The Day You Begin*** by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by Rafael López (Nancy Paulsen Books, 2018).

A little girl and boy walk into a room and see that no one is quite like them. Their skin, their hair, their name, their language. This book is about difference, and it is also about finding commonality in other children. It is about empathizing with the feeling of otherness, and, at the same time, how sharing special stories

can emphasize the specialness of difference and bring children together. Rafael López' illustrations are rich and sumptuous with vibrant flowers, trees and birds on every page. Your child may identify with the small worries of these children and also delight in their joy when they connect with each other. National Book Award winner Jacqueline Woodson's words are poetry that will help your little one (and you!) to be brave on that first day. "And all at once ... the world opens itself up a little wider to make some space for you," Woodson writes, her expansive language making expansive possibilities come true on the page and off.

***My First Day*** by Phùng Nguyễn Quang and Huynh Kim Liên (Make Me a World, February 2021).

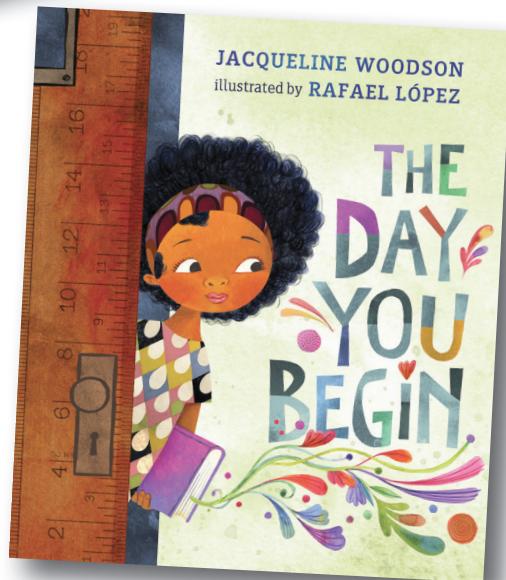
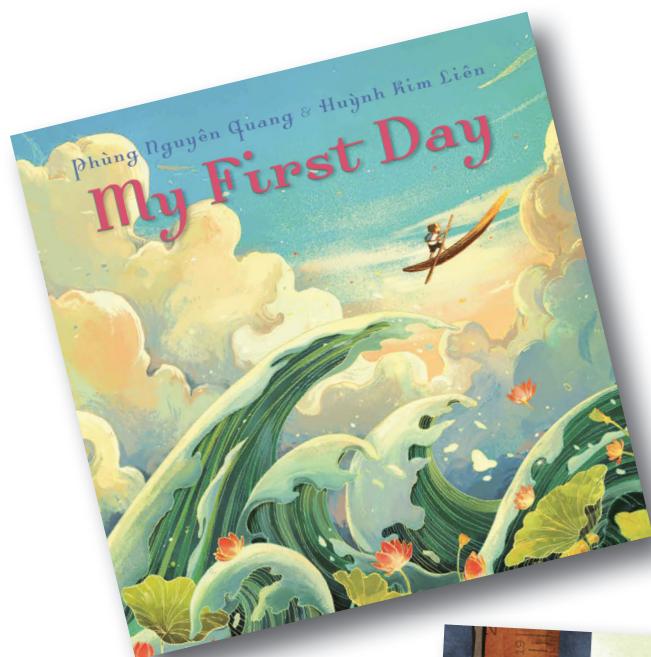
This child's journey to the first day of school is unlike many others. To get to school, he must row his own small wooden boat through forests, soaring waves and flooded fields, past animals lurking down below and clouds shadowed overhead. The book depicts his bravery as he makes his way from his home in the Mekong Delta and finally paddles up to school. This book will inspire fun conversations about your little one's own commute to school. How do they get to school? What do they see along the way? How is their journey different from this child's journey and what can we learn from his bravery? In what ways are your children brave at school? Phùng Nguyễn Quang and Huynh Kim Liên's illustrations are transcendent. Every page is frameable. The art shines light on the beauty of Vietnam with nods to the region's culture and art.

***What If...? (Sesame Street): Answers to Calm First-Day of School Jitters*** by Sonali Fry, illustrated by Joe Mathieu (Random House Books for Young Readers, 2021).

This is a little departure from the other books on this list. Lyric books with gorgeous illustrations are lovely, but Sesame Street does not shy away from handling hard topics. If you have a toddler, you know the power of Elmo. This sweet book asks all the questions your soon-to-be preschooler might have. It normalizes the anxiety that might accompany returning to the classroom, like Elmo's mommy's response when he asks, "What if none of Elmo's friends are in his class?" The book continues: "Mommy hugged Elmo close. 'It's okay to wonder about that.'" Let's give all of us — parents, kids — the freedom to wonder about our worries and the confidence to find comforting answers. The book also gives a short list of ideas for



Zadie Barnes, starting preschool this fall, finds her favorite books provide comfort and a jumping-off point for creativity.



how parents can prepare their little ones and ease their worries. These include talking with your children about what to expect, talking about their feelings and involving them in the preparation for their first day.

Whether you are preparing your child or children and yourself for their first day back at school or they are already well in the swing of things, take a moment to ask them how they are feeling. Their answer might surprise you. If they are sad or scared, it is okay to explore those feelings with them. It is also okay to talk about the fun things they can expect to do or already do at school. Most of all, dear parent, enjoy these sweet moments. You got this.

*Zoey Barnes is the program manager at Many Mothers and a writer based in Santa Fe, where she was born and raised. Prior to becoming a social worker, she was an adult and children's bookseller for five years.*



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# Elementary

## ALL Together Now!

Desert Montessori School shifts to a team-leadership model

By Liza Frolkis

### We sat in the Zoom meeting, 12 teachers

trying to make sense of Fall 2020, each in our own home but collectively swimming in the uncertainty of the decision ahead of us.

COVID cases were rising, and we had to decide what to do next. Do we close? Do we stay open? At what point do the case numbers become too overwhelming? At what point do we return to normal? What does normal even mean? How do we support our students, our parents and each other through all of this? Schools all around us were facing the same problems and had used a variety of ways to solve them, but we had agreed that because this was a decision that impacted every teacher's health, we all had to make the decision together. There were no easy answers, but as we looked at each other on our computer screens we all had the same understanding: "We trust one another, and we can get through this together." We dug in, committed ourselves to working through the questions, challenges and frustrations that lay ahead, and came to conclusions that we were all comfortable with. Together.

When it came time to shape the 2021-22 school year for Desert Montessori School, a private pre-K through sixth-grade school in Santa Fe, we all had a similar thought: "Could we keep doing this? As a team?"

One of our teachers took this idea all the way to the board, who gave us approval to become a teacher-led school. That meant the school would be run through represen-



DMS students can expect more inter-class activities and other group events under the teacher-led model.

Photo by Tira Howard

tational leadership, with decisions made by consensus. Before long, we had an exciting new school identity and we were ready to face the challenges, the unknowns and the possibilities of democratic leadership.

What does it mean to be a teacher-led school, run through representational leadership, with decisions made by consensus? Why wouldn't we just want a director to take care of all this work for us?

Becoming teacher-led felt like a necessary step for our school. Teachers wanted to take ownership of the leadership roles we had already taken on, and we wanted more say in how the school is run, more transparency, and more ability to help shape our school. Let's face it, community outreach is really an unspoken part of a teacher's job, and we are often taking on projects beyond the work we do in the classroom (i.e.: running an after-school club, sharing cleaning responsibilities of common areas or pulling some weeds in the garden). As a result, teachers can easily feel taken advantage of.

In a similar vein, directors end up with more work than should be expected of any one person (balancing the budget, overseeing fundraising and spearheading admissions, for example). In both situations, burnout rates can be high, leading to instability in the workplace and for the families in our school community. In the teacher-led model, teachers get to embrace the work that interests them, while the role of the director is dispersed and borne by many rather than one. The ideal is to improve job satisfaction among teachers, to make school administration more manageable, and to provide educational security for students and their families.

After receiving training in how to deploy and use a democratic leadership model in the workplace, Desert Montessori staff implemented specific structures and consensus decision making. Right away, our meetings became far more efficient — and shorter as a consequence. Equally important, our teachers were more satisfied with the decisions being made, because they had a direct role in shaping them. We've also seen an increase in school-wide activities, as well as greater enthusiasm for and creativity with solving complex problems.

The most exciting prospect for us in the 2021-22 school year is what being teacher-led will mean for our students and families. With our teachers interested in more school-wide events and opportunities to connect with parents, we're looking forward to a year of building connections. Our students will be getting the same time with their teachers, the same Montessori curriculum and materials, and the same enriching environment as always, but they'll enjoy more inter-class activities and more school and group events. Parents can expect transparent communication, close relationships with their children's teachers, and plenty of opportunities to participate in and enrich the community around Desert Montessori School.

What a teacher-led model *isn't* is a model by which every teacher must take a role in every decision and school operation. We want teachers to like their jobs, re-



(Above, top left) Desert Montessori School teachers prepare for a new school year, with a new team leadership model in place. (Left) Desert Montessori School students on a naturewalk.

Photos by Erin Cherry and Tira Howard

member? This is where the specificity of our structure comes into play:

- **Consensus-Based Decision Making:** The entire staff gets together for staff meetings where we make decisions about school-wide issues. These range from the school identity we want to lean into, to the school-wide rules we need to be enforcing. Decisions are made through consensus, essentially meaning tiered voting, where everyone has a say as to whether a certain decision is made. This is more nuanced than a straight vote, because staff can show support or dissent on a scale from “Absolutely not,” all the way to “Oh, my goodness, I love this!” — and everything in between. The idea is to see where people stand, which allows us to either move forward or continue the conversation until everyone is at least neutral on any given issue. We also divide and share meeting tasks, reinforcing the idea that there is not just one leader, that we all take on leadership roles as needed.
- **Committees:** Not everyone can or wants to do everything, so we've created committees to attend to specific action items that the group identifies as important. These committees are open to the whole school community, encouraging our families and

parents to participate and share in the work. Our goal is always to strengthen our connection to families and parents, and to give our school community every opportunity to get to know us and the needs of the school.

- **The Role of the Director:** The director's role is distributed between three positions that make up our Leadership Team: The administrative director handles the day-to-day operations of the school, and the primary director and elementary director handle curriculum development and teaching teams. These three staff members collaborate to make larger decisions about finances, enrollment and human resources, and are responsible to the entire teaching staff. The leadership team aims to amplify staff voices and collaborates with the entire staff when issues and conversations around overall school direction arise.

We knew at that Zoom meeting back in the Fall of 2020 that something big was happening, but we didn't know how big it would turn out to be. We feel empowered and excited to be making this journey as a team,



Photo by Tira Howard

and to be facing the challenges ahead together. As we refine and learn with our teacher-led model during the coming year, we hope we can help other schools and families in and around Santa Fe, because we're all ultimately working towards stronger and healthier communities. Together.

.....

*Liza Frolkis is the administrative director of Desert Montessori School.*

## Democracy in the Workplace

Desert Montessori is a small private school, but the tools we use can be applied to just about any organization of any size! Democratic leadership not only helps staff feel invested and involved in the school; it also promotes diverse ideas and creative problem solving that can help a school grow and thrive. Including teachers in decision-making can increase transparency, promote healthy work environments and increase job satisfaction and stability. Taking the appropriate steps to ensure thoughtful implementation of democracy in the workplace is important for the overall success of any leadership change a school is considering making.

- **Get trained.** This helps everyone get on the same page about the process and the organization's goals. Contact [frontoffice@desertmontessori.com](mailto:frontoffice@desertmontessori.com) if you're interested in the training that DMS received.

- **Share meeting roles:**

- Rotate through roles. (i.e., facilitator, agenda maker, note-taker, timekeeper, etc.)

- Sharing roles keeps everyone engaged, encourages dynamic meetings, and ensures that everyone's voice is heard.

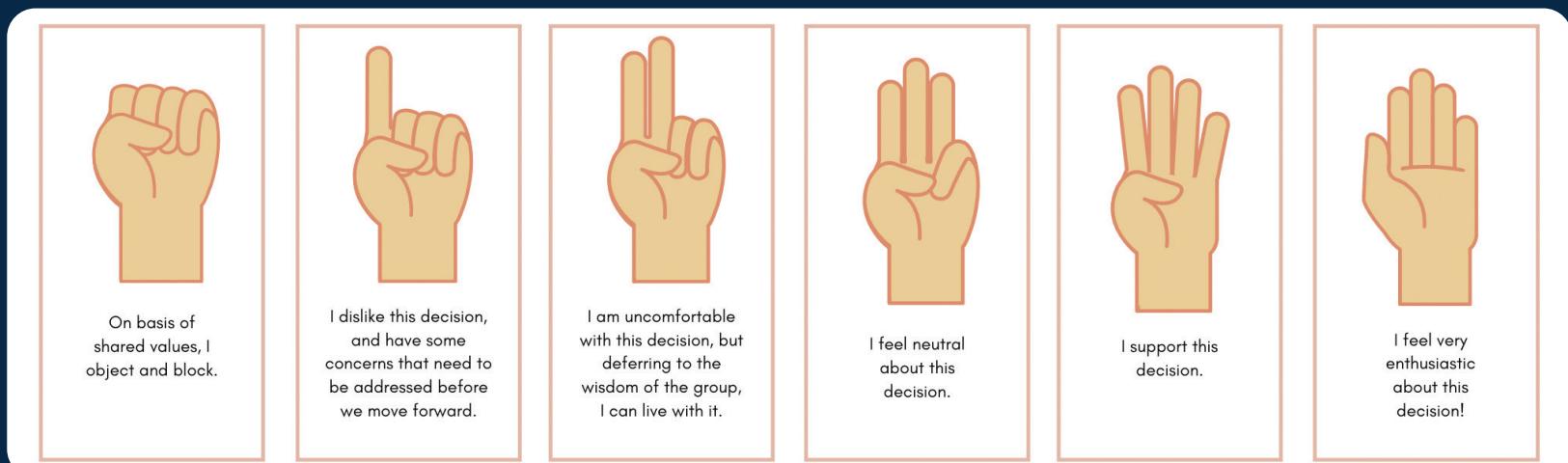
- **Steps to Reaching Consensus:**

- A topic is brought up.
- Ideas and solutions are suggested.
- We vote. There are different voting models, but below is roughly what we use at DMS.
- Go back to anything below a 3 to work out the kinks.

- **What you need for consensus:**

- Shared values and goals.
- Desire to create a new idea collaboratively.
- Belief that whatever solution the group comes up with will be better than what a single individual can come up with.
- Active listening and assuming good intent.
- Understanding and commitment to addressing power dynamics, e.g., racism, sexism, classism.

— Source: Steph Ryan, consensus trainer.



# Education

# Recreating Normal

A path back to school for students, families and teachers

By Judy Reinhartz

**After more than a year of Google Meet fatigue,** our adjustment to the “new normal”—whatever that is—will go on for a long time. The common thread in this learning tapestry is the need to adapt to change. New learning protocols, shifting schedules, revised safety requirements, reassessments of where kids are academically and what they need emotionally after this past year—all these are extra challenges on top of those faced by teachers, parents and children in any “normal” year.

Children’s books provide an excellent starting point for addressing these challenges. These picture books are geared for pre-K through second grade, but they contain messages that will provide discussion and comfort for older children as well.

A good place to begin is the New York Times bestselling book, **What Do You Do with a Problem** by Kobi Yamada. This book is about a boy who faces a problem and, in the process, comes to recognize opportunities. Use it as a springboard into addressing things that might be upsetting to children. This author also wrote, **What Do You Do With a Chance?** and **What Do You Do with an Idea?**, two other books that can inspire any of us to look more closely at challenges we face.

To apply this story’s message, particularly about finding opportunities when confronted with a problem, take a sheet of paper and divide it in half, with the left column labelled “Problems” and the right “Opportunities.” This approach provides a context for identifying students’ problems and finding opportunities along the way to make lemonade out of lemons while developing their problem-solving skills. If you hear, “I forgot my assignment at home,” you can ask, “What are things that you can do to remember it the next time?” One opportunity would be to have children develop a routine that includes having a “return to school” folder inside their backpacks, where they put their homework as soon as it is completed. The upside of identifying “problems” is recognizing the importance of having a plan that helps students remember.

Another fun way to apply the book’s message is to use balloons to demonstrate how worries grow problems and hide opportunities. Take a long balloon (ones to make animals), a sheet of paper and some pencils. Before going forward, review the story stressing the message that worrying increases problems and keeps us from finding solutions. Show a balloon and ask students what they see (a deflated balloon), then blow air into it. The inflated balloon represents a problem. Ask: “What happens if more air is added?” Then blow more air into the balloon, demonstrating that “worrying about the problem” makes the balloon bigger. Lastly, tie off the balloon and ask what opportunity might be lurking within the problem as you twist the balloon into different shapes. With each new shape comes hidden opportunities. Get students to explain orally or in writing what these opportunities might be.

Children’s books also can be used to ease the re-entry to in-person learning. For example, participating in show-and-tell in front of the class, and other ways of sharing things with classmates, might overwhelm some children. **Too Shy for Show-and-Tell** by Beth Bracken tells the story of Sam, a quiet boy who truly dislikes show-and-tell. Just the thought gives him a stomachache. Learn how Sam conquers his fear.

No one learns without making mistakes. In **The Book of Mistakes**, author Corinna Luyken shows how “mistakes” can blossom into creativity. Making mistakes is particularly common in math, but having students realize that mistakes are a way to new learning is a significant step forward. If parents and teachers take the opportunity to listen to how children arrive at their solutions, their explanations can prompt questions to get them to think more deeply, not merely about getting the right answer.

Trudy Ludwig’s book **The Invisible Boy** is about Brian, for whom not being seen or recognized is a daily occurrence. He retreats into his imagination when he isn’t picked for the kickball team. Even the teacher finds her attention taken by the noisier, more demanding children. Nobody ever seems to notice Brian or thinks to include him in their groups, games or celebrations, until a new student comes to class. This gentle picture book, followed by discussion questions geared for teachers and parents, encourages us to find ways to help all children feel included and affirmed.

**My Very Own Space** by Pippa Goodhart is about a little rabbit who tries to read a book in peace, but there’s too much noise going on around him for him to do it. His problem is to find a space just for him to read and enjoy the pictures in his book. This story encourages students to find opportunities while solving problems as they test their ideas (e.g. getting a chair and draping a sheet or towel over it and sitting under it). The possibilities for engineering different designs for quiet spaces are limitless. Creating quiet spots not only solves a problem but communicates that a quiet space is private for daydreaming, playing games and doing assignments at home or in school.

Regardless of whether learning takes place virtually, in person or as a combination of both, there will be challenges to be addressed by children, parents and teachers. The key is to recalibrate their expectations, support and the use of digital resources on the path back to school and to remember that it is the beginning of a journey, rather than a destination.

*Judy Reinhartz is professor emeritus at the University of Texas at Paso, a board member of the Santa Fe Alliance for Science and a co-lead of its Adopt-A-School program, and director of the Literacy + Math Coaching Program, MathAmigos. Most of the books she recommends are available in the Santa Fe Public Library and on YouTube.*



# Tumbleweeds

**MAGAZINE**



## Family Directory

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- School Options
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**TumbleweedsMag.com**

## The Omnipresent Feeling of Nothingness



Willow Shaffer finds an outlet for distraction during an online class.

### For as long as I can remember, I have been an

introvert. I like the quiet, the ability to think in peace, not having to be around people. Intrinsically motivated to an extent that had always caught people's attention, I thought the year 2020 and everything that came with it would be a learning experience.

In the last weeks leading up to the start of a full year of online learning, I fantasized about learning how to balance my new heavy workload of three AP classes, taking time to jog each afternoon, get adequate sleep so I could get up every morning and get back to work, maybe catch the scholarly attention of a couple of teachers along the way. Really it was no different from any other idealized year, just the upgraded sophomore version.

When it didn't work out that way, I'd like to say that I was shocked by it, but in the ongoing aftermath I often think that it was something I could see coming for a while. Yet some strange combination of optimism and fear held me back from truly seeing it, and certainly from accepting it, at least until the reality of the situation finally became dire enough to prompt some sort of response.

The online work environment was strange to say the least. With the lack of real structure, there came a crushing sense of pressure to prove myself. The fear of failure had driven me for years, and the threat of not being in person to prove that I wasn't a failure was horrifying. The late nights and focus on every perfect detail were nothing new, but the inability to feel gratified by it was.

It was the boredom that kicked in, the repetition, the inability to do anything that seemed to matter anymore. I could work from bed in an oversized nightgown and that was okay—normal even. It was remarkably lonely in my room, which arguably started to feel more like a jail cell, nothing but a phone screen and computer to keep me

COVID's isolation through a teen's eyes

By Willow Shaffer

some sort of company. The pink walls started to feel more like the inside of a pressure cooker, breaking down what I thought I had into the fear of never doing enough and the knowledge that I could do as much work as possible and I still would feel nothing.

Some years ago I would have been interested in the idea of nothing mattering, whittling my spirit down to something composed of no feelings and, I don't know, maybe an epic punk anthem to go with it. But, not at all surprisingly, if I'm being honest now, one is not meant to feel nothing, and feeling nothing meant that everything I did didn't matter anymore and that really was the final nail in the coffin.

One day of missed classes turned into many days. A day of nothing but naps turned into days of the same thing. Every time I told myself, "Just this one more time, then you need to get up," but the "one more time" came and went and I never got up. Before that, I couldn't remember a day in my life when I wouldn't have wanted to go somewhere, just to go out and see the world; after, I could hardly remember a day when I had moved from bed at all.

The days blurred into one another. I did no work, my ideal year was no longer possible, and even when I thought of what could have been, the thought was quickly shut down by the omnipresent feeling of a vague, existential nothingness. It's just not very satisfying to do something when you actively feel like some part of you is begging you to do nothing.

About two weeks before the school year came to a close, I checked my grades for the first time since early October. In the first quarter, my lowest grade had been a 94% and I had three grades that were over 100%. By the end of the fourth quarter, I found myself with five F's. A few years ago I read a book called *The Year We Fell Apart*, and some part of me always thought that must've been an exaggeration ... how can you be held together and then just not be anymore? I think I understand now.

In recent days, I've recovered enough motivation to speak with friends, at least over text, and have found that we're all still trying to pick up the pieces that this year left behind. In standard communications of ours, saying that we're "OK" usually means that somewhere along the line the busy days turned into lonely ones, the lonely to empty, the empty to meaningless, and now there's just a gaping hole that we're trying to fill. We sit around wondering where the year went wrong, what happened to us, for lack of a better word, and the one thing we can all agree on is that the pandemic took away something we thought we hated long enough to realize it was something we needed.

Willow Shaffer is a junior at Santa Fe High School.



Willow, "hiding from the world in my hoodie."

Courtesy photos

# Tribalism, Folly and Sporadic Bouts of Inspiration

How the pandemic sparked a call for youth activism

By Lucas Blakeslee

## It's coming up on a year and a half since I first

typed a Google Meet code into my phone and joined an online class. Much sooner than I could have imagined, a general malaise set over my social circles, and a bedroom that once served as respite from everyday life became solitary confinement as the COVID-19 pandemic raged. Meaningful connection with friends more or less stopped, and the days and weeks began to blend together.

In a broader sense, we saw tribalism and folly rearing their ugly heads, fueled by a tremendous amount of misinformation. Anti-vaccine groups grew in members, no doubt fed by the free time people had to be on social media. I'm still shocked at the politicization of vaccines, particularly with the role the Trump administration played in disseminating disinformation. Especially as someone planning on going into a field of science for my future career, I found it extraordinarily disheartening to see such widespread denial. At the outset I was hopeful that people would be more conscientious when it came to the source and quality of information they consume, but these last 18 months have certainly shown a tendency of people to do the opposite.

A silver lining, however, was the opportunity for independent learning and self-study. During sporadic bouts of motivation, I found myself able to take advantage

of the borderline excessive free time I had, and study anything I wanted. From set theory to lambda calculus to the compositions of Scriabin and Czerny, I was able to explore interests in a way that felt natural in that I could self-impose as much or as little rigor as I wanted, any time I sat down to work. That is unquestionably a skill that I want to take with me moving out of the pandemic.

Going forward, I hope to see that the shambolic response from the international community to climate change will shake us into being more willing to take radical measures in the battle against such an obvious rising human threat (as unrealistic as it may be). I see youth activism playing a central role in this. Many young people got involved in activism and community mutual aid. The necessity of staying up to date with politics and epidemiological news forced many to be more aware of their local and national communities. I'm hopeful that the steps set in motion by this will continue, and that a myriad of concrete changes can be achieved. These last 18 months have been full of ugliness, but it's precisely that fact which makes now the time to push in the right direction.

.....

*Lucas Blakeslee is a junior at Santa Fe High School.*

**Editor's note:** Thank you to Nina Bunker Ruiz, Santa Fe High School teacher and former Tumbleweeds editor, for providing these essays. We welcome articles and personal essays by students. Please contact Claudette Sutton, [claudette@sftumbleweeds.com](mailto:claudette@sftumbleweeds.com), with your ideas.



## STUDENT ARTIST Q & A

Student Artist: Jolene Campion, age 13, lives in Espanola and attends McCurdy Charter School.



**WHAT TITLE WOULD YOU GIVE THIS PICTURE?**  
Little Wolf

**WHAT MATERIALS DID YOU USE TO MAKE YOUR ART PIECE?**  
Canvas, pencil, paint, line, shape, space and color

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT DOING ART?**  
What I like most is how free it makes me feel. It's like I'm in my own world where I can do anything that I put my mind to.

# Health



## Love, Loss and Hope

Sky Center director reflects on the pandemic's effects on teens • By Ivy St. Clair

### Over the course of the last year and a half, the

COVID-19 pandemic has flipped our lives upside down. With so many new battles to fight and conflicts to address, many of us have struggled to prioritize our mental health. The pandemic caused surges of stress, loneliness, depression and anxiety in millions of people. Teens were hit especially hard, and the isolation they endured has changed how we all approach mental health.

Apryl Miller, the executive director of the Sky Center, a suicide prevention and mental health awareness organization here in Santa Fe, is very aware of the increase in depression and anxiety among young people due to COVID-19.

Isolation was a key factor, Miller said.

"One thing that we know helps with anxiety and depression is social connection, being with people you love," she said. "Due to COVID, that got cut off of course."

The Sky Center works primarily as the hub for the New Mexico Suicide Intervention Project, an initiative that bloomed into a nonprofit in 1994 to combat teen and adolescent suicide in Northern New Mexico. The pandemic has brought increased need for the program's services.

Teens often struggle with their identity, and the isolation of the last year and a half made it clear how important a sense of belonging is for young adults, Miller said.

"We consider community to be a sort of antidote to suicide and depression," she added. "The feeling of 'I need to show up because my friends are counting on me' is comforting."

The Sky Center has established connections with schools and hospitals in Santa Fe. The center also has a prominent social media presence and uses its platform to help reach teens in the state through more accessible means.

As more of us get vaccinated and the world seemingly begins to return to somewhat-normalcy, it's unclear whether the mental health issues that spiked during the pandemic will come to an end or continue.

Miller believes the key will be acknowledgement and understanding, maintaining a world where social and emotional intelligence are prioritized at home and in the classroom.

"We're coming out of this with more respect for the importance of reaching out and feeling confident enough to ask for help," she said.

Miller reflected on the long-term effects of the pandemic for everyone.

"Did it make all of us more socially anxious and codependent?" she asked, adding, "It made us realize the courage it takes to jump into the social world."

Miller believes social reconnection will be vital in healing this generation, but since the virus took hold, she and her colleagues aren't sure how the social scene has changed or what implications it will have on teen mental health. She hopes family conflict will begin to settle as the limits and quarantine lift, but until she sees it in action, she said, she can't be certain.

As for the time our generation lost due to COVID, Miller knows it's bound to have lasting impacts.

"Some of those softer traditional welcomes and transitions were lost," she said. "Elements that ease worry and anxiety and make change easier."

Miller is hopeful the end of the pandemic will help adolescent mental health and that our reintroduction to the world will come with ease. But only time will tell.

*Ivy St. Clair is an incoming freshman at New York University, interested in anthropology, international relations and sociology. You can reach her at ivy.ian.st.clair@gmail.com.*



Sky Center's 2020 interns met a surge in stress, loneliness, depression and anxiety among Santa Fe-area families. (Above) "Poetic Rage" - High School artwork submitted by Santa Fe Public School's Art Education Department.

Courtesy photo

# Help for You and Those You Care About

By Annai Burrola

The mission of the Sky Center, a program of the New Mexico Suicide Intervention Project, is to "meet the challenge of youth suicide in Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico through lasting solutions that encourage resiliency, courage, connection and hope." Its services include:

## Free Family Counseling

Confidential, accessible, family counseling for youth is offered afternoons and evenings at The Sky Center, located behind Ortiz Middle School in Santa Fe. Family treatment services are available at no cost for families with children from birth through age 21.

## Inner & Outer Life Skills

This a skill-based group program that bolsters resiliency through emotional (inner) resources and increases external supports within the family, school and larger community. It is a key intervention for youth at high risk of drug involvement, family estrangement, school failure and suicide risk. Groups are currently offered in six Santa Fe County schools.

## Adolescent HUGS

The Adolescent HUGS Program is an intensive, outpatient behavioral health partnership between The Sky Center/NMSIP and CHRISTUS St. Vincent Regional Medical Center. Therapists respond 24/7 to the needs of high-risk children and adolescents, under age 22, who are frequent utilizers of the CHRISTUS St. Vincent Emergency Department.

## Postvention Crisis Services

The term "postvention" refers to suicide prevention and intervention services that reduce the threat of further suicides and attempts. Postvention services can help community and school leaders navigate the incomprehensible aftermath of a youth suicide or other traumatic event in a school community.

## Natural Helpers

This peer-helping program teaches selected students from a diverse cross-section of middle and high school students, ages 12 to 18, how to respond effectively when they or their peers experience a wide range of difficulties. Its purpose is to create a caring and supportive community within each school.

To learn more about or participate in any of these programs, or the Sky Center's community and graduate training programs, go to [skycenter.nmsip.org](http://skycenter.nmsip.org), email [theskycenter@nmsip.org](mailto:theskycenter@nmsip.org), or call (505) 473-6191. Se habla español.

If you or someone you know needs immediate help, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, (800) 273-8255, or text HELP to 741-741 for free, 24-hour support from the Crisis Text Line.

Annai Burrola, LMSW, is the development coordinator of The Sky Center.



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# Voces de la familia



## Amor, pérdida y esperanza

La directora del Sky Center reflexiona sobre los efectos de la pandemia en los adolescentes

Por Ivy St. Clair • Traducido por Flor de María Oliva

### En el año y medio pasado, la pandemia de

COVID-19 ha puesto de cabeza nuestras vidas. Con tantas batallas que librarnos y conflictos que enfrentar, muchos hemos luchado para darle prioridad a nuestra salud mental. La pandemia aumentó la tensión, soledad, depresión y ansiedad de millones de personas. Los adolescentes se han visto especialmente afectados y el aislamiento que han sufrido ha cambiado la forma en que todos enfocamos la salud mental.

Apryl Miller, la directora ejecutiva del Sky Center, una organización en Santa Fe de concienciación sobre la salud mental y prevención de suicidios, está muy consciente del aumento en casos de depresión y ansiedad entre los jóvenes debido a COVID-19.

El aislamiento fue un factor clave, dijo Miller.

“Una cosa que sabemos ayuda con la ansiedad y la depresión es la conexión social, estar con personas que queremos”, dijo. “Debido a COVID, eso se cortó, por supuesto.”

El Sky Center trabaja principalmente como el núcleo para el Proyecto de intervención anti suicidio de Nuevo México, una iniciativa que se convirtió en entidad no lucrativa en 1994 para combatir el suicidio de adolescentes en el Norte de Nuevo México. La pandemia ha aumentado la necesidad para los servicios del programa. Con frecuencia los adolescentes luchan con asuntos de identidad y el aislamiento del último año y medio dejó claro lo importante que es el sentido de identificación para los adultos jóvenes, dijo Miller.

“Consideramos que la comunidad es como un antídoto contra el suicidio y la depresión”, agregó. “El sentir ‘necesito presentarme porque mis amigos cuentan conmigo’ es reconfortante.”

El Sky Center ha establecido conexiones con escuelas y hospitales en Santa Fe. También tiene una presencia prominente en los medios sociales y usa su plataforma para ayudar a comunicarse con los adolescentes en el estado a través de medios más accesibles.

Conforme más personas se vacunan [contra COVID-19] y el mundo aparentemente empieza a volver a alguna forma de normalidad, no está claro si los problemas de salud mental que se dispararon durante la pandemia terminarán o continuarán.

Miller piensa que la clave será reconocer y entender, mantener un mundo en el cual la inteligencia emocional y la social se priorizan en el hogar y en la escuela.

“Estamos saliendo de esto con mayor respeto por la importancia de contactar a alguien y sentir la suficiente confianza para pedir ayuda”, dijo.

Miller reflexionó sobre los efectos a largo plazo que tendrá la pandemia para todos.

“¿Nos hizo más ansiosos socialmente y codependientes?”, preguntó y agregó: “Nos hizo darnos cuenta del valor que requiere involucrarse en el mundo social.”

Miller cree que la reconexión social será vital para sanar a esta generación; sin embargo, desde que el virus arremetió, ella y sus colegas no están seguros de cómo los ambientes sociales han cambiado o qué implicaciones tendrá en la salud mental.

# Dónde buscar ayuda

La misión del Sky Center, un programa del Proyecto de intervención contra el suicidio de Nuevo México (NMSIP, por sus siglas en inglés), es “enfrentarse al desafío del suicidio juvenil en Santa Fe y el Norte de Nuevo México por medio de soluciones duraderas que fomentan la resiliencia, valor, conexión y esperanza”. Sus servicios incluyen:

## Terapia familiar gratuita

Terapia familiar asequible y confidencial para jóvenes se ofrece en las tardes y noches en el Sky Center, que queda atrás de Ortiz Middle School en Santa Fe. Hay servicios de tratamiento gratis para familias con hijos de 0-21 años de edad.

## Habilidades para la vida interior y exterior

Éste es un programa basado en habilidades que reafirman la resiliencia por medio de recursos emocionales (internos) y aumentan apoyos externos dentro de la familia, la escuela y la comunidad. Es una intervención clave para la juventud en riesgo de involucrarse en las drogas, distanciarse de la familia, fracasar en los estudios y suicidio. En la actualidad se ofrecen grupos en seis escuelas del Condado Santa Fe.

## Abrazos de adolescentes

Este programa (Adolescent HUGS) intensivo de salud conductual ambulatorio es una asociación del Sky Center/NMSIP y el Centro médico regional CHRISTUS St. Vincent. Los terapeutas responden 24/7 a las necesidades de niños y adolescentes menores de 22 años en alto riesgo que usan con frecuencia los servicios del Departamento de emergencias de CHRISTUS St. Vincent.

## Servicios de posvención

El término “posvención” se refiere a los servicios de intervención y prevención que disminuyen la amenaza de más suicidios e intentos de suicidio. Estos servicios pueden ayudar a los líderes escolares y comunitarios a navegar las incomprensibles repercusiones de un suicidio juvenil u otro evento traumático en una comunidad escolar.

## Ayudantes naturales

Este programa de ayuda entre compañeros, formado por estudiantes seleccionados de un grupo diverso de jóvenes que cursan la escuela secundaria y la preparatoria, de 12 a 18 años de edad, les enseña a responder eficazmente cuando ellos o sus compañeros experimentan una amplia gama de dificultades. Su propósito es crear una comunidad de apoyo solidaria dentro de cada escuela.

Para más información o para participar en cualquiera de estos programas o los comunitarios o de formación de posgrado del Sky Center, visite [skycenter.nmsip.org](http://skycenter.nmsip.org), o escriba a [theskycenter@nmsip.org](mailto:theskycenter@nmsip.org), o llame al (505) 473-6191. Se habla español.

Si Ud. o alguien que conoce necesita ayuda inmediata, llame al teléfono de emergencia nacional para la prevención del suicidio (800) 273-8255, o mande un mensaje de texto que diga HELP al 741-741, la línea que ofrece apoyo las 24 horas en casos de crisis.

*Annai Burrola, LMSW, coordinadora de desarrollo del Sky Center.*

de los adolescentes. Espera que los conflictos familiares empiecen a calmarse conforme las limitaciones y la cuarentena disminuyan, pero dijo que hasta que no lo vea no puede estar segura.

En cuanto al tiempo que nuestra generación ha perdido debido a COVID, Miller sabe que tendrá efectos duraderos.

“Algunas de esas acogidas y transiciones tradicionales más tiernas se perdieron”, dijo. “Elementos que alivian la preocupación y ansiedad y hacen más fácil el cambio.”

Miller tiene la esperanza de que el fin de la pandemia ayude a la salud mental de los adolescentes y que nuestro regreso al mundo llegue con facilidad. Pero sólo el tiempo lo dirá.

*Ivy St. Clair está empezando sus estudios en la Universidad de Nueva York. Le interesan la antropología, relaciones internacionales y sociología. Puede comunicarse con ella en [ivy.ian.st.clair@gmail.com](mailto:ivy.ian.st.clair@gmail.com).*



Fotos de cortesía.

Extrema izquierda, estudiantes de Santa Fe ayudaron a crear el Árbol de gratitud del Sky Center. Arriba, el aspecto y el sentir de las reuniones de equipo del Sky Center cambiaron durante la pandemia global.

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# Arts



Photo by Joseph Hohlfeld



Photo by Hilary Schacht

## Music Mattered Then, Music Matters Now

How music kept children's spirits bright during the pandemic and bridges them to an ever-brighter future • By Leanne D. DeVane

### When the pandemic hit in spring 2020, schools

closed right after spring break and our society went into critical stay-at-home orders. Although these were necessary to protect the health of our citizens, schoolchildren found themselves without their stabilizing anchors: school, school activities, social networks and school-based support systems. For many students, the sudden isolation from their outside world left them feeling lonely and bored. For students who related strongly to music, life without their music classes, ensembles and activities caused an emptiness.

Our community of Santa Fe educators and support personnel shared concerns, and everyone pitched in to respond. Virtual classes and technology support appeared quickly. Santa Fe's supporting civic and nonprofit organizations also responded with virtual and online learning, reaching children and youth with supportive instruction across multiple learning disciplines. Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival was no exception. Within two weeks of school closures, our music instructors were meeting with our enrolled students in a virtual format, providing direct small-group instruction.

Hilary Schacht, an instructor with our violin program, Strings in Our Schools, said at first she felt it would be impossible to teach beginning violin virtually. But then she met her first-year elementary students online, and her excitement grew.

"They proved to me at every lesson that they were eager to learn," Schact said. "They worked hard in and out of class. Learning from home with the support of their families gave my students the inspiration to make music, do their best and learn as much as they could."

"Parents, grandparents and siblings witnessed their little violinists succeeding in their disciplines, improving their technique and their knowledge of music, and growing a respectable repertoire. Families loved to hear them play their violins. Through their hard work, they improved rapidly."

Aleah Avila, a fourth-grade student at Tesuque Elementary, said violin lessons during the pandemic brought her happiness.

"Violin makes me happy," she said. "I don't think about the bad things like COVID. It takes all my worries away. It makes me joyful. I am so lucky to have the chance to learn violin. It feels so good."

Music gave kids something valuable and life-giving to do during a time of unprecedented change and isolation. Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival education programs completed the school year last May by celebrating with online elementary violin recitals and a high school recital as well, where the accomplishments of our Dream Big Private Lesson Program students were highlighted. Three of our Dream Big students were high school seniors who, despite the limitations of online learning, successfully auditioned as music majors with the University of New Mexico.

During our Summer Youth Concert, an elementary-aged child heard the second movement of Mendelssohn's Piano Trio in E-Flat Major and shared his impressions with festival artists Paul Huang, Cecile Licad and Peter Stumpf.

"The music started out happy, then went to sad," the boy said. "Then it was happy for a while, then sad, and then happy before it ended sadder."

The child was letting the artists know he was *listening* — that the music spoke to him on a deep, personal level.

Paul Huang, the trio's violinist, replied: "We talk about how we feel, or the emotions we perceive when we hear music — and we have no other way than to describe it as happy and sad, yet the emotions are more complex than those simple words convey. When we hear beautiful music, we feel complicated emotions that words cannot describe."

"This is why we attend concerts — so we can feel those emotions that only music can express."

These stories point to the process of human development: the development of emotions, the heart and the whole child. Through music, children undergo a gentle tempering of social-emotional sensibilities and abilities. Immersion in music sets the stage and assists them in finding their identity and self-worth within an infinitely complex society. The heart is kindled and educated; emotional intelligence is developed; confidence and a willingness to take risk emerge.



Photo by Joseph Hohlfeld

Children gain experience developing personal relationships while they learn to work both individually and as a team. Regardless of their choice to pursue music or not, students, through immersion in music experiences, become more fully developed human beings. Further, the existing annals of music-related research tell us repeatedly and unequivocally that music makes kids smarter — it develops cognitive and intellectual function, increasing children's abilities to succeed in school.

As we enter the 2021-22 school year, school districts will be challenged with a need for academic remediation as they work to recover lost learning from the 2020-21 school year. As schools and school districts strategize to meet this need, arts education must be prioritized as a core element of a well-rounded education and included as part of those strategies. It is all too easy for decision-makers in our educational institutions to place music and its sustaining infrastructure to the side, treating it as a dispensable "frill" in light of the looming targets of language, science and math. To lose or diminish arts education opportunities during this process, however, takes away an irreplaceable component of human, intellectual and emotional development.

It's important to emphasize that this social-emotional and human development of which I speak stands in *absolute equal proportion* to the urgent call for academic development. Without human development, academic goals cannot be realized nor approached.

Arts ARE Education, a current national campaign in support of arts education for all students, states: "All preK-12 students have the right to a high-quality school-based arts education in dance, music, theater and visual art taught by certified professional arts educators in partnership with community arts providers. As a well-rounded subject area under federal education law, the Every Student Succeeds Act, music and the arts support the social and emotional well-being of students, foster a welcoming and safe school environment, and encourage inclusivity through multiple pathways for every child's creative voice."

As a parent or caregiver, please do all you can to support music education for your child. As students step

out of the home and back into the classroom, music learning is even more important to their overall well-being. Kids need positive ways to express themselves. It is our responsibility as adults in this society to help them find ways to do that.

I suggest these family commitments for elementary through high school students:

- Talk with your elementary school about music classes offered there. There are usually music classes for all children, but often there are additional ensemble classes in choir, guitar, violin and band, requiring specialized and deliberate enrollment processes.
- Encourage your child to enroll in music ensembles in their middle or high school. If there are obstacles to enrollment, reach out to school administrators to advocate for your child.
- Talk about music and the arts in a positive way that reinforces its value in their lives. Let your child know you fully support their interest in music.
- Seek out extra-curricular arts and/or music opportunities in our community through nonprofit organizations such as Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Santa Fe Symphony, Performance Santa Fe, Santa Fe Pro Musica and Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association.

A music educator shared this quote on the Arts ARE Education website, affirming the value of arts education in the life of a child: "One of my middle school students actually said it best when he wrote on the wall of my music and theater classroom: 'You will find yourself here!'"

*Leanne D. DeVane is the director of education and outreach with Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. She formerly served as the music education coordinator for Santa Fe Public Schools.*



Photo by Joseph Hohlfeld



Photo by Jairi Avila

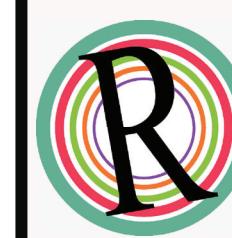
Previous page from left: Students from the Española Northern Regional Arts Center meet Miami String Quartet violinist Cathy Robinson at a Santa Fe Chamber Music 2021 Youth Concert. Violins rule with Strings in Our Schools students. Dream Big Private Lesson Program students Aminadab Corral and Lourdes Armenta Cazares perform with Santa Fe Youth Symphony. This page from top: A Santa Fe Chamber Music 2021 Youth Concert attendee meets the cello, and Miami String Quartet cellist Keith Robinson and violist Scott Lee. "Violin makes me happy," said Aleah Avila of violin lessons during the pandemic. "I don't think about the bad things like COVID. It takes all my worries away. It makes me joyful."

## Read More; Listen More

**Arts ARE Education** is a national campaign in support of arts education for all students. Learn more at [www.artsareeducation.org](http://www.artsareeducation.org).

**National Association for Music Education** is dedicated to expanding music as part of the core curriculum of schools in the United States. For more information on the benefits of music education, visit [www.nafme.org](http://www.nafme.org).

**Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival**, the preeminent chamber music producing organization in the Southwest, maintains year-round education programming which serves children and youth throughout northern New Mexico through direct instruction and live concert experiences. For more information on Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival education programs, visit [www.santafechambermusic.org/education](http://www.santafechambermusic.org/education).

 **Recycle Santa Fe Art Festival**  
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**Santa Fe Community Convention Center**  
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We're excited to be back after canceling the 2020 show due to COVID!

•Art Market • Student Juried Art Exhibit

•Adult Juried Art Exhibit• Make & Take Art Activities

[www.recyclesantafe.org](http://www.recyclesantafe.org)



# Museums



## FIND THEM ALL?

Horses are represented in folk art from all around the world. How many can you find in the gallery?

### Need some help?

If you need a hand finding the horses here, turn this page upside down for some clues below!

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# Collections of Wonder

Get reacquainted with your state's museums this fall • By Melanie LaBorwit

## We create. We connect. We tell stories.

We teach. We reveal. We are museums! Museums are true places of wonder, and Santa Fe is incredibly fortunate to have so many in our community.

What is a museum, anyway? There are so many different kinds, but they all have remarkable collections that help visitors learn more about art, history, science and culture. Once I visited a museum with a friend who had never been before, and he saw a painting that he had seen in a book and asked me if the picture was real. Yes, indeed, museums are full of the real stuff! That is part of what makes them so exciting, and they are open to visitors of all ages. You don't have to prepare to go in, or learn anything before you go, just come with an open mind and get ready for a memorable experience.

Many of us have not been to museums for a while, and some of us may have never visited a museum ever. This is the perfect time to get acquainted or reacquainted with these amazing institutions, their family-friendly programs and all the resources they have to offer. Santa Fe has so many things to see, you could visit a new exhibition just about every week and never run out of new experiences right here at home.

In addition to just going to any museum and exploring their exhibitions and getting to look up close at their collections, museums have always been terrific places to find educational, fun and often free activities for kids. In the coming year, check out the museum websites to learn what is being scheduled. Many hands-on workshops and experiences were shut down during the last year, but museum educators everywhere are dreaming up fun creative ways to engage our youngest visitors. Come explore the stories we tell and learn about our own heritage, step back in time, and grow a wider understanding about our state. Turn your kids into lifelong learners and leave the museums hungry to come back for more.

Think you can't afford a museum visit a whole family? With the state museums, kids up to age 16 are always admitted free! And grownups in New Mexico can come in free, too, on the first Sunday of every month. Friday evenings, the state museums have extended hours until 7 p.m., when admission is free for all New Mexicans.



Want to go on a different day? Go to your favorite public library and check out a free museum pass. One of the niftiest ideas to come along in a while, the museum passes make it possible for all New Mexicans to visit their favorite collections, providing free admission for up to six people at 15 state museums and historic sites for up to two weeks.

Here are some family-friendly hotspots.

At the **New Mexico Art Museum**, located at 107 West Palace, right on the Plaza, there are no events currently being scheduled, but lots of beautiful and inspiring art to discover! Before you go, check out the menu of cool activities on their web page. Learn how to plan a portrait, make a puppet, try a collage and more, at [nmartmuseum.org/education/activities-and-resources](http://nmartmuseum.org/education/activities-and-resources).

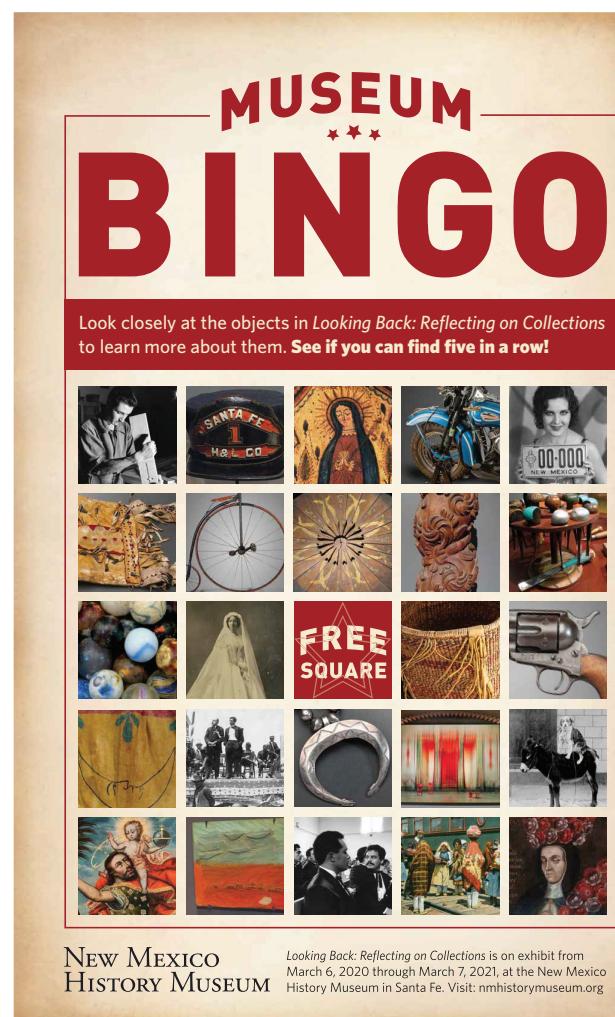
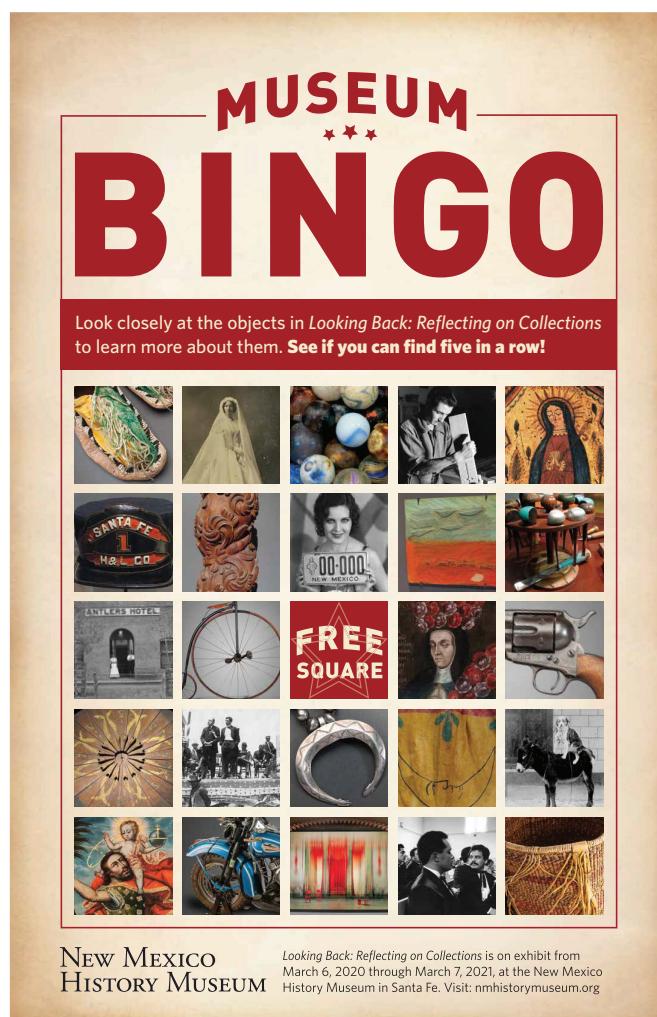
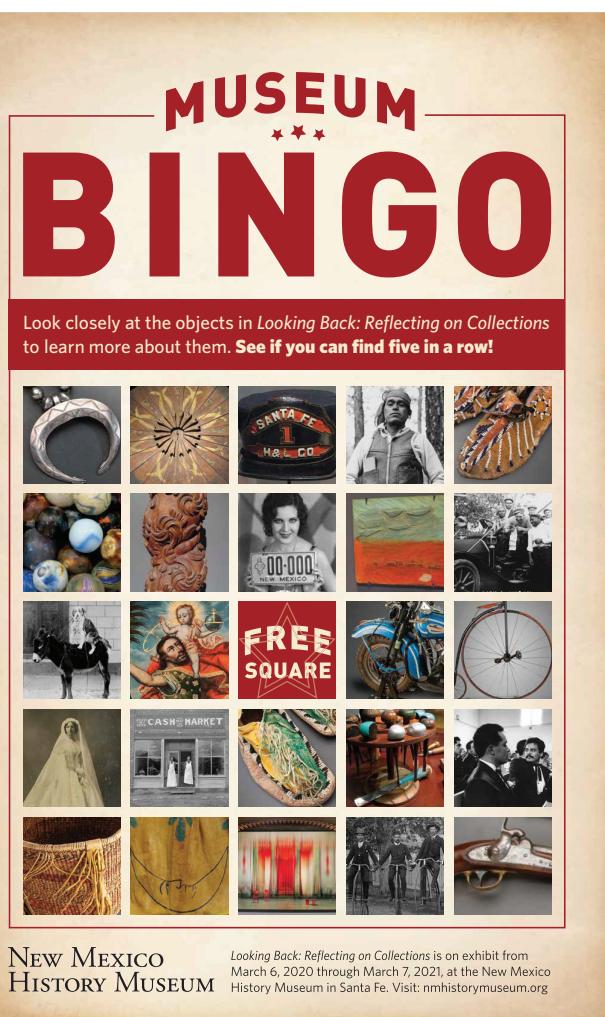
At the **New Mexico History Museum**, 113 Lincoln Ave., right off the Plaza, you can play museum bingo! Ask for a card, then check out the exhibit called Looking Back to learn more about how the museum got its collections. When you go home, check out all the Making History videos on the website: You can make a pretty fan or try a corn husk doll! Visit [nmhistorymuseum/education](http://nmhistorymuseum/education) and click on the video playlist.

The **Museum of International Folk Art** has a permanent collection that you can never quite see in its entirety, and now they have a new show which explores creative ways that people made masks this past year. Starting in August, the family program Art Alive will be distributing kits to take home with supplies for different projects that you can make. They are located on Museum Hill, right next to the Museum of Indian Art and Culture, at 710 Camino Lejo, just off the Old Santa Fe Trail.

The **Museum of Indian Art and Culture** is always a treat. On Oct. 13, the museum will host a pottery demonstration with guest artist Franklin Peters from Acoma Pueblo at 10 a.m. Check out the website and download your own beautiful MIAC coloring book: 135216\_MIAC\_ColoringBook\_reduced (1).pdf ([indianartsandculture.org](http://indianartsandculture.org))!

The **Georgia O'Keeffe Museum** at 217 Johnson St. is now open, but tickets must be purchased in advance. Children under 18 are free. Check out the O'Keeffe from Anywhere page on their website. Draw trees, paint clouds, collect nature souvenirs and find other great projects at [www.okeeffemuseum.org/creative-activities](http://www.okeeffemuseum.org/creative-activities).

Looking for outdoor activities? Check out the **Santa Fe Botanical Garden** at 725 Camino Lejo and the **Randall Davey Audubon Nature Center** at 1800 Upper Canyon Road. Take a garden tour, take a bird walk, explore nature! Even in the fall, when some of the blooms have faded, these natural wonderlands are fun to explore and hike. Did you know that there are over 100 bird species that have been spotted at the Audubon center? Check out their websites, [santafebotanicalgarden.org](http://santafebotanicalgarden.org) and [randall-davey.audubon.org](http://randall-davey.audubon.org), to learn what is coming up.



Courtesy photos

Opposite page and above: Activities for young visitors to the Museum of International Folk Art include a coloring station, weaving station and treasure hunt. Below: Pick up a Bingo card at the New Mexico History Museum, then take it with you through the Looking Back exhibit, extended through Oct. 17, to learn more about how the museum acquires its collections.

This is just getting the museum-loving adventure started. Look into other historical sites nearby, national and state parks, living history museums like **El Rancho de las Golondrinas** to the south, the **Pajarito Environmental Education Center** in Los Alamos, or the **Poeh Cultural Center** in Pojoaque to the north. Have fun!

*Melanie LaBorwit, museum educator at the New Mexico History Museum, has always loved museums, ever since she was a kid and her family visited a new exhibition almost every weekend.*

# Giving an A to STEM!

STEAM education opens doors to Santa Fe students

By Connie Tooker Nuñez

## Science, technology, engineering, art and math

(STEAM) are subjects that spark children's curiosity and exploration from a young age. While we often see four of those subjects connected in the acronym STEM, an increasing number of educators are recognizing the importance of art in that mix. STEAM career pathways open so many doors into thriving occupations: aerospace, chemistry, computer science, teaching, physics, engineering, mathematics, visual and performing arts, finance, entrepreneurship, coding and much more.

To help Santa Fe families learn about various local nonprofits that develop kids' imaginations through STEAM programming, the Del Norte LOV Foundation will host a Community STEAM Fair, on Monday, Nov. 8, National STEAM Day. This event will showcase local nonprofit organizations such as Santa Fe Community College Kid's Campus, Santa Fe YMCA, Museum of International Folk Art, New Mexico History Museum, Girls Inc. of Santa Fe, Santa Fe Children's Museum and more — with information and activities for people of all ages to learn from and enjoy. Please save the date and visit our website at [www.dncu.com/community-engagement/dncu-lov-foundation/](http://www.dncu.com/community-engagement/dncu-lov-foundation/) for more information on ways for you, your children and community members can participate and get involved.



The students work on designing their drone.



A STEM Santa Fe mentor and student work on building a drone.

Courtesy photos

STEM Santa Fe is one of the nonprofit organizations supported by the Del Norte LOV Foundation. I had the honor of speaking recently with Lina S. Germann, Ph.D., MBA, its founder and chief executive officer, to discuss the importance of STEAM education with a local perspective. The following are highlights from our chat.

**Connie: Tell us about how and why you created STEM Santa Fe.**

**Lina:** I'm from Lebanon and left when I was 20 years old. I really liked school and enjoyed math and science. I wanted to be an engineer, but due to the Lebanese political and social climate, my parents encouraged me to go another route, so I majored in chemistry. I got into a Ph.D. program with a full ride to study in the United States at Boston College. My husband, whom I met while I was in my Ph.D. program, got a job opportunity at the Los Alamos National Lab, so we moved to Santa Fe. My first job was as a chemistry teacher at Santa Fe High, and I realized early on from teaching New Mexican teenagers the importance of and the extreme need for STEM education. I volunteered at my children's schools and organized community events, always with a STEM focus. I helped the planning of Expanding Your Horizons conferences, which promote STEM concepts and practical applications for girls. Fast forward to 2016, [when] I decided to create a nonprofit organization, STEM Santa Fe, that advocates for, develops and provides STEM programming, mentoring and resources for all youth, especially underrepresented groups in STEM, to realize their potential and expand their opportunities in a dynamic world.

**Talk about what STEM Santa Fe does.**

STEM Santa Fe promotes STEM education through school-based programs and project-based programs with real-world applications for children entering fifth

through 12th grade. We promote STEM career and college pathways. Our school-based programs include STEM Scaffold Santa Fe at middle and high schools serving Capital High School, Milagro Middle School, Española Valley High School and El Camino Real Academy. Our out-of-school, project-based programs include our Julia Robinson Mathematics Festivals, STEM Pathways for Girls Conference, STEM Day Camps during the summer months, and mentoring and supporting teams and clubs in STEM competitions, such as Congressional App Challenge, New Mexico Electric Car Challenge, RoboRAVE and Mathcounts. We train mentors who are STEM professionals on how to deliver these comprehensive programs that are age-appropriate, practical and fun. We work with STEM teachers to do project-based learning and to positively ignite STEM education to our students.

**Why do you think STEM education is so important for New Mexican youth?**

We need diversity in STEM disciplines. Our youth have so much potential, and through STEM Santa Fe programming, we uncover interdisciplinary topics, subjects and aspects of STEM — biology, computer science, geology, anatomy, chemistry and so much more. STEM Santa Fe empowers students to look beyond, and encourage their parents, guardians and families to have a comprehensive look at STEM education as a career pathway for success.

**What about kids that don't like STEM? Why do you think it's important for them?**

Regardless if you like these subjects or not, it is significant to learn STEM themes because they propel workforce development, leadership, self-confidence and teamwork. New Mexico is the prime place for diversity and workforce development, while benefiting our New Mexican youth. I am very passionate about this and strive each and every day to widen the pipeline. We need New Mexican kids to enjoy STEM and to be exposed to more STEM topics. Then they can be confident, whether they like it or not.

**Can you tell us a story of a child in your program that had a breakthrough and had a positive transformation from your programs?**

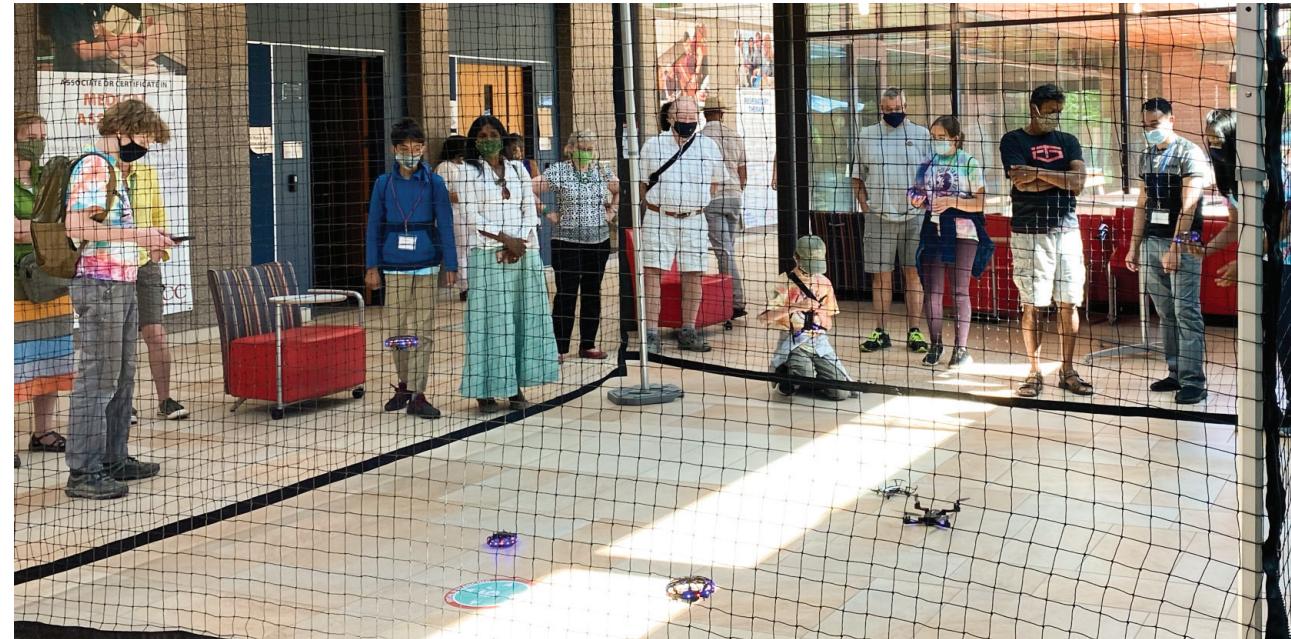
Recently, seven middle school and high school age students attended STEM Day Camp week specifically on app design and coding, hosted at the Santa Fe Community College. They were mentored by STEM Santa Fe staff and a computer science teacher. These students were tasked to create their own apps. They designed apps defining and promoting resources on recycling, Afro-justice, indigenous issues, food banks, blood banks, gender, transgender and non-binary social justice issues. It was transformative, empowering and fantastic! Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez attended the in-person and socially-distanced showcase at the end of that STEM Day Camp week. These seven students presented to the congresswoman and to their families their app designs. These apps were entered in a competition, the Congressional App Challenge, and are proudly representing New Mexico. We'll know the winners by Nov. 1. This experience was transformative for these students because they now have a sense of community, like-minded friends, and adults who believe in their STEM abilities.

**Why are there programs specific to girls in your organization?**

As an identified female STEM practitioner, I know from personal experience the importance of having role models in the profession you want to excel at, and the importance of a social support system. I strive to have female mentors educate identified female students in our STEM Santa Fe programming. We are proud that STEM Santa Fe is female-led. We strive to build girls' interests in STEM and expose them to the variety of STEM careers, particularly in our STEM Pathways for Girls program's annual conference and monthly workshops. It goes back to promoting diversity in STEM. It is very personal to me. I'm passionate about being inclusive and continuing to provide STEM role models for all New Mexican youth.

**Can you elaborate on your community partners and collaborators that make STEM Santa Fe?**

To name a few, we work with Northern New Mexico College, Santa Fe Community College, STEM professionals who volunteer their time, Los Alamos National Lab, Sandia Labs, New Mexico Tech, New Mexico school districts, local businesses and individual contributors. We are grateful to Del Norte Credit Union and the Del Norte LOV Foundation's support and partnership. We annually serve about 600-700 of students from fifth to 12th grade, with about 5,000 contact hours of enriching in-



After building their drones, then students fly their drone in a cage, as parents watch.

novative experiences in STEAM. It is awesome to have our local community support us in such a significant way.

**How can parents/guardians sign up their children to participate in your programs?**

Our school-based programs are teacher-led. We currently serve students and teachers at Milagro Middle School, Capital High School and El Camino Real Community School. I am always in discussions with teachers and schools administrators on how to enrich their students' education with STEM topics and career paths. In terms of our out-of-school programs, I encourage parents/guardians/families to sign up their children through our website and learn more about what we offer at [stemsantafe.org/](http://stemsantafe.org/) and sign up for our monthly e-newsletter.

*Connie Tooker Nuñez is the director of the Del Norte LOV Foundation, an independent foundation associated with Del Norte Credit Union.*



**SANTA FE  
Girls' SCHOOL**  
Dedicated to Middle School Girls

**Admissions  
Open House  
October 17<sup>th</sup>  
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**4th & 5th grade  
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# Children's Book Nook

# *Creating a Culture of Literacy in Santa Fe*

## **Barack Obama put it succinctly: "Reading is**

the gateway skill that makes all other learning possible." It is a vital skill in our modern world, critical for educational and occupational opportunities and for the daily negotiation of our information society. It is also a source of joy for people of all ages.

Thoughts from a retiring youth services librarian

By Michele Behar Reich

In Santa Fe, many children and youth struggle with learning to read and reading to learn. We know that literacy development begins at birth and that home libraries and parents reading to their children are the cornerstone for literacy development. We know that the amount of time adults read with preschoolers and young children appears to correlate with their learning to read in elementary school and is cited as perhaps the most critical factor in educational attainment. Reading books aloud to children stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. It helps them develop language and listening skills and prepares them to understand the written word and then be able to write, often considered to be the highest form of critical thinking. When read aloud to, children hear new words and there are opportunities to understand the meaning of these new words which builds background knowledge.

As a youth services librarian for Santa Fe Public Library, I have been fortunate to witness the joy experienced by a young child realizing she/he can read. I have also witnessed this same joy from children telling stories. Telling a story provides opportunities for creative thinking, along with language development. There is also the excitement of being able to write a story. Asking a child to describe a picture



Photo by Claudette Sutton

Courtesy photo

they drew or painted and writing down their words are the beginnings of telling and writing stories. Telling and writing stories help children develop sequencing, a skill necessary not only for reading but for math as well.

Opportunities for all these experiences can be found at the [Santa Fe Public Library](#). We offer a variety of programming that supports literacy development for children and youth of all ages, with offerings that include Books and Babies (English and Spanish); Pre-school Story Time; Summer Reading Program; Winter Reading Program; Crafts After School; Science After School; Mathemagical Times (in partnership with [Math Amigos](#)); Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (in partnership with [STEM Santa Fe](#)) and Chess Club.

Whether we are providing a science, math, chess or craft program, we create an environment that is literacy rich. This supports children in making the transition from learning to read to reading to learn. Additionally, understanding the critical importance of having books at home, we participate in partnerships that allow us to provide children with books to begin or add to their home library. One of the programs, [1000 Books Before Kindergarten](#), provides a free book for every 100 books read. We give books out when families register for the Summer Reading Program and hand out books at the end of the program. This is true for the Winter Reading Program as well.

Parents often ask youth services librarians for help in supporting their children's literacy development. Here are some suggestions:

- Ask questions about what's being read.
- Have your child tell you a story.
- Have your child draw a picture and then tell you what the picture is about. Write down her/his words on the picture.
- Let your child choose the books she/he wants to read. Remember that reading is reading, so the newspaper, magazines and graphic novels are all good sources of reading.
- Read books and sing songs that rhyme. Ask a children's librarian to help you choose books that do this. You can request books by going to this link: [santafelibrary.org/children/request-childrens-personalized-checkout-bundles/](http://santafelibrary.org/children/request-childrens-personalized-checkout-bundles/)

And don't forget: You are your children's first teachers. You have already taught them complicated skills and processes: walking, tying shoes, getting dressed, etc. In terms of reading to and with them, you know your children and instinctively understand the context within which they respond to a story or query. A child's response is always the best response.

"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free," Frederick Douglass said. Remember that reading is the gateway to new worlds.



Opposite page bottom left: Youth Services Librarian Walter Cook welcomes visitors to the children's room at the Main branch of the Santa Fe Public Library. Other photos: Children's programs in English and bilingual English/Spanish abound at our public libraries.



Courtesy photos

A culture of literacy is an important factor in building readers, and home libraries play a part, as do the examples of family members. To learn more about ways the Santa Fe Public Library can support your family in this endeavor, through the exciting world of books and activities that support literacy development, free to all, visit us at [santafelibrary.org/](http://santafelibrary.org/).

*Michele Behar Reich, MLS, Ed.D., who retired in August as a youth services librarian for the Santa Fe Public Library, has also been a teacher and university-based teacher educator.*

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# DEMONSTRATION AND EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Play, learn, observe and explore in Santa Fe's living room: The Railyard Park

By Kathryn York



Kids and families at Railyard Park witness firsthand the value of child-directed play.

**As the mornings turn crisp and** the golden lantern trees swell once more with seed pods, we welcome autumn back to Santa Fe. Fall brings incredible beauty to the Railyard Park. The cottonwood trees transform the park into a golden wonderland that twinkles. Fall also brings a wealth of learning and recreational opportunities. The Railyard Park is a unique public green space in the heart of Santa Fe that demonstrates environmental sustainability while offering free education opportunities. This fall, visit the 11-acre park to observe healthy soil principles in action, join a free educational workshop, or engage in child-directed play at the Pop-Up Playground in October. Embrace the change of the seasons in Santa Fe's Railyard Park!

All healthy ecosystems have one thing in common — healthy soil! Soil is the foundation that supports diverse plant, animal, insect, microbe and fungal communities. In turn, biodiverse landscapes — areas that support a wide variety of life — help buffer the most serious ramifications of climate change. In the face of increased drought conditions locally, healthy soil also helps retain precious rainwater.

How do we support healthy soil?

- 1) Keep soil covered with mulch or groundcover.
- 2) Minimize soil disturbance on cropland and minimize external inputs.
- 3) Maximize biodiversity.
- 4) Maintain a living root.
- 5) Integrate animals into land management, including grazing animals, birds and beneficial insects or keystone species, such as earthworms.

The Railyard Park was designed based on a lengthy public input process in which the community championed the use of native, drought-tolerant plant species. A part of this request was met by incorporating two acres of native grasslands into the park's design. However, the native grasslands were over-mowed and over-watered for almost a decade, reflecting care usually given to turfgrass.

To restore the native grasslands to their original vision and eliminate the need for regular irrigation or mowing, the Railyard Park Conservancy, alongside the city of Santa Fe and the Quivira Coalition, began to use goats and sheep to mow, fertilize, aerate and build



Courtesy photos

healthy soil in restoration areas. One to three times a year, the Graze Days program brings out a herd of 60 goats and sheep. This, combined with a cessation of mowing, has allowed the grasslands to begin to recover. In its third year, the grassland restoration effort has begun re-seeding with blue gramma, sheep fescue and wildflower seed. The hoof divots make a perfect home for a seedling.

Besides remediating grassland landscapes, the removal of weed barrier throughout the park also supports healthy microbe communities and airflow within soil. Using a permeable weed barrier was a common practice when the park opened, but with more knowledge, volunteers are working to remove the weed barrier. When strolling through the park, see if you can spot the park's "leave the leaves" ethos. You may notice that organic material is scattered over bare soil or left in situ where horticultural care is provided. This practice helps build soil and provides habitat for diverse insect communities. Besides seeing "leave the leaves" in person, you can also learn more about the benefits of this method at a free Leaving the Leaves workshop offered by the New Mexico Healthy Soil Working Group on Sept. 19 in the Railyard Park.

Who says education always comes in the form of workshops and classes? This fall, families are invited to the Railyard Park to witness firsthand how child-directed play is, indeed, valuable education. The third Pop-Up Playground event will be Sunday, Oct. 17. This event is designed to allow kids to create their own world and, in doing so, learn through working together, trying new things and making mistakes. Remember how fun it was to make pillow forts in your parent's living room? Well, imagine having access to a wide-open park with unlimited amounts of wood, pallets, logs, cardboard, nature bits and paint to create your own masterpiece. Pop-Up Playgrounds are just that!

The fall feels like a time for the locals. After a busy season of markets and tourism, the cooler days invoke feelings of comfort, home and family. The Railyard Park was designed to be Santa Fe's family room, in juxtaposition with Santa Fe's living room — the Plaza. This fall, connect with your local greenspace and engage with a depth of experiential learning and free community offerings at your family room, the Railyard Park.

For the most up to date information, please check out the Railyard Park Conservancy's website, [www.railyardpark.org](http://www.railyardpark.org).

*Kathryn York is the marketing director for the Railyard Park Conservancy.*

A herd of goats and sheep are brought to the Railyard Park a few times a year to mow, fertilize, aerate and build healthy soil in the grassland restoration program.

# Dance!

CLASSES STILL OPEN! BOYS' & GIRLS' BALLET, ADVANCED BALLET, PRE-JAZZ/TAP, MODERN CONTEMPORARY, & MORE!

**REGISTER ONLINE NOW!**

[ndi-nm.org/fall2021](http://ndi-nm.org/fall2021)

**FALL**

**NDI NEW MEXICO**

THE DANCE BARNS | 140 Alto Street | Santa Fe | 505.795.7088

**Ages 3-18+**

**QUEEN BEE'S**

**Kids**

**Sing**

**A**

**long**

**with**

**TeacherB**

*Wednesdays at 10AM!*

A free music class for kids 6 and under at the Railyard Park Conservancy! kids must be accompanied by an adult

Group Instrument Classes for Kids and Adults this October!

[queenbeemusicassociation.org](http://queenbeemusicassociation.org)

# After-School Directory

## After-School Directory

### BELISAMA IRISH DANCE

Belisama Irish Dance is now partnered with Rhythm Sol Santa Fe to bring you expanded offerings of Creative Movement alongside our Irish Dance classes. Ages 2+ as well as parent and child classes. Performance and competition opportunities available. Call Adrienne Bellis, director, (505) 670-2152, or go to [www.belisamadance.com](http://www.belisamadance.com).

### CAPOEIRA SANTA FE

Fun Brazilian movement and martial arts featuring music, games, kicks and defenses. Saturdays 9 to 9:45 a.m. for families. Wednesdays from 5 to 6 p.m. for kindergarten through sixth grade. \$20 per month. Railyard Performance Center, 1611 Paseo De Peralta, Santa Fe. Call (505) 474-3060 or visit [www.capoeirasantafe.com](http://www.capoeirasantafe.com).

### DRAGONFLY ART STUDIO

Now enrolling for In-studio "After-school art classes", "no-school art days" and our "Holiday workshops". Celebrate creatively with customized art birthday parties, holiday gatherings, and get-togethers with family in the studio or on Zoom across the country! (Materials provided.) Enroll yourself or your child to discover your inner artist. Custom art classes stimulate imagination, creativity, and experimentation with a wide range of art media and materials to inspire the Art Zone through life. Visit [dragonflyartsf.com](http://dragonflyartsf.com) or call Oceanna, (505) 670-5019.

### ENTREFLAMENCO YOUTH OUTREACH

#### FLAMENCO AND SPANISH DANCE

Ongoing classes through the year. Ages 7 to 16 learn to dance and gain performance opportunities. Space is limited. Entreflamenco Santa Fe School of Flamenco is located at 135 West Palace Avenue on the second floor. Call (505) 209-1302 for more information.

### JEFF SPEAKMAN'S KENPO 5.0

Now enrolling for 2019-2020 Martial Arts After-school program. Space is limited. Currently servicing Turquoise Trail, Amy Biehl, Nina Otero, Piñon, Nava, Wood Gormley, E.J. Martinez, Chaparral, Kearney, Atalaya, Santo Niño and César Chávez. Contact us to see if we're able to pick up at your location. Kids will learn martial arts, arts and crafts, games, movies and more! Your child will gain self-confidence, respect, nonviolent conflict resolution skills and self-discipline in an active, fun environment. Call (505) 412-2428, email [kenp05.0santafe@gmail.com](mailto:kenp05.0santafe@gmail.com) or go to [www.jeffspeakmankenponm.com](http://www.jeffspeakmankenponm.com).

### JF MAZUR ART STUDIO

Afterschool & Homeschool art classes introduce children to fine art media such as acrylic paint, watercolor, charcoal, ink, graphite and much more. Each lesson introduces students to a new artist like Gustav Klimt, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Amy Sherald, or a new concept such as perspective, composition, and light/shadow. Students will improve their skills in drawing and painting as well as enrich their love of art and art history. Classes meet Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Ages 5-12 & 10-15. For more information about registration, visit us at [www.jfmazurstudio.com](http://jfmazurstudio.com), call 240-321-9212 or email [jillian@jfmazurstudio.com](mailto:jillian@jfmazurstudio.com)

### KAREN PARSONS PIANO STUDIO

Online piano lessons work! Piano students are learning and performing in online recitals for parents and friends. Ages 6 and up (adults too). Over 25 years experience. Nationally certified teacher of music through Music Teachers National Association - [mtna.org](http://mtna.org). B. S. Piano Performance, M. A. Piano Pedagogy. [iteachpno@icloud.com](mailto:iteachpno@icloud.com)



Kindergarten through second graders artwork submitted by Santa Fe Public School's Art Education Department.

Contact for a short trial online lesson. Contact Karen Parsons, (505) 428-0997, or [iteachpno@aol.com](mailto:iteachpno@aol.com).

### MAY CENTER FOR LEARNING

May Center for Learning provides after-school tutoring in reading, writing and math and coaching in executive functioning skills. In addition, we offer academic language therapy for students with dyslexia and related learning differences. May Center also provides educational evaluations that diagnose learning differences. May Center is located at 1200 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe. Please call (505) 983-7407 for May School or (505) 780-5439 for May Center Tutoring and Evaluation, or visit [www.maycenter.org](http://www.maycenter.org) for more information.

### MOUNTAIN KIDS!

Mountain Kids! offers nature and adventure education for kids 5-16

and adults too! For kids we offer: Wildschool for Homeschool children (Mon/Wed), Mountain Kids! After School Program, Monthly Saturday walks on the Wildside, Monthly Teen Mountaineers, Backpacking and Mountain Biking. For adults, we offer Mountain Biking and Mountain Mamas - hikes, mindfulness in the mountains and more. For info and to register: [www.sfmountainkids.com](http://www.sfmountainkids.com), or call 505-886-1207.

### NDI-NEW MEXICO AT THE DANCE BARN

Over 70 classes per week to choose from including Ballet, Creative Movement, Hip-Hop, Jazz, Tap, Modern, Pointe, and more. Registration is open until September 15 for ages 3-18, and ongoing for 18+. Pre Jazz/Tap, Ages 5-6, Boys' Ballet, Ages 7+, Advanced Contemporary Jazz, Ages 13+, Advanced Ballet Classical Variations, Ages 13+, Adult Ballet, Ages 18+, and Adult Pilates/Yoga, Ages 18+. Visit [www.ndi-nm.org/fall2021](http://www.ndi-nm.org/fall2021) or call (505) 795-7088.

# After-School Directory

## NEW MEXICO FENCING

New Mexico Fencing Foundation is Santa Fe's only full-time facility dedicated to fencing. The club offers a relaxed, supportive environment that builds the skills that make a successful youth fencer — whether training to be a recreational athlete or an international competitor. Classes and private coaching are available for youth and teen fencers. Equipment is provided for beginning classes. 1306 Clark Road, Santa Fe. Contact [nmfencing@gmail.com](mailto:nmfencing@gmail.com), or register at [www.nmfencing.org](http://www.nmfencing.org).

## PANDEMONIUM PRODUCTIONS' MUSICAL THEATRE PROGRAM

"The Lightning Thief! The Percy Jackson Musical" Children's Musical Theater After-School Classes, Ages 7-17, August 23 – November 21. Rehearsals: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 3:45 pm to 5:45 pm, El Museo Cultural de Santa Fe, 555 Camino de la Familia Call Director, Chris Leslie @ (505) 920-0704 for Registration Information; [www.pandemoniumprod.org](http://www.pandemoniumprod.org)

## SANTA FE CLIMBING CENTER

After-school classes emphasize fun and games while introducing your child to climbing with a qualified instructor. Fall sessions: Aug. 23 to Oct. 17, and Oct. 18 to Dec. 19. Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, ages 9 to 12, 3:30-5 p.m. Monday or Wednesday, ages 5 to 8, 3:30-5 p.m. Friday, ages 5 to 8, 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday or Sunday, ages 5-12, 12:30 to 2 p.m. Climbing Team: Tuesday and Thursday 4:30-6:30 p.m. or Wednesday and Friday 4 to 6 p.m. 3008 Cielo Court, Santa Fe. Call (505) 986-8944 or visit [www.climbsantafe.com](http://www.climbsantafe.com).

## SANTA FE LOWRANCE FAMILY YMCA

The Santa Fe Family YMCA offers After-School Programs (Elementary School Age) and Out-Of-School-Time Day Camps.

These programs provide a fun, safe place to go during out-of-school time. We include learning experiences in which children can build on literacy, math, science, art, health and wellness and social skills. Homework assistance is provided. So that you may plan ahead the YMCA will be offering an Out-of-School-Time Winter Camp in December. Please contact the Y at {SOS} 595-1515 extension 4 or visit our website at [www.ymcacnm.org](http://www.ymcacnm.org).

## SANTA FE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS AND SCIENCES

Delve into a new experience at Santa Fe School for the Arts and Sciences! Enrichment programs for students third through eighth grade including Dungeons and Dragons, Tang Soo Do (Korean martial arts), Rhythm Drum Club, Soccer, Math Club, Beginning Group Guitar and Art Studio, in a supportive, hands-on expeditionary learning environment. Bright minds. Kind hearts. Whole child. Students from other schools are welcome but must provide their own transportation. Contact [office@santafeschool.org](mailto:office@santafeschool.org), call (505) 438-8585 or visit [www.Santafeschool.org](http://www.Santafeschool.org).

## SANTA FE TENNIS CLUB

After-school tennis programs are underway at the Santa Fe Tennis and Swim Club. Program offers two and three-day a week group lessons for ages 8 and up, beginners through advanced. Scholarships available. Located at our beautiful facility in the Museum Hill neighborhood, at 1755 Camino Corrales. Call (505) 988-4100, email [club@santafetennis.net](mailto:club@santafetennis.net), or visit [www.santafetennis.net](http://www.santafetennis.net) for more information.

## SANTA FE YOUTH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

Music and performance education for young musicians (2nd - 12th grade) in orchestra, chamber music, mariachi, and jazz. Elementary Strings Program: After-school classes in beginning viola, violin, and

cello w/ instrument. Auditions for performance groups are available in January, May, and August/September. Strict Covid-safe protocols. For details: visit [www.sfysa.org](http://www.sfysa.org), call (505) 672-5565 x 202, or email [Alyssa@sfysa.org](mailto:Alyssa@sfysa.org).

## SANTA FE SKATE SCHOOL

Indoor ramps for year-round fun! After-School / Home School Programs are now underway. Sessions and lessons for all abilities, ages 3 and up. Use our school boards and gear to get started, we also have a complete shop to help students properly gear up. Curriculum includes skateboard homework and exploring the history of skateboarding using our museum and video library. Birthdays, parent's night out, monthly events. 825 Early Street #H. Call 474-0074 or go to [www.SkateboardSafety.com](http://www.SkateboardSafety.com).

## THE SCHOOL OF ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet School offers high-quality dance instruction for ages 4 and up. Fall registration is now open. Conveniently located. Financial aid is available. Please contact Karen (505) 983-5591 for more information.. Enroll online at [www.aspensantafeballet.com](http://www.aspensantafeballet.com).

## WISE FOOL FALL AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Kids in Pre-K through 6th grade can run away with the circus! Students in our popular circus classes are physically active, practice teamwork and have a ton of fun. They learn stilt walking, unicycling, aerial fabric, trapeze, juggling, puppet making, clowning and more in a safe, noncompetitive environment. Fall session runs August 30 through Dec. 10. Classes fill up quickly. Scholarships and payment plans available. Cost varies based on age and class type. Register at [www.wisefoolnewmexico.org](http://www.wisefoolnewmexico.org) or call (505) 992-2588. Wise Fool Studios, 1131-B Siler Road, Santa Fe.



Kindergarten through second graders artwork submitted by Santa Fe Public School's Art Education Department.

# Fall Calendar - September



High School artwork submitted by Santa Fe Public School's Art Education Department.

**Our community is doing its best to provide services, access and opportunities while trying to keep families safe. Organizations may require specific safety measures, and event details may fluctuate given the circumstances.**

Visit our online event calendar at [www.TumbleweedsMag.com](http://www.TumbleweedsMag.com) for the latest developments.

## September

### QUEEN BEE'S KIDS SING ALONG

**1-Sep | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM**

Get those kids singing, moving, and shaking! Teacher B leads kids ages 0 to 6 through a variety of engaging music games and sing-alongs, from classics like 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' to energetic originals like 'Dinosaurs Don't Roar Anymore.' Free to attend. Find more information at [www.queenbeemusicassociation.org](http://www.queenbeemusicassociation.org).

### TODDLER TUNES

**1-Sep | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

Children and parents sing and dance together, while Lauren Marcus shares simple ways to engage children in music and movement. For more information, visit [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

### ¡CUENTOS! STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES

**1-Sep | 11:30 AM**

Join Las Golondrinas volunteers for an hour of stories every Wednesday and Saturday under the large cottonwood trees by the historic school house. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket to sit on and are welcome to bring a picnic. Free with Las Golondrinas admission. Go to [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org) for more information or call (505) 471-2261.

### ESPAÑOLA EARLY RELEASE DAY

**1-Sep | 12:50 PM - 1:30 PM**

España Public Schools Early Release for Professional Development Days. Elementary students are released at 12:50 P.M. and Secondary students are released at 1:15 P.M.

### WHAT'S UP WEDNESDAY

**1-Sep | 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

No Thank You, Evil! involves a Guide and two to four other players. It's a group game of make-believe, played in the joint imagination of the players and Guide. The Guide sets the scene, the players create characters and decide what they want their characters to do, and together they determine what happens next. Suitable for ages 5 to 10 years. Visit [www.laconm.libcal.com](http://www.laconm.libcal.com).

### CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

**1-Sep | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM**

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

### ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

**2-Sep | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story

for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

### TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

**2-Sep | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

### HOMESCHOOL BIRD BANDING FIELD TRIP

**3-Sep | 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM**

Calling all homeschoolers! Come meet the wild birds of the Jemez Mountains and observe an active field science investigation in the backcountry of Bandelier. Students learn about migratory bird biology and how science is conducted in the field. Learn more at [www.peecnature.org](http://www.peecnature.org).

### WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH WALTER - ONLINE SFPL

**3-Sep | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and activities with the Main Children's Librarian Walter. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

### CHILDREN'S AUTHOR READ ALOUD

**3-Sep | 3:00 PM**

Andrew Lovato will read from his children's book "Elvis Romero and Fiesta de Santa Fe: Featuring Zozobra's Great Escape." Followed with a fun craft! This is an outside event and masks are required. Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

### MOVIE CLUB

**3-Sep | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

### FIRST FRIDAYS FREE AT HARWOOD MUSEUM OF ART

**3-Sep | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Open late on the first Friday of each month, Harwood Museum celebrates Norteño Car Culture and the Santos Tradition. The Santo Lowrider exhibition unrolls the unique story of New Mexico's interwoven expressions of devotional art and lowrider culture. Learn more at [www.harwoodmuseum.org](http://www.harwoodmuseum.org).

### FIRST FRIDAY FRACTALS

**3-Sep | 8:00 PM & 9:00 PM**

This spectacular, award-winning fulldome planetarium show that takes viewers on a tour of the fractals in nature and zooms through infinitely complex mathematical fractals. Featuring original music, the show is both educational and highly entertaining, and suitable for audiences 3 and up. Shows are at 8 and 9 p.m. on the first Friday of each month. Learn more at [www.nmnaturalhistory.org](http://www.nmnaturalhistory.org).

### FIESTA DE SANTA FE

**4-Sep | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

A New Mexico tradition since 1712, honoring the city's unique history and culture, featuring an art market of treasures by local artists, food

and entertainment on the Plaza throughout the weekend. Santa Fe Plaza, [www.santafefiesta.org](http://www.santafefiesta.org).

### BILINGUAL BOOKS AND BABIES

**4-Sep | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

Join us on Saturday mornings for books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. (Outside event, masks required) For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org)

### FIESTA DE LOS NIÑOS

**4-Sep | 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

Enjoy talented dance groups, magic shows and the animals of this historic ranch; make crafts including masks, rope and walking sticks; play historic games and more. El Rancho de Las Golondrinas, [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org).

### ¡CUENTOS! STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES

**4-Sep | 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

Join Las Golondrinas volunteers for an hour of stories every Wednesday and Saturday under the large cottonwood trees by the historic school house. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket to sit on and are welcome to bring a picnic. Free with Las Golondrinas admission. Go to [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org) for more information or call (505) 471-2261.

### CHUCKWAGON SUPPER SHOWS - WILDLIFE WEST NATURE PARK

**4-Sep | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Our Saturday night Chuckwagon Supper Shows are a local favorite. Suppers include a traditional barbecue dinner of brisket and chicken (vegetarian option is always available), wildlife presentation, our unique falcon show, and live music. Call the park for reservations. (505) 281-7655

### FREE FIRST SUNDAYS

**5-Sep | Various Times**

Admission is free on the first Sunday of every month to New Mexico residents with ID to the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Museum of International Folk Art, New Mexico History Museum, and the New Mexico Museum of Art. [www.newmexicoculture.org](http://www.newmexicoculture.org)

### DAWN 'TIL DUSK DAY

**5-Sep | All Day**

Los Luceros Historic Site will extend its hours from sunrise to sunset on the first Sunday of each month. During this time, entrance into Los Luceros will be free for New Mexico residents and includes access to the site's visitor center, historic buildings, trails, and picnic areas. Learn more at [www.nmiculture.org](http://www.nmiculture.org).

### LABOR DAY

**6-Sep | All Day**

School and Administrative offices closed for España, Los Alamos, Santa Fe School Districts for this holiday.

### BIRTH TALK LOS ALAMOS

**6-Sep | 11:00 AM**

As a free community talk circle for pregnant women and mothers, Birth Talk Los Alamos is a safe place to learn about options in pregnancy and childbirth. It is held online the first Monday of each month. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

### STORYTIME AND CRAFT - "ALPHABET PET PARADE"

**7-Sep | 10:30 AM**

Come marching in for storytime and crafts at the

# Fall Calendar - September

Southside Library Branch. "Alphabet Pet Parade" by author Judith Torres will be read. Crafts and activities will follow. This event is outside and requires visitors to wear a mask. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org)

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

**7-Sep | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14 to 24 year old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## QUEEN BEE'S KIDS SING ALONG

**8-Sep | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM**

Get those kids singing, moving, and shaking! Teacher B leads kids ages 0 to 6 through a variety of engaging music games and sing-alongs, from classics like 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' to energetic originals like 'Dinosaurs Don't Roar Anymore.' Free to attend. Find more information at [www.queenbeemusicassociation.org](http://www.queenbeemusicassociation.org).

## ADVENTURES IN STEM

**8-Sep | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM & 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM**

Join us for kid-friendly STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities hosted by STEAM Lab. All ages welcome! Learn more about this regular program at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

## ¡CUENTOS! STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES

**8-Sep | 11:30 AM**

Join Las Golondrinas volunteers for an hour of stories every Wednesday and Saturday under the large cottonwood trees by the historic school house. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket to sit on and are welcome to bring a picnic. Free with Las Golondrinas admission. Go to [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org) for more information or call (505) 471-2261.

## WHAT'S UP WEDNESDAY

**8-Sep | 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

No Thank You, Evil! involves a Guide and two to four other players. It's a group game of make-believe, played in the joint imagination of the players and Guide. The Guide sets the scene, the players create characters and decide what they want their characters to do, and together they determine what happens next. Suitable for ages 5 to 10 years. Visit [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

## CONCIERTO DE MARIACHI MATINEE

**8-Sep | 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

Performances by well-known mariachi groups, dancers and alumni of the Santa Fe Fiesta Council's Youth Mariachi Workshop, followed by refreshments and biscachitos. Learn more about ticket sales at [www.santafefiesta.org](http://www.santafefiesta.org).

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

**8-Sep | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM**

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ANIMAL BREATHING AND STRETCHING

**9-Sep | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

Breathing deeply is important for overall health.

Helping children – and ourselves – to practice deep breathing is entertaining when done in tandem with movement. Promotes wellbeing and reduces stress. Helps children manage emotions. Learn more at [www.growingupnm.org](http://www.growingupnm.org).

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

**9-Sep | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

**9-Sep | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

## NIGHT WITH A NERD: JIM ECKLES – HISTORY OF THE WILDLIFE AT WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE

**9-Sep | 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM**

Jim Eckles will be presenting a fascinating presentation on the "History of Wildlife at White Sands Missile Range," delving into some of the history of the Missile Range while exploring the diverse and interesting wildlife in the area. [www.lanl.gov/museum](http://www.lanl.gov/museum).

## YOUTH & TEEN MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS DUE

**10-Sep |**

Ages 8-17 are welcome to apply to volunteer at the Mesa Public Library. See website for more information on opportunities and application process. [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

**10-Sep | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and activities with the Main Children's Librarian Walter. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## MOVIE CLUB

**10-Sep | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## CHATTER

**11-Sep | 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM**

Chatter weaves together traditional and contemporary chamber music programs that include a reading by a poet of the morning. Visit [www.sitesantafe.org](http://www.sitesantafe.org) for more information.

## ADVENTURES IN STEM

**11-Sep | 11:00 AM**

Join us for kid-friendly STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities hosted by STEAM Lab. All Ages Welcome! Learn more about this regular program at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

## ¡CUENTOS! STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES

**11-Sep | 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

Join Las Golondrinas volunteers for an hour of stories every Wednesday and Saturday under the large cottonwood trees by the historic school house. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket to sit on and are welcome to bring a picnic. Free with Las Golondrinas admission. Go to [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org) for more information or call (505) 471-2261.

## FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

**11-Sep | 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

Everyone is invited to play Bingo and win fun prizes at the Vista Grande Public Library. This a fundraiser event to support the library, and will take place in the Library's Meeting Room. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org) or call us at (505) 466-7323.

## SOLEMN PROCESSION

**12-Sep | 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM**

Procession will travel from the Palace of the Governors to the Cathedral Basilica. Retrace the footsteps of New Mexico's ancestors as they process with the image of the La Conquistadora from the oldest capital building in the United States – the Palace of the Governors. Learn more at [www.santafefiesta.org](http://www.santafefiesta.org).

## GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

**13-Sep | 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

The second Monday of each month at the Family Strengths Network, this kinship care group meets monthly via Zoom to discuss the many challenges associated with kinship. Connect with others who are navigating the challenges of raising a grandchild and learn about resources that can help. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org). Registration is required.

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

**14-Sep | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14- to 24-year-old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## QUEEN BEE'S KIDS SING ALONG

**15-Sep | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM**

Get those kids singing, moving, and shaking! Teacher B leads kids ages 0 to 6 through a variety of engaging music games and sing-alongs, from classics like 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' to energetic originals like 'Dinosaurs Don't Roar Anymore.' Free to attend. Find more information at [www.queenbeemusicassociation.org](http://www.queenbeemusicassociation.org).

## TODDLER CRAFT TIME

**15-Sep | 11:00 AM**

Family Strength Network holds a monthly toddler crafts workshop. It includes hands-on activities which are a pleasure for grown-ups and kids alike. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

## ¡CUENTOS! STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES

**15-Sep | 11:30 AM**

Join Las Golondrinas volunteers for an hour of stories every Wednesday and Saturday under the large cottonwood trees by the historic school house. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket to sit on and are welcome to bring a picnic. Free with Las Golondrinas admission. Go to [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org) for more information or call (505) 471-2261.

## ESPAÑOLA EARLY RELEASE DAY

**15-Sep | 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM**

España Public Schools Early Release for Professional Development Days. Elementary students are released at 12:50 P.M. and Secondary students are released at 1:15 P.M.



Third through fifth graders artwork submitted by Santa Fe Public School's Art Education Department.

# Fall Calendar - September

## WHAT'S UP WEDNESDAY

15-Sep | 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

No Thank You, Evil! involves a Guide and two to four other players. It's a group game of make-believe, played in the joint imagination of the players and Guide. The Guide sets the scene, the players create characters and decide what they want their characters to do, and together they determine what happens next. Suitable for ages 5 to 10 years. Visit [www.laconm.libcal.com](http://www.laconm.libcal.com).

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

15-Sep | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

16-Sep | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

16-Sep | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

## BOTANICAL WATERCOLOR CLASS

16-Sep | 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

This class introduces botanical drawing and painting through the meditative and rich medium of watercolor. All supplies will be provided. Learn more at [www.okeeffemuseum.org](http://www.okeeffemuseum.org).

## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

17-Sep | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and activities with the Main Children's Librarian Walter. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## MOVIE CLUB

17-Sep | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## ALI RYERSON: WOMEN IN JAZZ

17-Sep | 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

In collaboration with Santa Fe Music Collective, SITE Santa Fe presents a monthly evening of live jazz performances by some of the most talented musicians around. This concert will feature renowned flutist Ali Ryerson with her long time sidemen Bert Dalton and Milo Jaramillo. Visit <http://www.sitesantafe.org>

## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

17-Sep | 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Everyone is invited to a free showing on the Vista Grande Public Library big screen. The film is rated PG. Located in the Library's Meeting Room, families can bring their own snacks, pillows, and blankets. For the movie title or more information, call the library at (505) 466-7323.



Third through fifth graders artwork submitted by Santa Fe Public School's Art Education Department.

## DROP IN ART-MAKING WITH THE GEORGIA O'KEEFFE MUSEUM - MAIN LIBRARY

18-Sep | 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Come and make a wonderful craft with help from our friends at the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. This is an outside event and masks will be required. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## BILINGUAL BOOKS AND BABIES

18-Sep | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Join us on Saturday mornings for books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. (Outside event, masks required) For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ¡CUENTOS! STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES

18-Sep | 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Join Las Golondrinas volunteers for an hour of stories every Wednesday and Saturday under the large cottonwood trees by the historic school house. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket to sit on and are welcome to bring a picnic. Free with Las Golondrinas admission. Go to [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org) for more information or call (505) 471-2261.

## SANTA FE BOTANICAL GARDENS COMMUNITY DAY - FREE ADMISSION

19-Sep | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

FREE Admission for NM Residents & Students! Enjoy the Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill during the height of its beauty for fall equinox! No pets allowed in the Garden except service animals. Visit [www.santafebotanicalgarden.org](http://www.santafebotanicalgarden.org).

## STORYTIME AND CRAFT - CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE

21-Sep | 10:30 AM

Come read some beautiful Hispanic stories together and celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month! Kids will do a fun craft after our stories. This event is outside and masks will be required. Located at the Southside Library. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

21-Sep | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14 to 24 year old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## QUEEN BEE'S KIDS SING ALONG

22-Sep | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Get those kids singing, moving, and shaking! Teacher B leads kids ages 0 to 6 through a variety of engaging music games and sing-alongs, from classics like 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' to energetic originals like 'Dinosaurs Don't Roar Anymore.' Free to attend. Find more information at [www.queenbeemusicassociation.org](http://www.queenbeemusicassociation.org).

## ¡CUENTOS! STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES

22-Sep | 11:30 AM

Join Las Golondrinas volunteers for an hour of stories every Wednesday and Saturday under the large cottonwood trees by the historic school house. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket to sit on and are welcome to bring a picnic. Free with Las Golondrinas admission. Go to [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org) for more information or call (505) 471-2261.

## WHAT'S UP WEDNESDAY

22-Sep | 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

No Thank You, Evil! involves a Guide and two to four other players. It's a group game of make-believe, played in the joint imagination of the players and Guide. The Guide sets the scene, the players create characters and decide what they want their characters to do, and together they determine what happens next. Suitable for ages 5 to 10 years. Visit [www.laconm.libcal.com](http://www.laconm.libcal.com).

## CREATIVE CODING I

22-Sep | 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

A virtual workshop on Making and Coding, suitable for teachers of grades 3-8, all skill levels welcome. In this series of workshops, participants will learn to use simple, common materials with micro:bit microcontrollers in creative ways. This first workshop will be an introduction with no previous coding experience required. No cost. Register at [www.explora.us](http://www.explora.us).

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

22-Sep | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

23-Sep | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## FEEDING YOUR BABY: THE FIRST SIX WEEKS

23-Sep | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Free group. Information and support regarding the first six weeks and feeding your newborn. Class will be in English. Learn more at [www.growingupnm.org](http://www.growingupnm.org).

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

23-Sep | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

## EASY, BREEZY: A GUST OF AIR

23-Sep | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

A virtual workshop for early childhood teachers,

# Fall Calendar - October

librarians, and out-of-school time educators. You'll experiment with the power of air as you discover how airplanes fly and birds soar. You'll also learn techniques for making and testing parachutes in the classroom! Register at [www.explora.us](http://www.explora.us).

## RANDOM FANDOM

**23-Sep | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

Welcome all 7th-12th graders to Random Fandom! The fourth Thursday night each month (except November and December), we get together at the main library make things, play games, win prizes, eat snacks, and talk. [www.laconm.com](http://www.laconm.com).

## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH

## WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

**24-Sep | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and activities with the Main Children's Librarian Walter. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## KID'S CRAFT

**24-Sep | 2:00 PM**

Crafting time is here! Children ages 4-8 will enjoy a story and a craft at our Southside Library Branch. This event is outdoors and masks are required. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## MOVIE CLUB

**24-Sep | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## BIRD WALK AT LEONORA

## CURTIN WETLAND PRESERVE

## WITH ROCKY TUCKER

**25-Sep | 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

Spend a morning in the unique wetland habitat and learn about the diversity of birds from Rocky Tucker, volunteer bird guide. Admission: \$3 Adults, SFBG Members FREE. Visit [www.santafebotanicalgarden.org](http://www.santafebotanicalgarden.org) for more information.

## CIRCLE OF SECURITY

**25-Sep | 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Join us while we learn different parenting skills and connect with other parents in the community. All based on the Circle of Security parenting program. Class will be held in English only. RSVP required! Learn more at [www.growingupnm.org](http://www.growingupnm.org).

## LUCKY DUCKY DAY

**25-Sep | 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

It's time to celebrate! Join Family Strengths Network for Rubber Duck races and a fun day of activities for the whole family. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

## :CUENTOS! STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES

**25-Sep | 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

Join Las Golondrinas volunteers for an hour of stories every Wednesday and Saturday under the large cottonwood trees by the historic school house. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket to sit on and are welcome to bring a picnic. Free with Las Golondrinas admission. Go to [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org) for more information or call (505) 471-2261.

## SANTO LOWRIDE TAKEOVER - A NORTEÑO LOWRIDER CRUISE AND CAR SHOW

**25-Sep | 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Meet us on Taos Plaza to enjoy an amazing line-up of music, dance and food and a special gathering of Norteño lowriders. For this free community event, nearly 100 vintage lowriders will park on the Taos Plaza setting the stage for an evening of music and dance. Visit [www.harwoodmuseum.org](http://www.harwoodmuseum.org).

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

**28-Sep | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14 to 24 year old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## QUEEN BEE'S KIDS SING ALONG

**29-Sep | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM**

Get those kids singing, moving, and shaking! Teacher B leads kids ages 0 to 6 through a variety of engaging music games and sing-alongs, from classics like 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' to energetic originals like 'Dinosaurs Don't Roar Anymore.' Free to attend. Find more information at [www.queenbeemusicassociation.org](http://www.queenbeemusicassociation.org).

## :CUENTOS! STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES

**29-Sep | 11:30 AM**

Join Las Golondrinas volunteers for an hour of stories every Wednesday and Saturday under the large cottonwood trees by the historic school house. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket to sit on and are welcome to bring a picnic. Free with Las Golondrinas admission. Go to [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org) for more information or call (505) 471-2261.

## ESPAÑOLA EARLY RELEASE DAY

**29-Sep | 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM**

Española Public Schools Early Release for Professional Development Days. Elementary

students are released at 12:50 P.M. and Secondary students are released at 1:15 P.M.

## WHAT'S UP WEDNESDAY

**29-Sep | 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

No Thank You, Evil! involves a Guide and two to four other players. It's a group game of make-believe, played in the joint imagination of the players and Guide. The Guide sets the scene, the players create characters and decide what they want their characters to do, and together they determine what happens next. Suitable for ages 5 to 10 years. Visit [www.laconm.libcal.com](http://www.laconm.libcal.com).

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

**29-Sep | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM**

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

**30-Sep | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

**30-Sep | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

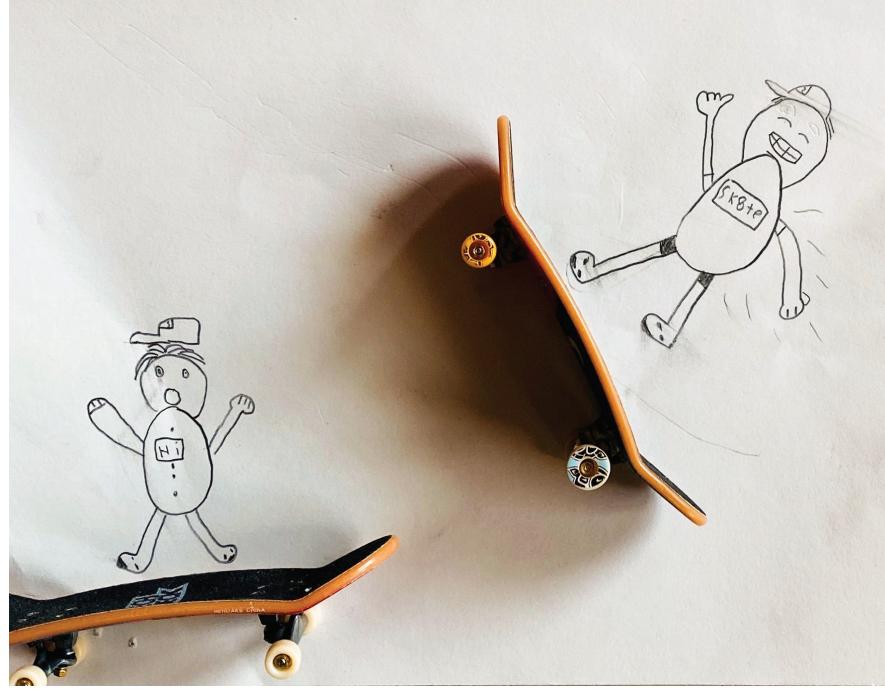
# October

## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH

## WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

**1-Oct | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and activities with the Main Children's Librarian



Third through fifth graders artwork submitted by Santa Fe Public School's Art Education Department.

Walter. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## MOVIE CLUB

**1-Oct | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## BOOK SALE

**1-Oct & 2-Oct | 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

At the Vista Grande Public Library, browse through thousands of gently used and like-new books for all ages, as well as DVDs, CDs and audiobooks. Proceeds from all sales go to support the library. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## FIRST FRIDAYS FREE AT HARWOOD MUSEUM OF ART

**1-Oct | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Open late on the first Friday of each month, Harwood Museum celebrates Norteño Car Culture and the Santos Tradition. The Santo Lowride exhibition unrolls the unique story of New Mexico's interwoven expressions of devotional art and lowrider culture. Learn more at [www.harwoodmuseum.org](http://www.harwoodmuseum.org).

## COSPLAY 101 - PROPS

**1-Oct | 2:00 PM**

Get ready for Comic Con and craft a prop for your cosplay! This is a teen activity that will be outdoors at the Southside Library. Masks are required. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## FIRST FRIDAY FRACTALS

**1-Oct | 8:00 PM & 9:00 PM**

This spectacular, award-winning fulldome planetarium show that takes viewers on a tour of the fractals in nature and zooms through infinitely complex mathematical fractals. Featuring original music, the show is both educational and highly entertaining, and suitable for audiences 3 and up. Shows are at 8 & 9 p.m. on the first Friday of each month. Learn more at [www.nmnaturalhistory.org](http://www.nmnaturalhistory.org).

## BILINGUAL BOOKS AND BABIES

**2-Oct | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

Join us on Saturday mornings for books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. (Outside event, masks required) For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## FREE FIRST SUNDAYS

**3-Oct | Times Vary By Location**

Admission is free on the first Sunday of every month to New Mexico residents with ID to the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Museum of International Folk Art, New Mexico History Museum, and the New Mexico Museum of Art. [www.newmexicoculture.org](http://www.newmexicoculture.org)

## DAWN 'TIL DUSK DAY

**3-Oct | All Day**

Los Luceros Historic Site will extend its hours from sunrise to sunset on the first Sunday of each month. During this time, entrance into Los Luceros will be free for New Mexico residents and includes access to the site's visitor center, historic buildings, trails, and picnic areas. Learn more at [www.nmculture.org](http://www.nmculture.org).

# Fall Calendar - October

## BIRTH TALK LOS ALAMOS

4-Oct | 11:00 AM

As a free community talk circle for pregnant women and mothers, Birth Talk Los Alamos is a safe place to learn about options in pregnancy and childbirth. It is held online the first Monday of each month. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

5-Oct | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14 to 24 year old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## PARENTING THE LOVE AND LOGIC WAY: PARENTS OF GRADE K-6

5-Oct through 19-Oct | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Join us Tuesdays via Google Meet for a parenting workshop about how to raise children who are self-confident, motivated, and ready for the real world with this win-win approach to parenting with Michelangelo Lobato. Learn more and register at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

## QUEEN BEE'S KIDS SING ALONG

6-Oct | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Get those kids singing, moving, and shaking! Teacher B leads kids ages 0 to 6 through a variety of engaging music games and sing-alongs, from classics like 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' to energetic originals like 'Dinosaurs Don't Roar Anymore.' Free to attend. Find more information at [www.queenbeemusicassociation.org](http://www.queenbeemusicassociation.org).

## TODDLER TUNES

6-Oct | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Children and parents sing and dance together, while Lauren Marcus shares simple ways to engage children in music and movement. For more information, visit [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

## ESPAÑOLA EARLY RELEASE DAY

6-Oct | 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Española Public Schools Early Release for Professional Development Days. Elementary students are released at 12:50 P.M. and Secondary students are released at 1:15 P.M.

## AROUND THE WORLD IN 30 INSTRUMENTS

6-Oct | 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Hosting Four Shillings Short for a concert in the lower-level rotunda at Mesa Public Library. Intended specifically as a child-friendly concert, bring your whole family and travel the world! Learn more at [www.laconmlibcal.com](http://www.laconmlibcal.com).

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

6-Oct | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

7-Oct | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

7-Oct | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

8-Oct | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## COSPLAY 101-COSTUMES!

8-Oct | 2:00 PM

Get ready for Comic Con and craft some of your costume! This is a teen activity that will be outdoors at the Southside Library. Masks are required. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## MOVIE CLUB

8-Oct | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## NINJA MOUNTAIN BIKE CLINICS

9-Oct & 10-Oct | All Day

This 2-day camp gives you a chance to build up and clean up your toolbox of mountain biking skills; from the fundamentals to wheels lifts, high-speed cornering, drops, technical features and so much more! Minimum age is 15. Learn more at [www.ridelikeaninja.com/new-mexico](http://www.ridelikeaninja.com/new-mexico)

## PARENTING THE LOVE AND LOGIC WAY: LOVE AND LOGIC TEEN

9-Oct | 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Join us Saturday via Google Meet to discuss specific answers to common challenges, including how to determine when teens are ready for more responsibility and how to set appropriate limits regarding school, parties, driving and other issues with Michelangelo Lobato. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

## NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE CENTER OPEN HOUSE

9-Oct & 10-Oct | 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

NMWC is excited to hold our annual Open House again this year! Join us for a weekend of celebrating New Mexico's native wildlife with guided tours, animals encounters, door prizes, and kid-friendly activities. Visit our website for more information leading up to the event. Learn more at [www.newmexicowildlifecenter.org](http://www.newmexicowildlifecenter.org).

## BILINGUAL BOOKS AND BABIES

9-Oct | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Join us on Saturday mornings for books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. (Outside event, masks required) For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ADVENTURES IN STEM

9-Oct | 11:00 AM

Join us for kid-friendly STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities hosted by STEAM Lab. All Ages Welcome! Learn more about this regular program at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

hosted by STEAM Lab. All ages Welcome! Learn more about this regular program at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

## INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

11-Oct | All Day

Administrative Offices and Schools Closed for Española, Los Alamos, and Santa Fe Public Schools.

## GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

11-Oct | 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

The second Monday of each month at the Family Strengths Network, this kinship care group meets monthly via Zoom to discuss the many challenges associated with kinship. Connect with others who are navigating the challenges of raising a grandchild and learn about resources that can help. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org). Registration is required.

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

12-Oct | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14 to 24 year old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## QUEEN BEE'S KIDS SING ALONG

13-Oct | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Get those kids singing, moving, and shaking! Teacher B leads kids ages 0 to 6 through a variety of engaging music games and sing-alongs, from classics like 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' to energetic originals like 'Dinosaurs Don't Roar Anymore.' Free to attend. Find more information at [www.queenbeemusicassociation.org](http://www.queenbeemusicassociation.org).

## ADVENTURES IN STEM

13-Oct | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM & 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Join us for kid-friendly STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities hosted by STEAM Lab. All Ages Welcome! Learn more about this regular program at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

13-Oct | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

14-Oct | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

14-Oct | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

15-Oct | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

and activities with the Main Children's Librarian Walter. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## COSPLAY 101 - MAKE-UP

15-Oct | 2:00 PM

Get ready for Comic Con and create your make-up look! This is a teen event. We will be outdoors and masks are required. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## MOVIE CLUB

15-Oct | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

15-Oct | 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Everyone is invited to a free showing on the Vista Grande Public Library big screen. The film is rated PG. Located in the Library's Meeting Room, families can bring their own snacks, pillows, and blankets. For the movie title or more information, call the library at (505) 466-7323.

## DROP IN ART-MAKING WITH THE GEORGIA O'KEEFFE MUSEUM

16-Oct | 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Come and make a wonderful craft with help from our friends at the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. This is an outside event and masks will be required. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## BILINGUAL BOOKS AND BABIES

16-Oct | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Join us on Saturday mornings for books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. (Outside event, masks required) For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## FOUR SHILLINGS SHORT- A SAMHAIN/HALLOWEEN CONCERT

16-Oct | 1:00 PM

At the Southside Library, enjoy some seasonal live music outdoors with the eclectic Celtic/Folk group Four Shillings Short. Masks are required. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

19-Oct | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14- to 24-year-old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## QUEEN BEE'S KIDS SING ALONG

20-Oct | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Get those kids singing, moving, and shaking! Teacher B leads kids ages 0 to 6 through a variety of engaging music games and sing-alongs, from classics like 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' to energetic originals like 'Dinosaurs Don't Roar Anymore.' Free to attend. Find more information at [www.queenbeemusicassociation.org](http://www.queenbeemusicassociation.org).

## TODDLER CRAFT TIME

20-Oct | 11:00 AM

Family Strength Network holds a monthly toddler crafts workshop. It includes hands-on

# Fall Calendar - October

activities which are a pleasure for grown-ups and kids alike. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

**20-Oct | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM**

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## SANTA FE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### PARENT/TEACHER

### CONFERENCES K-5, K-6, K-8

**21-Oct | All Day**

Santa Fe Public Schools Parent/Teacher Conferences for schools K-5, K-6, K-8. No school for students at these schools. For more information, visit [www.sfps.info/about\\_sfps/calendars](http://www.sfps.info/about_sfps/calendars).

## SANTA FE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

### FOR SCHOOLS K-12

**22-Oct | All Day**

Santa Fe Public Schools Parent/Teacher Conferences for schools K-12. No school for students at these schools.

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY

### HOUR

**21-Oct | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA

### PUBLIC LIBRARY

**21-Oct | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 - 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH

### WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

**22-Oct | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and activities with the Main Children's Librarian Walter. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## KID'S CRAFT

**22-Oct | 2:00 PM**

Crafting time is here! Children ages 4-8 will enjoy a story and a craft at our Southside Library Branch. This event is outdoors and masks are required. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## MOVIE CLUB

**22-Oct | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## BIRD WALK AT LEONORA

### CURTIN WETLAND PRESERVE

### WITH ROCKY TUCKER

**23-Oct | 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

Spend a morning in the unique wetland habitat and learn about the diversity of birds from



Kindergarten through second graders artwork submitted by Santa Fe Public School's Art Education Department.

Rocky Tucker, volunteer bird guide. Admission: \$3 Adults, SFBG Members FREE. Visit [www.santafebotanicalgarden.org](http://www.santafebotanicalgarden.org) for more information.

## BILINGUAL BOOKS AND BABIES

**23-Oct | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

Join us on Saturday mornings for books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. (Outside event, masks required) For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## SPIRITS OF NEW MEXICO'S

### PAST—HALLOWEEN EVENT

**23-Oct | 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

Meet ghosts of history who lived and died in the land of enchantment! Step back in time and encounter a diverse assortment of characters from New Mexico's illustrious and often little known past at El Rancho de Las Golondrinas. Learn more at [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org).

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER

### SUPPORT GROUP

**26-Oct | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14- to 24-year-old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## QUEEN BEE'S KIDS SING ALONG

**27-Oct | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM**

Get those kids singing, moving, and shaking! Teacher B leads kids ages 0 to 6 through a variety of engaging music games and sing-alongs, from classics like 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' to energetic originals like 'Dinosaurs Don't Roar Anymore.' Free to attend. Find more information at [www.queenbeemusicassociation.org](http://www.queenbeemusicassociation.org).

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

**27-Oct | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM**

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY

### HOUR

**28-Oct | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA

### PUBLIC LIBRARY

**28-Oct | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is

perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

## RANDOM FANDOM

**28-Oct | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

Welcome all 7th-12th graders to Random Fandom! The fourth Thursday night each month (except November and December), we get together at the main library make things, play games, win prizes, eat snacks, and talk. [www.lacomm.com](http://www.lacomm.com).

## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH

### WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

**29-Oct | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and activities with the Main Children's Librarian Walter. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## MOVIE CLUB

**29-Oct | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## DESERT MONTESSORI'S ANNUAL

### FALL FESTIVAL

**30-Oct | 9:00 AM**

Join Desert Montessori School for our annual Fall Festival. Fun for the whole family, we'll have a raffle, spooky treats, a costume contest, age-appropriate games, and much more! Our event begins at 10AM with an Open House, where you can meet our teachers and tour our school, and our Fall Festival celebrations commence at Noon. Visit [www.desertmontessori.com](http://www.desertmontessori.com).

## BILINGUAL BOOKS AND BABIES

**30-Oct | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

Join us on Saturday mornings for books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. (Outside event, masks are required) For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## SCARY STORIES - A FAMILY

### STORYTIME EVENT

**30-Oct | 10:30 AM**

Come and hear some spooky stories together at our Main Library Branch. If you dare! This is an outdoor event and masks will be required. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION AT

### THE HAUNTED LIBRARY

**30-Oct | 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Join us for an old-fashioned Halloween celebration with games, food, prizes, and a Costume Contest at the Vista Grande Public Library. Everyone is invited to this free event. For more information, call the library at (505) 466-7323.

## SANTA FE BOTANICAL

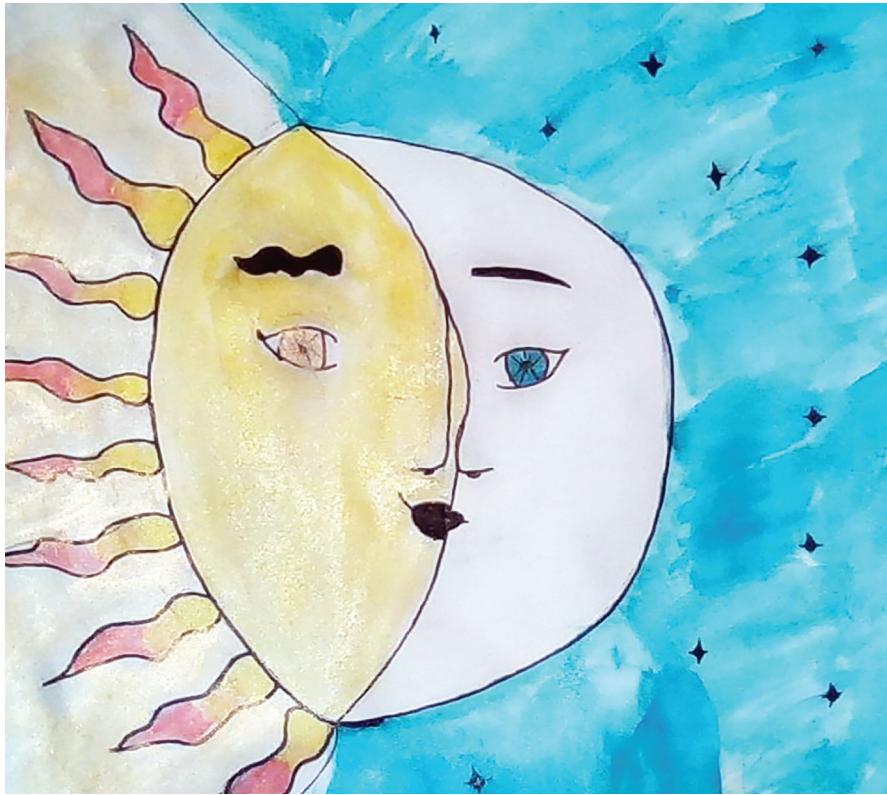
### GARDENS COMMUNITY DAY -

### FREE ADMISSION

**31-Oct | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

FREE Admission for NM Residents & Students! Enjoy the Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill during the height of its beauty for fall equinox! No pets allowed in the Garden except service animals. Visit [www.santafebotanicalgarden.org](http://www.santafebotanicalgarden.org).

# Fall Calendar - November



Third through fifth graders artwork submitted by Santa Fe Public School's Art Education Department.

## HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREATING ON CANYON ROAD

31-Oct | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Join some of the galleries on historic Canyon Road on Halloween for Trick or Treating and fun from 3:30-5:00pm. Hundreds of children, adults and pets dressed in their Halloween best roam up and down this historic road. Canyon Road businesses provide a safe environment and candy for children in costume.

while Lauren Marcus shares simple ways to engage children in music and movement. For more information, visit [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

## ESPAÑOLA EARLY RELEASE DAY

3-Nov | 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Española Public Schools Early Release for Professional Development Days. Elementary students are released at 12:50 P.M. and Secondary students are released at 1:15 P.M.

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

3-Nov | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

4-Nov | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

4-Nov | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

5-Nov | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and activities with the Main Children's Librarian Walter. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## MOVIE CLUB

5-Nov | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights

every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## FIRST FRIDAY FRACTALS

5-Nov | 8:00 PM & 9:00 PM

This spectacular, award-winning fulldome planetarium show that takes viewers on a tour of the fractals in nature and zooms through infinitely complex mathematical fractals. Featuring original music, the show is both educational and highly entertaining, and suitable for audiences 3 and up. Shows are at 8 & 9 p.m. on the first Friday of each month. Learn more at [www.nmnaturalhistory.org](http://www.nmnaturalhistory.org).

## FREE FIRST SUNDAYS

7-Nov | Times Vary By Location

Admission is free on the first Sunday of every month to New Mexico residents with ID to the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Museum of International Folk Art, New Mexico History Museum, and the New Mexico Museum of Art. [www.newmexicoculture.org](http://www.newmexicoculture.org)

## DAWN 'TIL DUSK DAY

7-Nov | All Day

Los Luceros Historic Site will extend its hours from sunrise to sunset on the first Sunday of each month. During this time, entrance into Los Luceros will be free for New Mexico residents and includes access to the site's visitor center, historic buildings, trails, and picnic areas. Learn more at [www.nmculture.org](http://www.nmculture.org).

## GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

8-Nov | 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

The second Monday of each month at the Family Strengths Network, this kinship care group meets monthly via Zoom to discuss the many challenges associated with kinship. Connect with others who are navigating the challenges of raising a grandchild and learn about resources that can help. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org). Registration is required.

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

9-Nov | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14- to 24-year-old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## ADVENTURES IN STEM

10-Nov | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM & 1:30

PM - 2:30 PM

Join us for kid-friendly STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities hosted by STEAM Lab. All ages Welcome! Learn more about this regular program at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

10-Nov | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## VETERANS DAY

11-Nov | All Day

Los Alamos Public Schools and administrative Offices Closed.

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

11-Nov | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

11-Nov | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

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## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

12-Nov | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

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## MOVIE CLUB

12-Nov | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

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13-Nov | 11:00 AM

Join us for kid-friendly STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities hosted by STEAM Lab. All Ages Welcome! Learn more about this regular program at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

16-Nov | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14 to 24 year old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## TODDLER CRAFT TIME

17-Nov | 11:00 AM

Family Strength Network holds a monthly toddler crafts workshop. It includes hands-on activities which are a pleasure for grown-ups and kids alike. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call (505) 662-4515.

## ESPAÑOLA EARLY RELEASE DAY

17-Nov | 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

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Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## ESPAÑOLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

18-Nov | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story

# November

## BIRTH TALK LOS ALAMOS

1-Nov | 11:00 AM

As a free community talk circle for pregnant women and mothers, Birth Talk Los Alamos is a safe place to learn about options in pregnancy and childbirth. It is held online the first Monday of each month. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

## CLOTHING AND SMALL ITEM SWAP

2-Nov through 6-Nov | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

It's time to clean out the closet! Join us for a Clothing and Small Item Swap event. Bring gently used clothing and items that you no longer need to swap for items you do need. Learn more at [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org).

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

2-Nov | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14- to 24-year-old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## TODDLER TUNES

3-Nov | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Children and parents sing and dance together,

# Fall Calendar - Ongoing Events

for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

**18-Nov | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

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**19-Nov | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

**19-Nov | 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

Everyone is invited to a free showing on the Vista Grande Public Library big screen. The film is rated PG. Located in the Library's Meeting Room, families can bring their own snacks, pillows, and blankets. For the movie title or more information, call the library at (505) 466-7323.

## CRANKSGIVING SANTA FE

**20-Nov | Time TBD**

Part food drive, part scavenger hunt on two-wheels, Cranksgiving Santa Fe is all fun! Open to riders of all ages and skill, join this friendly competition to donate much needed holiday items to The Food Depot — northern New Mexico's food bank. Follow Cranksgiving Santa Fe on Facebook for the latest updates. [www.facebook.com/CranksgivingSantaFe](http://www.facebook.com/CranksgivingSantaFe)

## OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

**23-Nov | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

New Vistas offers a Virtual Peer Support Group for 14 to 24 year old's every Tuesday evening from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Register with by calling (505) 695-3840.

## THANKSGIVING BREAK

**24-Nov through 26-Nov**

No school for Espa  ola, Los Alamos, and Santa Fe Public Schools.

## CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

**24-Nov | 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM**

Learn the art of chess and play chess with other kids. Santa Fe Public Library offers this program online! Learn more at [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## SKI SEASON BEGINS

**25-Nov | All Day**

Whether your family members are avid skiers or you're looking to start a new winter sport, Ski Santa Fe offers a family-friendly experience. Ski Santa Fe offers ski rentals, lessons and fun. The season tentatively begins Nov. 25, but check before heading up!

## ESPA  OLA CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

**25-Nov | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

The Programs Coordinator, Lucy Pena, will present a story and a craft related to the story for preschool age children. For more information call (505) 747-6087.

## TODDLER STORYTIME AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

**25-Nov | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

Toddler storytime at Mesa Public Library is perfect for kids ages 3 to 5 years. It includes sharing books, early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids. Visit [www.losalamoslibrary.org](http://www.losalamoslibrary.org).

## WAKE UP STORYTIME WITH WALTER- ONLINE SFPL

**26-Nov | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

Rise and shine with the Santa Fe Public Library on Friday mornings with Wake Up Story Time with Walter! Join us for interactive stories, songs, and activities with the Main Children's Librarian Walter. For more information, visit [www.santafelibrary.org](http://www.santafelibrary.org).

## SANTA FE BOTANICAL GARDENS COMMUNITY DAY - FREE ADMISSION

**26-Nov | 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM**

FREE Admission for NM Residents & Students! Enjoy the Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill during the height of its beauty for fall equinox! No pets allowed in the Garden except service animals. Visit [www.santafebotanicalgarden.org](http://www.santafebotanicalgarden.org).

## MOVIE CLUB

**26-Nov | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

New Vistas is now hosting virtual movie nights every Friday afternoon! Once registered, you will receive a movie link 15 minutes before the movie starts. Play trivia before or after the movie! Register by calling (505) 695-3840.

## SANTA FE PLAZA HOLIDAY LIGHT CEREMONY

**26-Nov | 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM**

The official start of the Christmas holiday season begins in Santa Fe the day after Thanksgiving when by a flick of a switch, holiday lights are turned on at the historic Santa Fe Plaza. Enjoy hot chocolate and strolling along the plaza. A special visit from Santa Claus is always a crowd favorite. Learn more at [www.santafenm.gov](http://www.santafenm.gov).

## Ongoing Events

**Museums, cultural centers and other nonprofit organizations within an easy drive of Santa Fe offering exhibits, programming and activities for families.**

## ABQ BIOPARK: ZOO, AQUARIUM AND BOTANIC GARDEN

Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission options: Buy a ticket to Zoo only, Aquarium/Botanic Garden or "BioPark Combo" for all three. Call for prices.

Closed Jan. 1, Thanksgiving, and Dec. 25. Zoo, 903 Tenth Street, Albuquerque; Botanic Garden and Aquarium, 2601 Central Avenue NW, Albuquerque. (505) 768-2000, [www.cabq.gov/biopark](http://www.cabq.gov/biopark).

## ABQ BIOPARK: TINGLEY BEACH

Fish, hike, relax or sail a model boat. Open daily year-round from sunrise to sunset. Free. 1800 Tingley Drive SW, Albuquerque. (505) 768-2000, [www.cabq.gov/biopark](http://www.cabq.gov/biopark).

## NM MILITARY MUSEUM (FORMERLY BATAAN MEMORIAL MUSEUM)

Artifacts from the Bataan Death March, Medal of Honor ribbons and biographies. Private tours available; call to arrange. Confirm business hours prior to visit. 1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe. (505) 474-1670, [www.bataanmuseum.com](http://www.bataanmuseum.com).

## BRADBURY SCIENCE MUSEUM

Displays, videos and interactive exhibits on the history of the atomic bomb and contemporary research conducted at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Confirm business hours prior to visit. Admission is free. Closed on Thanksgiving. 1350 Central Avenue, Los Alamos. (505) 667-4444, [www.lanl.gov/museum](http://www.lanl.gov/museum).

## EL MUSEO CULTURAL DE SANTA FE

Nonprofit organization that preserves, protects and promotes the Hispano art, culture and traditions of northern New Mexico. Popular venue for classes and community events. Confirm business hours prior to visit. Call or visit the website to view the calendar for upcoming events. 555 Camino de la Familia, in the Santa Fe Railyard. (505) 992-0591, [www.elmuseocultural.org](http://www.elmuseocultural.org).

## EL RANCHO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS

Living history museum located on 200 acres just south of Santa Fe, dedicated to the history, heritage and culture of 18th and 19th century New Mexico. Confirm business hours prior to visit. Limited admission after 3 p.m. A free daily-guided tour is available with admission at 10:30 a.m., except for festivals and theme weekends. Adults \$8; seniors and ages 13 to 17 \$6; under 12 free; prices for special events vary. 334 Los Pinos Road, Santa Fe. (505) 471-2261, [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org).

## EXPLORA

Family-oriented science center creating opportunities for discovery through interactive experiences in science, technology and art for all ages. Children and toddlers must be accompanied by a paying adult. Open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 6 p.m. Ages 12 and up \$10; seniors, students and military with ID \$7; ages 1 to 11 \$6; under age 1 free. Closed the week after Labor Day (Sept. 3-9) and on Thanksgiving. 1701 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque. (505) 224-8300, [www.explora.us](http://www.explora.us).

## GEORGIA O'KEEFFE MUSEUM

Dedicated to Georgia O'Keeffe's life, art and role in the history of American Modernism. Revolving exhibitions, education programs, family and youth programs. Confirm business hours prior to visit. Advanced ticket purchase is required. Closed on Thanksgiving. 217

Johnson Street, Santa Fe. (505) 946-1000, [www.okeeffemuseum.org](http://www.okeeffemuseum.org).

## HARWOOD MUSEUM OF ART

University of New Mexico-affiliated collection of historic and contemporary art and culture of northern New Mexico. Many family activities and events. Open Wednesday through Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adults \$10; seniors, students and AAA members \$8; ages 18 and under free; free to UNM faculty and students, military and their families, and Taos County residents on Sundays with proof of residence. Closed on Thanksgiving. 238 Ledoux Street, Taos. (575) 758-9826, [www.harwoodmuseum.org](http://www.harwoodmuseum.org).

## LEONORA CURTIN WETLAND PRESERVE

Adjacent to El Rancho de Las Golondrinas south of Santa Fe, this 35-acre nature preserve of the Santa Fe Botanical Garden hosts a diversity of plants and wildlife, trails with numbered interpretive markers, a pond and docents to answer questions. Open May through October, Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (505) 471-9103. [www.santafebotanicalgarden.org/visit-us/leonora-curtin-wetland-preserve](http://www.santafebotanicalgarden.org/visit-us/leonora-curtin-wetland-preserve).

## MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY NATIVE ARTS

The country's premier museum of contemporary Native arts, with 7,500 artworks across media created in 1962 or later. Open Monday and Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 4 p.m. Adults \$10; seniors, students and New Mexico residents with ID \$5; Native people, veterans and their families, and under age 17 free. Closed on Thanksgiving. 108 Cathedral Place, Santa Fe. (505) 983-8900, [www.iaia.edu/museum](http://iaia.edu/museum).

## MEOW WOLF

Meow Wolf's House of Eternal Return is a unique immersive art experience based on non-linear storytelling and exploration through strange, but familiar, realms. Hours may change based on demand and other factors. Adults \$35; children \$20; seniors \$25; free to children under 4. New Mexico residents: Adults \$25; Children \$15; senior/military, \$20. Must purchase tickets online. 1352 Rufina Circle, Santa Fe, (505) 780-4458. [www.meowwolf.com](http://meowwolf.com)

## MUSEUM OF INDIAN ARTS AND CULTURE

Stories of peoples indigenous to the Southwest, including displays from prehistory through contemporary art. May - October open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission \$9; New Mexico residents \$5 daily and free on the first Sunday of every month; New Mexico seniors with ID \$5, free on Wednesdays; New Mexico students with an ID, \$5; ages 16 and under free. Closed on Thanksgiving. Museum Hill, 710 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. (505) 476-1250, [www.indianartsandculture.org](http://www.indianartsandculture.org).

## MUSEUM OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK ART

Wide range of folk art displays, including long and short-term exhibitions, from around the world. Open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adults and seniors, \$12; New Mexico residents: adults and seniors, \$7; Museum Hill, 706 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. (505) 476-1204, [www.internationalfolkart.org](http://www.internationalfolkart.org).





## YOUR COMPLETE FAMILY-FRIENDLY GUIDE TO SANTA FE!



Santa Fe.com is THE place to find events, activities, day trips & outdoor adventures that are fun for the whole family.





## Get a Healthy Start Back to School

**Make sure your family stays healthy** by keeping up-to-date with your health care appointments. We are your convenient resource for routine check-ups, immunizations, scheduling sports physicals or caring for you when you are sick or hurt.

Well-child visits, sports physicals and immunizations should be scheduled in advance.

**Call (505) 913-DOCS (3627) to schedule your primary care appointment today.**

### **Adult & Family Care**

465 St. Michael's Dr., Suite 240  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

### **Arroyo Chamiso Pediatrics**

465 St. Michael's Dr., Suite 200  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

### **Entrada Contenta Health Center and Urgent Care**

5501 Herrera Dr.  
Santa Fe, NM 87507

### **Family Medicine Center**

2025 S. Galisteo St.  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

### **Pojoaque Primary Care**

5 Petroglyph Circle, Suite A  
Pojoaque, NM 87506