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Remedy for Unsettled Times: Action, Love and Fairy Dust

Maybe I sensed that

Charles needed a pick-me-up, or maybe I was just too full o' beans to contain myself. He was working intently at his computer when I came home, but I couldn't resist sharing the magical scene I'd just witnessed.

I'd just come back from National Dance Institute, where I'd taken photos of the "itty-bitties," the 3- and 4-year-olds in Allegra Lillard's creative movement class, for Sarah Rivera's article "Tiny Dancers" (page 8 in English, and 24 in Spanish), when our "real" photographers weren't available. I'm no more a photographer than anyone else who can push a button on an iPhone, but how hard could it be to take pictures of adorable children in motion? (Answer: Very hard. Very fun.)

The half-dozen children were dressed in leotards, skirts, comfy pants or tutus. The lone boy wore a Superman t-shirt and stretch pants. Together they suggested less a dance troupe than a group of colorfully dressed kittens, wandering in and out of each other's reality.

"'Let's get in the elevator!'" I said to Charles, trying to capture Lillard's excitement as she had the children stand together at one end of the studio.

"'Let's see what floor it's going to stop on. It stopped on the rolling floor!'" Lillard had said, and the little ones began rolling on the ground. "'Now it stopped on the twirling floor!'" The children flung out their arms and began twirling in different directions across the dance floor.

"I forget how much 3-year-olds still live in their own world," I told Charles. Our 28-year-old son is by now pretty well grounded on this planet. I pictured these preschoolers on a thin, shifting line between collective awareness and individual reality. From time to time one would wander off to a parent's lap, or just sit on the floor for a few moments staring off at the ceiling or the wall, before rejoining the activity. Lillard had created a safe environment where any of these options was acceptable.

At the end of class, each child was called one at a time to dance across the room, with their own steps and their own style, to their teacher's arms for a hug. She gave each child a sticker on their chest, and a dab of fairy dust on their nose. Then each one dipped a tiny finger into the jar for some fairy dust to put on their parents. By this point, in watching the class and in describing it, I was getting teary-eyed.

"We need to end every day with a sticker and some fairy dust!" I insisted.

My dear husband didn't object to the interruption, or to my deluge of

Continued on page 6

Amariah Garcia, grade 3

Tumbleweeds

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Tumbleweeds is a quarterly newspaper for all Santa Fe families and people who work professionally with children.

We welcome letters, artwork and articles from our readers on personal and professional experiences with children.

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ON THE COVER: Olivia and Adrian Garcia, ages 9 and 7, visited Meow Wolf in November with their mom, Kalandra Garcia. Both attend Duranes Elementary School in Albuquerque. Olivia takes gymnastics and dance and sings in the school choir. Adrian plays soccer and is learning guitar. © Ana June.

ARTWORK IN THIS ISSUE is by Alicia Psenicka's art classes at Santo Niño Regional Catholic School in Santa Fe. Look for more on our website, www.sftumbleweeds.com.

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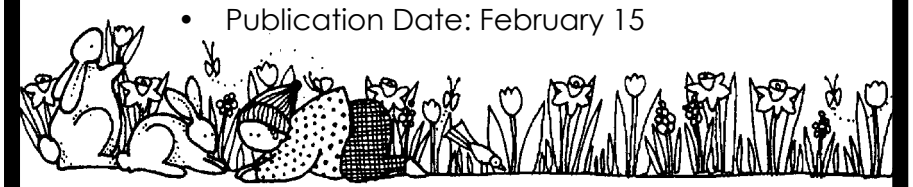
- Article Submissions: January 15
- Spring Break/Summer Camp & Program Directory: Januar y 27
- Ad Reservations: January 27
- Ad Copy: February 3
- Publication Date: February 15



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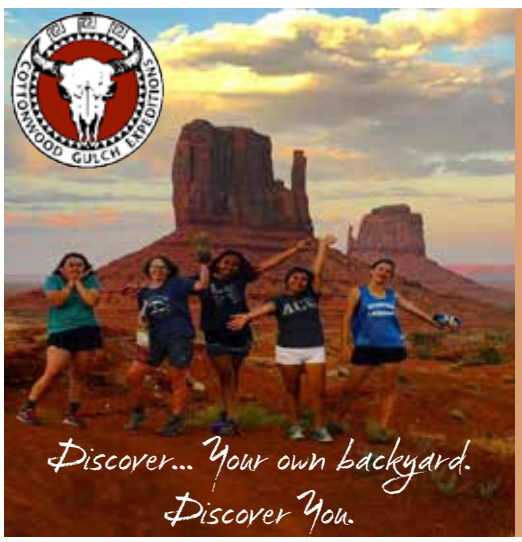

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enthusiasm. He had been banging away all morning at bookkeeping for his construction business. Just a few days after the presidential election, he was still reeling from the outcome, as was I. A diversion into the charms of children seemed to be doctor's orders.

So many parents and teachers I know — whatever their politics, whatever their vote — are stunned by the hate, bigotry, misogyny and violence that surfaced during the campaign and the struggle of explaining these things to children. Kids too young to vote are directly affected by political actions, and by the words and behavior of our politicians. When we see bullying, insults, obscenities and intimidation in public figures that we would never allow in our children, how do we proceed?

Conversations and more concrete actions here at Tumbleweeds on these matters are just beginning. For now, here's what we have to offer.

Be kind. Children have seen much cruelty and meanness in this election cycle. Show them kindness, to each other, ourselves and others. Those of you who want to broaden your sphere of kindness might consider Cullen Curtiss's suggestions ("Knit One, Purl Two, Change the World," page 10) for setting up a service learning program. At home, take up a holiday ritual that emphasizes giving rather than getting. (See Katy Yanda's idea for "Reverse Advent Calendars" (Holiday Briefs, page 16) for a creative twist on an old tradition.)

Get outside. A walk in the woods, a hike up a mountain, lifts the soul in any season — and any time of day or night. Katie Macaulay, director of Mountain Kids!, bundles up her kids for a moonlight hike at the Santa Fe Ski Basin ("Touching the Quad," page 26), shaking up a school night, building memories and cultivating a sense of pride in accomplishment and in our beautiful environment.

Read. Winter is the perfect season (along with the three others) for reading to and with children, and helping older ones find books they'll enjoy on their own. In her article "Timeless Books Find New Friends" (page 18), Dorothy Massey of Collected Works Bookstore suggests classic works that you may remember from your childhood, but which might become new BFFs for your children.

Play! Children do it naturally; older kids and adults might need a little poke. You may not need studies to tell you this, but play is good for you. It defuses tension, engages curiosity and lights up the brain. See Yanda's "Wanna Come Play?" (page 20) — and you will.

Learn about other cultures. Santa Fe offers many ways to learn about traditions and beliefs of other cultures, an invaluable way to resist the growing trend of xenophobia. You'll find ways to deepen your family's understanding in Pat Lord's "Winter Festivals Light Up Darkest Nights" (page 14)

Talk science; tell science. Strange choice of verbs? Sure — but you'll understand when you read "Tell Me an Experiment" (page 12), Dr. Olivia Carril and Pat Preib's article about the value of storytelling in the science classroom. New Mexico's science test scores are among the lowest in the country — with tragic implications not just for our children's future careers and the health of our planet, but for their everyday joy. Exploring the underpinnings of our physical world instills a sense of wonder and awe that only begets more.

Accept ourselves and each other. We have something new for us in this issue, a short story. "Normal," by Meneese Wall (page 28), challenges us to respect differences of all kinds, and to share that perspective with our children. Shari Cassutt's essay "Roots and Wings" (page 22) acknowledges parental anxieties from a place of wisdom that can help us grow.

Take action. We at Tumbleweeds know how important it is to provide support and unity to families, children and organizations in our community in this time of transition. We invite our readers to email ideas of actions or discussions you might want to see under the umbrella of Tumbleweeds. Write info@sftumbleweeds.com. Whatever our party affiliation, whatever our vote, healthy families and communities need our strong action, loving attention and a dab of fairy dust.

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Preventing Prescription Drug Overdose

Long before Prince's death, the rising mortality rate from opioid overdoses set off a national debate over the safety of prescribing such powerful and addictive drugs. Painkiller prescriptions are commonplace, distributed to teens with sports injuries, grandparents in chronic pain and new mothers who have had a C-section. Unfortunately, this explosion has significantly increased the risk of accidental overdose to unanticipated levels.

Many kids mistakenly believe prescription drugs are safer than illegal street drugs and that medicine prescribed by a doctor is much safer to use and less addictive than illegal drugs.

In reality, more people overdose from prescription painkillers than cocaine and heroin combined. New Mexico has the second highest accidental overdose death rate in the nation, according to the state Department of Health's figures for 2014, the most recent data available.

There are many public and private organizations working together in New Mexico working to address this prescription opioid and heroin epidemic. One such prevention effort is making naloxone more available through outpatient pharmacies. The Office of Substance Abuse Prevention has partnered with Southwest CARE Center to conduct statewide pharmacy trainings that encourage patients to get naloxone if they are prescribed opioid painkillers, and to dispel addiction stigmas among both pharmacists and patients.

Liam Lingo, grade 1

Naloxone is a drug that rapidly reverses the effects of an overdose for about 30 minutes, enough time to get someone to emergency care. You do not need to see a doctor to get naloxone – you can just ask your pharmacist for it. Since April, nearly 200 outpatient pharmacists and their staff, representing over 43 pharmacies in 20 communities throughout the state, have been trained on how to use patient demonstration kits and how to prescribe life-saving naloxone to patients with an opioid painkiller prescription, or their family members.

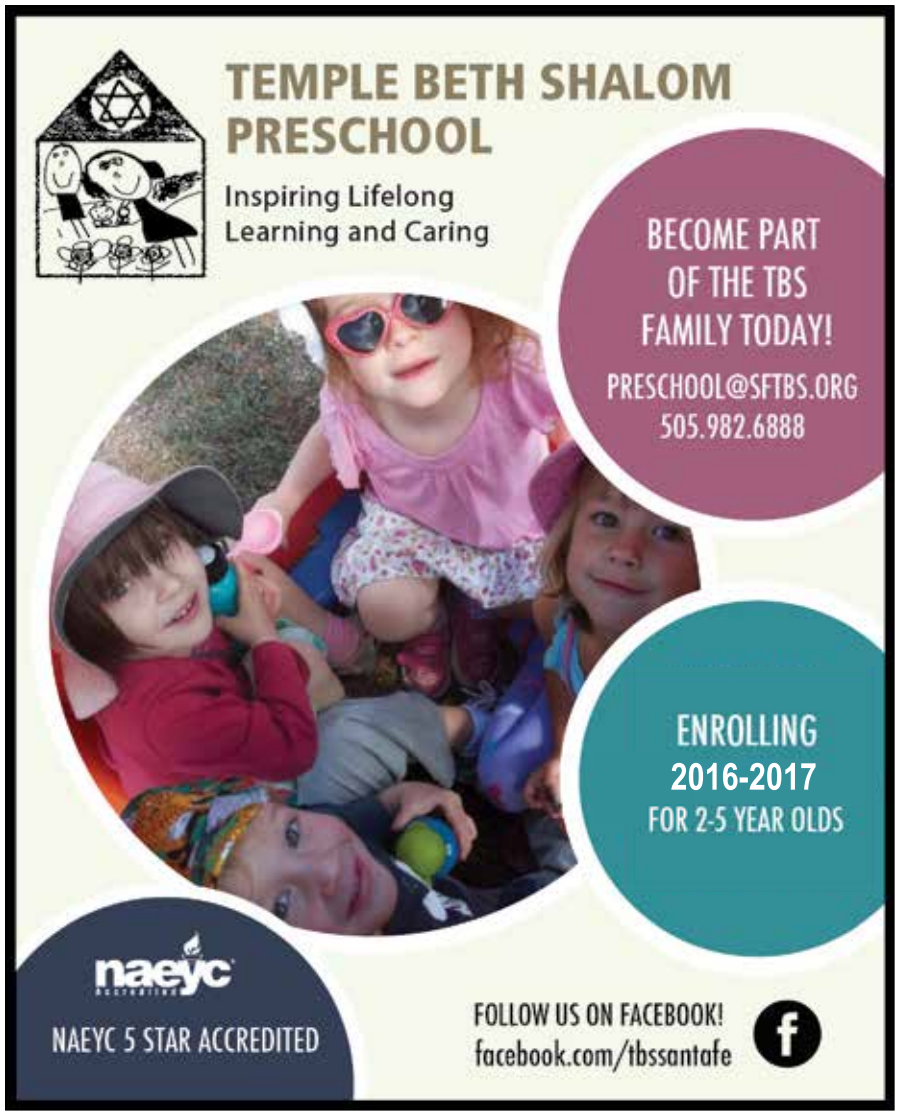
Accidental opioid overdose can happen to anyone. If you or a family member is prescribed an opioid painkiller, protect your family by asking your pharmacist today about naloxone.

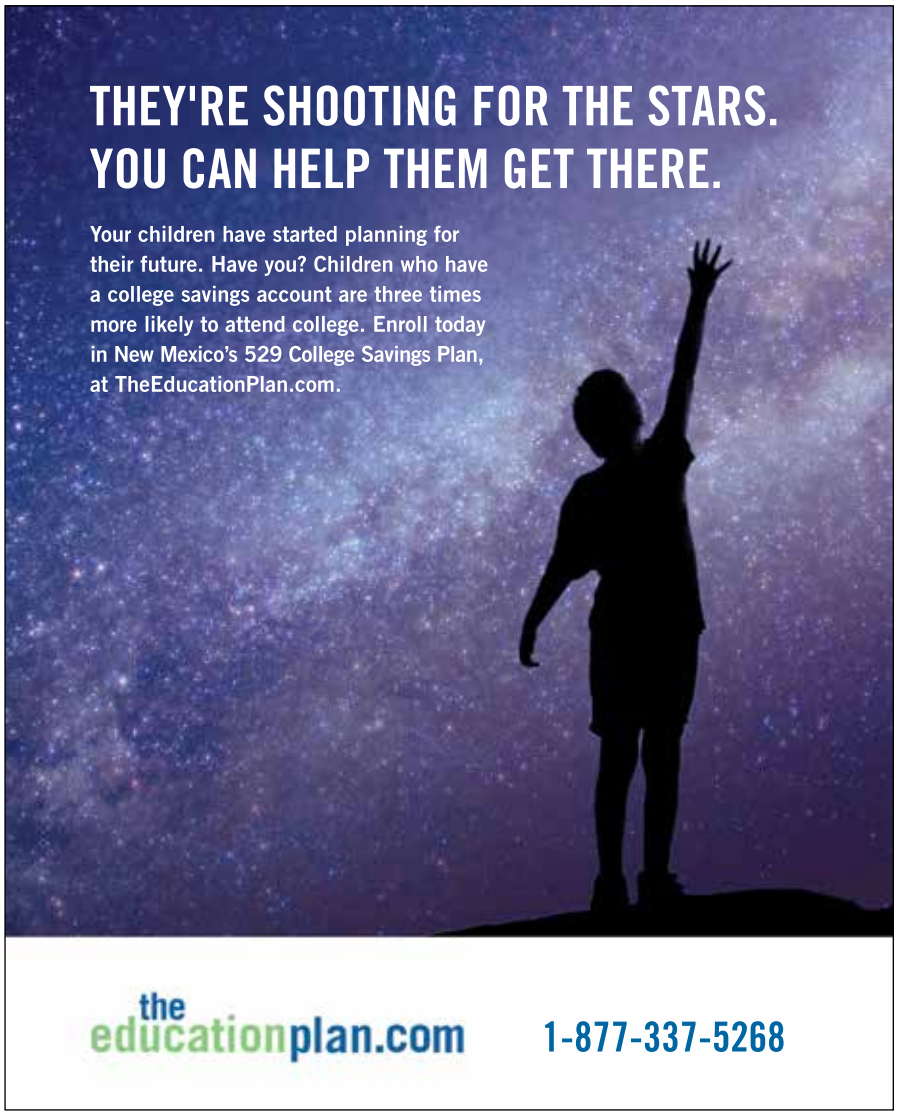
Keep prescription painkiller medicine in a secure and locked place, and properly dispose of any unused pills.

Talk to your kids at an early age and teach them to respect the power of medicine and to use it properly. Teach them to recognize that all medications have risks along with benefits, and that the risks tend to increase significantly when medicine is not used properly.

For more information, see the Parent Resource Guide on New Mexico Prevention's website, www.nmprevention.org/Dose-of-Reality/Parent.html.

Kate Morton, PharmD, PhC, AAHIVP
Director of Pharmacy Services
Southwest CARE Center





Tiny Dancers

Ballet teaches children the steps of life

By Sarah Rivera

Photos by Claudette E. Sutton

Teaching small children is something that not all are called to do. Those who do it well are remembered long after the classes end, both by the children who were taught and the parents who witnessed it and, at times, surely wondered how they might bottle up some of that magic for use at home.

Many have sat in awe as one of Santa Fe's most beloved teachers, Allegra Lillard, teaches creative movement class to 3- and 4-year-olds at National Dance Institute's Dance Barns. She has a connection with her little dancers that is complete and joyful. She calls her littlest students "windows into the soul" and swears they teach her more than she teaches them. Where did she come from? And how does she do it?

Lillard has been teaching ballet and the fundamentals of dance in Santa Fe for two decades since she retired as a professional dancer. She was part of the early beginnings of NDI and went into the public schools and taught a basic style of jazz that was more about the secondary lessons that go with dance (Do your best, never give up, work hard and be healthy). She branched out to open her own dance studio ("I couldn't let ballet go"), then went back to NDI six years ago to direct its afterschool programs.

Growing up in Jacksboro, a small, cow town in north central Texas, Lillard got hooked on ballet in a church basement at an early age through the inspiration of her first dance teacher, Elizabeth Rhoades.

"She wasn't even from this planet," said Lillard, still in awe. As a girl, she would help Miss Rhoades with younger students for two hours before her own class began. Her teacher saw how serious she was about ballet and encouraged her parents to take her the 60 miles each way to Wichita Falls, where there was a regional ballet. As she approached high school, Lillard chose the Walnut Hill School for the Performing Arts, a private prep school in Massachusetts, where she was able to keep up her serious ballet education and finish high school a year early. At 17, she started her professional career at the Atlanta Ballet.

Lillard has what it takes to be a ballerina: training, athleticism, performance intensity, consistency, the ability to reach her audience and take cues. Teaching small kids requires the same sort of stuff.

"I never, ever thought I would teach. I always said, 'I am *never* going to teach,' " she said. The life of a professional ballet dancer can seem brief. Many "retire" around age 30, as Lillard did. Their extensive ballet training makes most a shoe-in to teach dance. But teaching the basics to the preschool set is a duty many teachers say is harder than teaching advanced ballet.

Lillard noted, "Some of the first classes I started were a disaster," because many of the standards she held as a professional dancer don't apply particularly well to young ones.

"You have to be completely engaged and 150 percent energy-filled and ready. If I don't go into a class with my mind set right, it's not going to work." Lillard said that her little dancers seem to know when a teacher is off and they will push that button.

Like any good performer, Lillard can read her audience.

"I go in prepared with something, but I'm also prepared to throw it out the window if its not working," she said.

One of her first lessons as a new teacher was to limit the variety. "I thought every class had to be different, but what I realized that with itty-bitties is that they like structure. They realize they know what is coming next, and that is confidence-building."

Lillard starts with a warm-up dance, then takes roll in a circle and moves on to several activities with consistent prompts such as sitting on the "ready steady" line, the dancers' starting point. The grand finale of her 45-minute class is a dance with props such as ribbons or stuffed animals balanced on shoulders and heads. Each student then dances to her to say goodbye, as she puts glitter on their noses and gives each a sticker.

Lillard tries to challenge her students with just the right bit of learning.

"If you are giving them things that are too hard, they are going to lose interest," she said. Her dancers are at varying levels of athleticism and have different exposure to working in groups. Some have been to preschool and understand the dynamics of being in a class. For other students, it's a brand new experience.

Like any good showperson, she keeps the pace moving. "You do something and you don't do it for very long. Some days, you have to stop and you have to just go with the flow." She brings a willingness to listen to what her small students need each day. They are just learning to use their bodies and get along with others. They really don't have the coping skills to mask their feelings. Their bad days can often become parents' bad days.

Creative Movement is no drop-off class. Parents or guardians are expected to sit in on the class and offer support, and maybe take an antsy kid to the bathroom. Some children are too shy and cautious to join the dancing on the first day. A child may sit in her mother's lap and watch for as long as six months before deciding to join in. "I don't push it," said Lillard. She will make eye contact with those on the sidelines and find that ever so slowly, they are going to be a part of the class. Students who watched class for as much as half their first year bloomed into confident dancers the next.

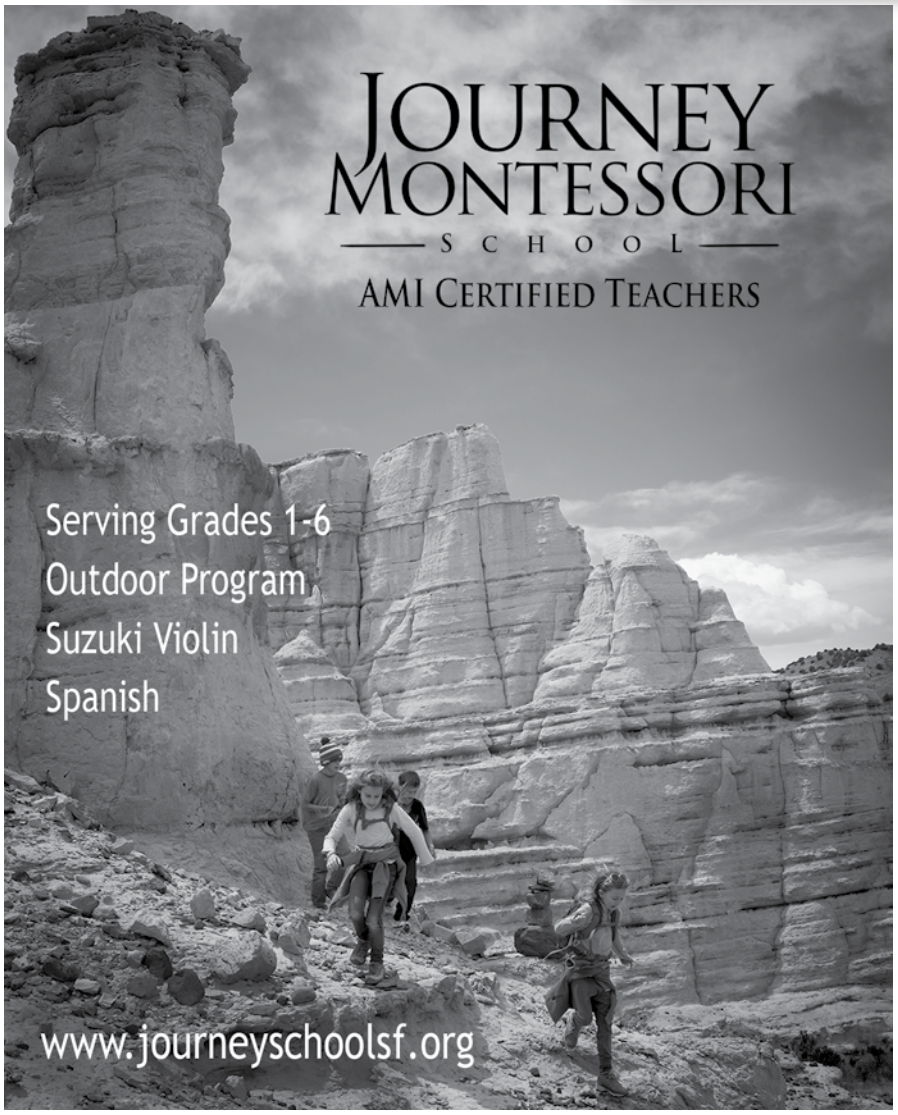
Ballet is just the vehicle for teaching kids lessons beyond the dance floor.

"It's not just about dance steps," she said. "You are instilling life lessons. Children learn to be polite, to get up when they fall down, to look teachers in the eye and more."

Getting on kids' level is as important in talking to them as it is to hearing them. A small dancer may interrupt with a tug on a skirt and Lillard will stop and kneel down. "You look them in the eye. Just letting them know you are there is important" — even if the answer is "No" or more likely, "Let's try something else."

Her patience with her students is unmistakeable, as is her joy in dancing with them. It is a different type of patience from what she finds she needs now that her first child is in the process of applying to college. She is glad that her kids have their own special teachers because it takes a village and, she says, "We're all in that village together," teachers and parents who guide children in the dance of life.

Sarah Rivera, mother of three children, is a freelance writer and teacher living in Santa Fe.



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Knit One, Purl Two, Change the World

Courtesy photos

10 steps to starting your own service learning program • By Cullen Curtiss

Picture a group of 20 second graders seated in a circle, knitting wool scarves and hats on looms, while listening to their teacher read aloud from *Little House on the Prairie.* For five years, students of Kirsten Miller at Rio Grande School have made at least two warm accessories apiece for Santa Fe's homeless population, distributed through the Interfaith Community Shelter. The scene may sound quaint, but it is actually an example of engaged and creative activism, adding up to hundreds of hats and scarves protecting people from our cold winters, and many hours that children spend learning the value of service.

Perhaps you'd like to instill and nurture in your students the values of giving back but don't know where to begin. The urge to help others is incredibly strong in both children and adults. This desire is a good place to start, but thoughtfully addressing questions about your students' ages, interests and abilities must be among your first steps before setting up a service learning program.

Here are 10 steps we at Rio Grade School have found to be effective.

1. Understand what service learning is. Community service *work* is different from a service learning *program*. Service learning is curriculum-based and structured as a class requirement, with learning goals that are integrated into the curriculum. Service work is regular volunteerism.

2. Examine your school's core values. Confirm that the implementation of service learning can meet your school's mission, so that you will have the full support of teachers, staff, the school governing body and parents. Rio Grande's program, for example, came from defined core values that include character development, environmental stewardship and diversity and inclusivity. Determine the core values that will relate most naturally to service learning at your school and gear projects around these values.

3. Consider the ages you serve. Service learning works best when projects have relevant and developmentally-appropriate ties in your curriculum per grade. For example, kindergartners might not be best suited for managing a river stewardship project, but this would be a great fit for sixth graders who have studied river ecology. Kindergartners will likely enjoy visiting a retirement community and singing songs a few times a year. Second graders, who are improving in attention span and dexterity, might be well suited for a hands-on project such as knitting hats and scarves. Fifth or sixth grade students, who can understand and articulate the importance of recycling, could organize a recycling collection program for the school.

4. Structure the work within your school schedule. Allow time for introduction of the concept, time for work in and outside of the classroom, and time reflection or sharing.

Ideally, service learning is a yearlong, academic pursuit that weaves in and out of the fabric of the students' experience. It should provide frequent opportunities for students to introduce, act and reflect on their service learning work.

5. Engage students' and educators' passion. In selecting a service job for a classroom, let them be inspired to choose something meaningful to them. "The project work must be meaningful to the educator and the students," said Ellie Najman, third grade teacher. "Your heart has to be in the work because it is part of the fabric of your whole academic year, and you have 20 little minds looking to you for passion and meaning. The more meaningful, the more opportunity for reflection."

6. Form community partnerships. Find an organization that is willing to commit to working with young people and educators through visits and engagement with constituents. Many nonprofit organizations need support,

but not all have the capacity to accommodate 20 young volunteers. Don't, for example, pick an animal service organization that is hesitant to teach children how to engage with animals. Do pick a conservation organization with a curriculum geared to children, or one that has the capacity to teach about its mission. Visit the physical site and see if you can picture your students working and learning there.

7. Identify the learning goals for each project. Let's say you decide that adopting a stretch of the Santa Fe River is important because your students have a yearlong focus on water and ecosystems. What do you hope they will learn? Is the intermittent flow a good topic? How might you analyze the volume and type of debris they find? What do healthy rivers mean to communities? What's the importance of a protected watershed? Set at least five learning goals and discuss them with the students.

8. Enlist parent and family support. More than carpool drivers and classroom volunteers, adult family members can reinforce service concepts at home. Just as a new language cannot be adopted in class hours only but requires reinforcement at home, so does service learning work require time for questions about different populations and different needs.

9. Promote service learning programs within the community and beyond. Identifying and sharing the importance of service learning to the school's mission will ensure that the program is supported now and grows in future years. Record and share, record and share — but before you do, make sure you get permission from parents to use photographs of their children in print material and on social media. The leaders of the service organizations might be willing to publicize your students' effort, which is a beautiful way to showcase your school's work in the community.

10. Reinforce the meaning of service learning. Make sure that the principal or director of your school recognizes each grade's efforts publicly so the value is understood across all grades.

While the steps required to start a service learning program may seem daunting, they are crucial and will help you and your community be prepared to embrace the good work ahead!

Cullen Curtiss is the admissions director of Rio Grande School.

This Page: Sixth graders maintain the school's section of the Santa Fe River, as they learn about river ecology (and have fun). Previous Page: Second grade students knit hats and scarves to donate to the Interfaith Community Shelter.

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TELL ME AN EXPERIMENT

Teaching science through storytelling • By Olivia Carril and Pat Preib

Science comes naturally to children. Anyone who has ever spent time with a 3-year-old persistently questioning "Why?" can affirm the truth of that statement. Their inherent curiosity about the world helps them order and make sense of the swirl of activity, people and things that comprise their surroundings. Ordering and making sense of the world also happens to be exactly what scientists do. And it is what every science teacher encourages in her or his students.

Tapping into scientific inquiry can begin at an early age. The vocabulary associated with science should not be intimidating but should be a normal part of the lexicon one learns in school. If children can say brontosaurus without batting an eye, why shouldn't they also speak of *Penstemon haydenii?* The theories underpinning how our world functions should also be as easy to discuss as the rules of Quidditch. One handy way of making scientific terms roll off a student's tongue and to ignite a passion for science is to embed the terms in a story and to tell a story about an actual scientist.

The very first assignment in sixth grade science at the Santa Fe Girls' School, for example, is for each student to draw a picture in her science journal of a scientist. Not surprisingly, many of the pictures include bubbling beakers, lab coats and young men with nerdy hairdos. Once the class has had a good laugh over their pictures, photographs of real scientists in the woods or on a mountain, in scuba gear or in a planetarium, grace the bulletin boards. The discussion then focuses on what led each of these scientists to their field of study. Students find that the motivation usually begins with the question, "Why?"

Robert Paine is a good example. Paine was an award-winning ecologist who founded the term "keystone species." As a newly-minted professor, he was walking along the shore of Makah Bay on the Washington State coast at low tide. Coming upon a rocky outcrop, he noticed that it was covered with a huge variety of organisms. There were mussels and starfish, limpets, algae and such. Paine was struck by a seemingly simple question: Why are there so many kinds of organisms clinging to this rock?

So off he went to fetch a crowbar and pried off all the giant starfish from half of the wall. He threw those starfish as far as he could back into the ocean. Then he looked closely at the rock and counted. Paine returned to the same wall every two weeks, removed the giant starfish from the same half of the rock, tossed them into the ocean and counted the species — for four years!

At the end of his experiment, he made a couple of important discoveries. He found that when the giant starfish were removed, mussels outcompeted all the other remaining species on the wall. When Paine began, there had been 15 species of organism clinging to the rock. When he finished, there were only eight species there, which represented almost a 50 percent decrease in species diversity. And the mussels increased to a majority of the species there. Paine concluded that this was evidence of what he called a "keystone species" — that is, one species that has inordinate influence on the food web. Paine demonstrated that removing a keystone species can have unexpected and far-reaching consequences for a local environment. His hands-on field work revolutionized ecology by disturbing an ecosystem a little to find out what would happen.

Like a good scientist, good science teachers share their passion with students. Doing so through stories is an excellent way to draw on their students' own curiosity. Students love to hear stories and to tell their own. This dialogue creates a classroom environment in which they feel they have something to share and a voice in moving the conversation along lines of interest to them. Using stories is an effective way to cultivate curiosity and has the added advantage of creating a larger context within which to teach the finer details of a subject. Even more importantly, research into how we learn tells us that it is necessary to hook new material onto experiences and terminology with which the student is already familiar in order for them to master ever more complex topics in any subject.

Santa Fe Girls School classes instill curiosity through stories about scientists, species and concepts.

Courtesy photos

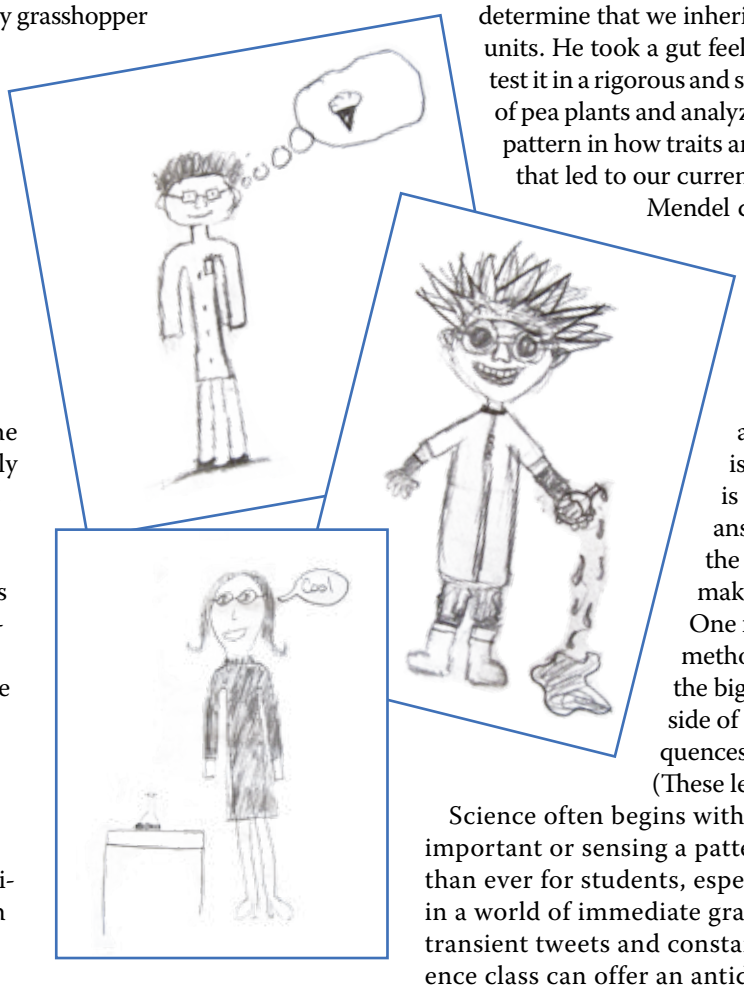
In addition to telling stories about individual scientists, a science teacher can share cool facts about the odd behavior of the "species of the day," for example. As a follow-up to the Paine story, students love hearing that starfish actually push their stomachs outside of their bodies to gather their food and then pull their stomachs back inside their bodies to finish the job. Familiarizing students with these odd behaviors can have the added benefit of moving from an "ick!" response to "oooo, cool!"

As science teachers, we focus heavily on stories that center on ecology and big-picture environmental concepts. For example, our students choose two species from two different places on the food web, say a coyote and a juniper, or a mushroom and a warbler, and learn everything they can about those species. They then tell each

species' story to their classmates and explain how the two species are connected through the food web. So, the mushroom decomposes (or eats) a cottonwood tree, creating soil. The soil grows grass, which is eaten by grasshopper nymphs, which in turn are eaten by adult dragonflies. And finally, the warblers eat the dragonflies.

The Santa Fe River provides an example of a larger, more complex story. For over a dozen years, students at the Girls' School have collected measures of water quality every week on the property the school owns along the river. Over the years, students have compiled an extremely comprehensive dataset, accessible not only to the girls in future classes, but to the broader Santa Fe community as well. This dataset also represents a continuously changing story of a river and its response to a changing natural environment. When the school first acquired the property, it had been heavily grazed. Consequently, there were few native species left. Russian olive trees had taken over, draining the river's water table to quench their fierce thirst. Several groups of students removed the invasive species on the site, which allowed native river willows to return. With the return of the willow came the return of wildlife. In this way, our students have learned the longer story of a river's coming back to life and the factors that play a role in that transformation. Each group of new students then adds a chapter to this continuing nature story.

Storytelling is a great tool for capturing students' imagination and interest in science. Once captured, science teachers also teach critical thinking skills through the scientific method, a thought process applicable to all aspects of life. The scientific method is broadly defined as a series of steps in conducting an experiment: ask a question; form a hypothesis; test that hypothesis; analyze your findings; draw a conclusion.



More than that, however, the scientific method is a way to decide if a gut feeling is actually grounded in truth. Gregor Mendel, as an example, was able to determine that we inherit characteristics from our parents in distinct units. He took a gut feeling he had as a gardener and found a way to test it in a rigorous and systematic way. By hand pollinating thousands of pea plants and analyzing his results, Mendel was able to discover a pattern in how traits are inherited, paving the way for future studies that led to our current understanding of DNA and chromosomes.

Mendel demonstrated what is most important about the scientific method: that it assures a person of the validity of conclusions reached — turning correlation and observation into cause and effect with a degree of certainty.

As students look over the diverse group of scientists in their classroom, they are asked, what is it that unites them all? What is it that they share in common? One answer is that they all use the scientific method to answer questions of why and how. Practicing the scientific method every week in school can make this method of thinking second nature.

One fun lesson might be to use the scientific method to determine what soap solution creates the biggest bubbles, or whether tapping on the side of a soda can really does diminish the consequences of shaking it before opening it, for example. (These lessons are best practiced out of doors.)

Science often begins with an observation: noticing something important or sensing a pattern. Close observation is more important than ever for students, especially now as most students are immersed in a world of immediate gratification, with ephemeral snapchats and transient tweets and constantly updated Facebook statuses. Science class can offer an antidote to the "screenagers" phenomenon by encouraging students to spend time outside, sitting still and slowing down enough to notice the world around them. Blending science and art classes by

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Winter Festivals Light Up Darkest Nights

Traditions marking faith, seasons, agriculture and history span the globe

By Pat Lord

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The winter celebrations will soon be here. Many of these holidays, including the winter solstice, Christmas, Hanukkah, Yalda and others, have been observed for eons. Others, such as the African-American festival of Kwanzaa, are relatively recent. Some are rooted in faith and spirituality, others in seasonal changes, and still others in historical events.

Have you ever taken a moment to wonder where these customs or traditions came from and how they developed? Exploring a festival's history can make for interesting reading and bring a strong sense of context for a family.

Many winter traditions have elements in common, such as roots in a relationship to agricultural seasons and food; opportunities for family and friends to gather through festivals, rituals and celebrations; and, here in the northern hemisphere, their timing coincident with earth tilting away from the sun creating the shortest day and longest night, the winter solstice.

For many of us today, the changing seasons bring a sense of excitement and anticipation, even wonder. In ancient times, winter was a time of fear and uncertainty. With the darkening of the sky during winter solstice, the sun was expected not to reappear unless humans intervened with ritual and observation. By the onset of winter, the harvests had been completed, the fruits fermented, the animals fattened. Whatever food was available was needed to get families through the next few "famine months." Careful planning for and rationing of nutrition would be vital for a family and community's survival.

Many cultures built tombs, temples, cairns and other ceremonial structures to align with celestial phenomena, both as a means of giving honor and of marking the passage of these heavenly events. In addition to the marking of the end of a period of time (a solar year in this case), the winter solstice heralded the reversal of the sun's ebbing presence in the sky. Concepts of the birth or rebirth of sun gods became more common and, in cultures that used cyclic calendars based on the winter solstice, the "year as reborn" or "new year" was celebrated with reference to life/death/rebirth deities, well before the Judeo-Christian calendar was adopted.

In modern society, there are many traditions and festivities marking the winter season and the calendar year's coming to a close, based on ancient rituals. They include:

Yalda. This Iranian festival is celebrated on the longest and darkest night of the year. On Yalda eve, ancient Iranians celebrated the birth of Mithra, the goddess of light. Today this is a time when friends and family gather together to eat, drink and read poetry until the wee hours of the night. Fruits and nuts are eaten, and pomegranates and watermelons are particularly significant because the red color symbolizes the crimson hues of dawn and the glow of life, and their seeds signify fertility.

Winter Solstice. The solstice is celebrated throughout the world. In Ireland, residents and visitors can celebrate the Winter Solstice as they did thousands

Courtesy photo

Top: The Jewish celebration of Hanukkah commemorates the triumph over political and religious oppressors.
Above: Red fruits such as pomegranates and cherries, enjoyed during the Iranian festival of Yalda, represent the glow of dawn following the darkest night, when the goddess of light returns.

of years ago at Newgrange, a huge Stone Age megalithic monument, in which the sun shines into the deepest part of the main chamber at sunrise. The dramatic event lasts for 17 minutes at dawn somewhere between the 19th and the 23rd of December. The light illuminates a stone basin below intricate carvings — spirals, eye shapes, solar discs.

Yuletide. In pre-Christian times, the pagan Scandinavian and Germanic people of northern Europe celebrated a 12-day "midwinter" (winter solstice) holiday called Yule. Many modern Christmas traditions, such as the Christmas tree, the wreath, the Yule log and others, are direct descendants of Yule customs. It is believed that the celebration of Yuletide, or Yule time, was interpreted as the reawakening of nature.

In Spain, there's an old custom Yule that is a holdover from Roman days. The Urn of Fate is a large bowl containing slips of paper on which are written all the names of those at a family gathering. The slips of paper are drawn out two at a time. Those whose names are so joined are to be devoted friends for the year.

The 12 Days of Christmas. The midwinter festival of the ancient Egyptians, celebrating the birth of the divine mother-goddess, was 12 days long. In 567 A.D., Christians adopted it. Church leaders proclaimed the 12 days from Dec. 25 to Epiphany as a sacred, festive season.

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Kwanzaa, derived from Swahili for "first fruits," honors African-American heritage and community.

Kwanzaa. This American celebration honoring African-American heritage, gets its name from the phrase "matunda ya kwanza," meaning "first fruits" in Swahili,. Kwanzaa celebrations often include African songs and dances, drumming, storytelling, poetry reading and a large traditional meal. On each of the seven nights from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1, families and friends gather together, children light one of the candles on the kinara (candleholder), and then they discuss one of the seven principles — called the Nguzo Saba — values that contribute to building and reinforcing community among African-Americans. The seven principles are: *umoja* or unity, *kujichagulia* or self-determination, *ujima* or collective work and responsibility, *ujamaa* or cooperative economics, *nia* or purpose, *kuumba* or creativity, and *imani* or faith. A feast, called a Karamu, is held on Dec. 31.

Hanukkah. This eight-day Jewish celebration commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem, during the second century B.C. According to legend, Jews rose up against their Greek-Syrian oppressors in the Maccabean Revolt, asserting their right to political and religious freedom. Judah Maccabee and the other Jews who took part in the rededication of the Second Temple witnessed what they believed to be a miracle; even though there was only enough untainted olive oil to keep the temple's candles burning for a single day, the flames continued flickering for eight nights, leaving them time to find a fresh supply. This wondrous event inspired the Jewish sages to proclaim a yearly eight-day festival. Hanukkah, which means "dedication" in Hebrew, begins on the 25th of Kislev on the Hebrew calendar, which falls this year on Dec. 24 on the solar calendar. Often called the Festival of Lights, the holiday is celebrated with the lighting of the menorah, traditional foods, games and gifts.

What holidays does your family celebrate? Each family has unique ways, traditions and rituals to celebrate holidays handed down from generation to generation. Winter is the perfect season for gathering with loved ones for cherished holidays. Fun, too, is creating new traditions as families grow, communities expand and children arrive.

Pat Lord is the director of development and marketing at the Santa Fe Waldorf School.

Photos courtesy of Museum of International Folk Art

Look for the Polish *szopki* display in Gerard Wing, and Lion Dance masks in the Sacred Realms exhibit at the Museum of International Folk Art.

Global Journeys, a Car Ride Away

Here in Santa Fe, we have many opportunities for experiencing the customs, celebrations and creations of other cultures with a journey no farther than the Museum of International Folk Art. How lucky we are to get to take global journeys with just a trip to Museum Hill!

To enrich your family's understanding of winter holiday traditions, the museum's director of education Willamarie Moore recommends two objects in particular in the museum's collection — Polish *szopki* and Asian lion masks — and a Lunar New Year Celebration for the whole family.

In the city of Krakow, Poland, carolers at Christmas time parade through the streets carrying brightly-decorated puppet stages known as *szopki* (pronounced "shop-key"). Designed in the shape of majestic churches, castles and other grand monuments of the town, these handheld structures incorporate a nativity scene, although the tiny figures can be overshadowed by the architectural grandeur of the buildings that house them. The *szopki* tradition in Krakow dates back to medieval times, Moore said, and has evolved into an annual event where the finest creations are awarded prizes, displayed or sold.

Visitors to the "Multiple Visions: A Common Bond" permanent exhibit in the museum's Gerard Wing can find a *szopki* display adjacent to an installation of Peruvian folk art, demonstrating the contrast and similarities between clay folk churches and their Polish counterparts.

The Lion Dance, a popular element of Lunar New Year celebrations, probably originated in China and is performed today in various forms across the continent, Moore said. This auspicious ritual may be performed on other important occasions to dispel evil, grant prosperity and bestow happiness.

"Sacred Realms: Blessings & Good Fortune Across Asia," at the museum through March 19, contains four masks worn by various characters in the Lion Dance.

"A wonderful thing about the Sacred Realm exhibition is you can see the objects in context of their use, through videos throughout the exhibition," Moore said. "Visitors can actually watch a Lion Dance and other celebrations on iPads throughout the exhibition."

On Jan. 29 from 1 to 4, your family can experience a live Lion Dance parade, *taiko* drumming, Asian art activities and special holiday foods during the museum's Lunar New Year Celebration. Entrance is by museum admission: free for children under 16 and museum members, and $7 for New Mexico residents. Single-museum admission for out-of-state adult visitors is $12.

The Museum of International Folk Art is located at 706 Camino Lejo in Santa Fe, on Museum Hill. For more information, please call (505) 476-1200.

— Claudette Sutton

Opening New Doors: Reverse Advent Calendar

The tradition of Advent calendars — a 24-day ritual leading up Christmas — has been in my family as long as I can remember. Opening the daily numbered boxes was a favorite holiday activity of mine growing up. The act of restraint was tempered with delight as my siblings and I tried our hardest to not open the "doors" before their date. This became even harder for my children when my mother prepared wooden house-shaped Advent calendars for them with innovative gifts inside.

This year an aunt introduced another thought altogether, one that mirrors what I want this season to be for my kiddos: the Reverse Advent Calendar. Shared by food blogger Julia Van Rosendaal, this "calendar" is actually a box in which to put an item of food every day and then donate them to the local food bank on Christmas Eve (or whenever in December makes sense for your family). The ritual of getting turns into one of giving.

To make a Reverse Advent Calendar: Take two empty wine boxes — naturally divided into 12 spaces — and number each section. Every day, put a food item into a space. Or, get a regular box and do the same. I'm thinking of perhaps making our box for both food and toys, so that my kids are giving, too. Accompany the activity with discussions that make sense for your family about generosity, sharing, wealth disparity and abundance.

One thing a day, for the season.

— Katy Yanda

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asking students to engage in scientific illustration accomplishes this and helps them get to know their environment more intimately.

Focusing on one's environment is also something parents can do with their own children at home. For early success, pick an area for this activity where you are likely to see animals easily, like a birdfeeder in the backyard (hummingbird feeders in the summer, or chickadee feeders in the winter), or pigeons at the park. Help your young one get comfortable in a folding chair or on the ground, and sit with them. If they are older, set them up with a notebook and a pencil and leave them on their own. At any age, encourage them to notice one thing around them. A sound? Movement nearby? Seeing furtive creatures will require being patient and moving slowly, but will pay dividends when it is mastered. If your little ones have a hard time holding still for long, create a makeshift "blind": throw a blanket around them so that they can twitch and scratch without scaring away small birds or other organisms.

Silent observation is a gateway to many important life skills. It teaches the value of patience and perseverance. It reminds us that the world doesn't always move as fast as social media would make it seem. It gives us something to talk about later. Nature is immune to the social revolution in which children find themselves — chickadees and hummingbirds move at the same speed now as they did 100 years ago. Holding still, and learning to notice things, provides a natural context for learning skills that apply to every generation.

It is the responsibility of a teacher to cultivate an open, enthusiastic environment in which students learn facts, the relevance of those facts to all facets of life, and methods for validating facts. While those who do not ultimately pursue science as a long-term career cannot be expected to understand the finer points of, say, cloning, no student should be intimidated by scientific talk or crippled by a poor understanding of scientific thought. It behooves a society interested in a better world for future generations to promote scientific enquiry as a method for comprehending the world, and to provide contemporary scientific knowledge as a means by which to best appreciate that world.

Science isn't just for the "smart people," and does not need to engender anxiety in students. What's more, our ability to forestall and perhaps reverse the global effects of our species depends on the concerted involvement of *all* humans, not just scientists. If students are provided with a solid background in science and an appreciation of their natural world, the gap between the public sector and the scientific community can be bridged, providing an avenue for encouraging civic policies based on scientific fact. In a world where public sentiment often drives social policy, it is imperative that teachers provide students with a solid understanding of the scientific method, the tools necessary to effectively evaluate their observations, and the capacity to think critically about proposed solutions. Our future depends on it.

Dr. Olivia Carril is a science teacher at the Santa Fe Girls' School. Pat Preib is the Director of School Advancement.

Editors' note: We like articles about science. We want more articles about science. Please send us your articles about science.

Native Plant Society Honors Inspiring Science Teachers

The Native Plant Society of New Mexico (NPSNM) awards grants to sixth through 12th grade science teachers who incorporate teaching about plants, plant science and native plants in effective and inspiring ways. A one-time award of $500 will be granted to the teacher, along with a free teacher copy and one free classroom copy of Jack Carter's book, *Trees and Shrubs of New Mexico*.

NPSNM also awards grants of up to $1500 for individual projects that can be completed within a stated time period, and donations to nonprofit organizations doing ongoing work that meets the society's objectives and goals.

Applications will reviewed and voted on by the society's board of directors, who will notify applicants of the acceptance of their proposal or provide reasons for a denial.

Proposals for 2017 grants, donations and teacher awards must be received no later than Dec. 31, 2016. Requests must be submitted electronically: go to www.npsnm.org/conservation/grants/ for more information.

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Photos by Brianna Neumann

TIMELESS BOOKS FIND NEW FRIENDS

Find your favorite reading spot and curl up with a classic

By Dorothy Massey

Winter is a great time to curl up and discover a new book friend, whether to read aloud, read to yourself or have read to you, and get to know a new author. Where's your favorite place to read? In the kitchen with all the good smells of supper coming? In your favorite chair, maybe shared with someone bigger or littler than you so that you share the stories and giggle when they're funny? On the floor so that your dog or cat can hear the best read-aloud parts? Or in bed when there are a few precious minutes to read a few more pages of a wonderful story before you turn out the light and dream away the night?

Wherever and whenever you read, a good book will warm your winter days and nights. The staff at Collected Works has selected a few of our favorite classics for kids of all ages. These are timeless books that have been read and loved for years, but which will be fresh and new to children and adults encountering them for the first time.

Board books are designed to be read to babies and young children who can't read for themselves yet, stories they will love hearing over and over again. *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney is meant to be read with someone you love very much. *Ten Little Rabbits* by Virginia Grossman is an early counting book with the rabbits all wearing traditional southwest blankets. And *Good Night Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown has been read by millions of grown-ups to millions of babies — and they all go to sleep happy.

For toddlers and young children, Beatrix Potter spins unforgettable tales of her clever animal friends: *Peter Rabbit*, *Squirrel Nutkin*, *Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle* and others. *Mike Mulligan and his Steamshovel* by Virginia Lee Burton, *Little Blue Truck* by Alice Schertle, and W. Awdry's Thomas the Train are digging, driving and chugging along, together with *The Little Engine that Could* by Watty Piper.

Dr. Seuss' poetry and illustrations are a must for anyone building a library: *Horton Hears a Who, The Cat in the Hat, Green Eggs & Ham* and *Hop on Pop* will make the whole family laugh and can be read aloud by noisy readers, grownup or not.

For older kids, *Treasure Island,* written by Robert Louis Stevenson 130 years ago, is still as exciting for adventure lovers as ever, as is *The Secret Garden*, Frances Hodgson Burnett's timeless tale of very brave Mary and the boy she befriends in early 20th century England. Mole, Toad, Badger and Ratty have a series of wonderful adventures in *The Wind in the Willows*, set out by Kenneth Grahame. If you fall under the spell of *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maud Montgomery, you'll have a series of eight books to take you through the winter.

A mouse with a sewing needle is the star of Kate DiCamillo's *The Tale of Despereaux*. Other beloved critters feature in E.B. White's *Stuart Little, Charlotte's Web* and *The Trumpet of the Swan*, and Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*. Rick Riordan's great adventure books, starting with Percy Jackson and the Olympians series, Shel Silverstein's hysterical poetry and drawings in *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, *Light in the Attic* and *Don't Bump the Gump* … the list goes on and on.

We hope to see you in the bookstore this winter and to help you find just the perfect classic to read!

Dorothy Massey is the owner of Collected Works Bookstore & Coffeehouse, in downtown Santa Fe.

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Wanna Come Play?

Courtesy photos

Nothing lights up the brain better for kids, teens and adults • By Katy Yanda

I partnered and married a man to whom play is second nature, or maybe first. In addition to being smart and caring, Chris is funny. He is goofy and weird and creative. He is, much of the time, pretty fun to be around. His sense of play can light up a room and certainly a day and has since I've known him, long before parenthood. With our children, 5 and 8 years old, the course of their adventures takes them through costumes, labyrinths of building blocks, mini-movies complete with green screen, rhyming games, joke marathons and trampoline tournaments … just to name a few. It is a wonderful scene of which to be a part.

It also makes it, at times, frustrating to parent with him. I often feel like the "bad cop," walking the difficult line between partner, parent and playmate. The refrains of "Come on guys, we're late — again!" "Dinner is on the table," "Pick up all of these toys and yesterday's, please" are constant and I feel, perhaps unfairly, one-sided. There are chores and timetables that need to be kept to keep our households running. There are barely enough hours in the day to do the minimum of keeping everyone fed and where they are supposed to be. Play and "real life" can feel disconnected.

I was reminded recently, in a class at the Santa Fe Community College, that play can be — should be — included in everything we do. Our adult lives, with and without kids, can be filled with play. Dr. Stuart Brown's TED Talk, "Play is more than just fun," was a re-lesson of what we all know intuitively — that my husband Chris's sense of the world, and play within it, is essential. According to Brown and the research he presents, play is fundamental to human development, not just when we are children but throughout our lives.

Based on hundreds of hours of observing animals in the wild working with Jane Goodall and teams at National Geographic, Brown gives vivid and multiple examples of play throughout animals' lifespans. Animals as diverse as polar bears, dogs, mountain goats, chimps, crows and rats constantly engage in play, from youth to maturity. Play can transform predator to playmate (as observed with a polar bear and a wolf), relieve tension, express curiosity, show the functionality of an object and teach a myriad of other lessons.

It starts when a mother or father looks at their infant and begins to sing, coo, chortle and move the baby's hands and feet.

For us, human animals, play is just as crucial. "Nothing lights up the brain like play," says Brown. Through research using MRIs and fMRIs (magnetic resonant imaging and functional magnetic resonant imaging), adults and children at play are shown to be connecting and building all parts of their brains. According to studies in the varied fields of neurophysiology, developmental and cognitive psychology, evolutionary and molecular biology, the National Institute on Play says, "Existing research describes how patterns and states of play shape our brains, create our competencies, and ballast our emotions."

It starts when a mother or father looks at their infant and begins to sing, coo, chortle and move the baby's hands and feet. The parent's behavior is automatic; the child reacts. There is an eruption of joy that, in my experience, continues for years. Adults can let loose play behavior with kids that most of us cannot

(with marked exceptions) do on our own. When my children were born, I began to sing, something I had never done for anyone else. Like other new parents, I found myself on the floor a lot, under tent blankets, hanging from monkey bars, running around parks, digging tunnels in sand, playing hide and seek between trees, sometimes even *in* trees. But as our kids get older, I'm not doing these things quite as much. I find myself saying, with to be quite honest a bit of relief, "They're old enough to play on their own." As children age, adults' impetus to play loses its strength, though it remains just as valuable.

How did play become the province solely of children and parents with young children?

Art and literature show that play has been a part of the adult human experience throughout the span of illustrated and written history. All different kinds of play — body and movement play, object play, social play, storytelling and narrative, creative, imaginative and pretend play. Through play we develop trust with one another, create bonds, develop social structures, explore risky areas, discover new ideas, make connections, release stress, build joy and lay new neural pathways through movement and emotions. In the busy, sometimes chaotic, technology-obsessed 21st century — is there a risk of losing these critical points of growth? Are we adults forgetting how to play?

There is a significant amount of discussion about how children are losing play time and play space. Many children do not have access to nature; there is less recess time, less unstructured time and, in many communities, no safe public space to play. We need to keep working on solutions that create and keep these spaces. Children who are allowed substantial play time are better problem solvers as adults; research says they are healthier. Play is essential for kids' mental, social and emotional development.

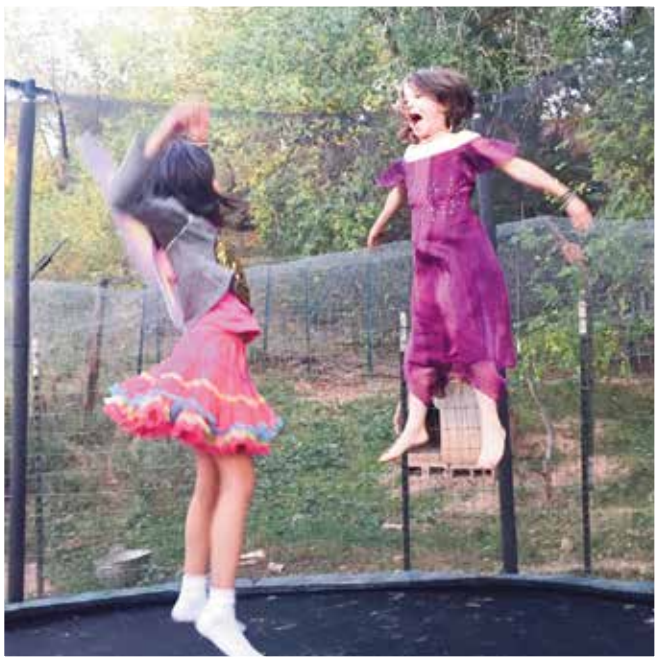
It seems it is also essential for adults and those on the bridge to adulthood: adolescents. Among educators working with middle school and high school students, there is a trend of encouraging goofiness. When teens are allowed to clown around, social rules disappear. Experts who work with teens, at the age when they are becoming hyperconscious of their appearance and social cues, say "being silly" allows teens to be themselves and throw off the mantles of adulthood they are trying on.

Looking at the research made me wonder: What would more play look like in our lives? Our workplaces? Our staff meetings? Our schools? When our son was having trouble with other kids in his preschool, we were advised to wrestle with him, to roughhouse as much as we could. This was a way to show him the boundaries between acceptable play and hurting someone. It also felt great for us, his parents. When our daughter is in the middle of an emotional tantrum, turning on her latest favorite song for a spontaneous dance party almost always moves her mood. We talk about the whys and hows of the tantrum later, when she is feeling better. When we all feel better.

Play lights up our brains. Engenders better problem-solving skills. Lessens stress. Makes us healthier in the long run and happier in the moment. Surrounds us with laughter.

As we add more ways to involve play into our quotidian rhythms, Chris and I are also fine-tuning ways to distribute parenting and play roles. All reasons for me to say yes next time the children holler from the trampoline, "Mama, come JUMP."

*Katy Yanda is **Tumbleweeds'** assistant editor.*



Roots and Wings

Courtesy photos

Keeping an eye on parenting's ultimate goal

By Shari Cassutt

When I was raising children, children who are now raising their own children, I came across a quote from Hodding Carter's 1953 book *Where Main Street Meets the River:* "There are only two lasting bequests that we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots, the other, wings." This became my parenting mantra. These words reminded me what my ultimate goal was.

When my babies bravely boarded that kindergarten bus, I chanted, "roots and wings, roots and wings" to stem my tears and fears. When they took the car out for the first time by themselves, when they flew off to Europe with nothing more than a backpack and a few trustworthy friends, when they walked down the aisle to begin a life in which their parents were certainly no longer stars but now part of the supporting cast, "roots and wings" comforted me.

I was reminded of this quote the other day when I came across a Facebook post on the page of a mothers group. The young woman, whom I don't know, wrote to the group about a trip next summer to a house at the shore where her family gathers every other year. Next year she'd have a 6-month-old, a 4-year-old and a 6-year-old. "What can I do or bring to make my time as enjoyable as possible? Am I crazy for going?" she asked, then added, "I would appreciate any tips or advice! I'll buy whatever I need." But it was when she wrote, "I'm not really the type to dump my kids on someone else. I am really an overprotective mother and like to do everything by myself" that I felt compelled to offer my advice.

My first instinct was to tell her to lighten up. Perfection in parenting is an unobtainable goal and one that is centered on her needs, not necessarily the needs of her children. There is no magical gizmo or gadget she could buy, but a shift in attitude might help. Of course I didn't write that. Instead I shared my quote.

"What a perfect opportunity for both the cultivation of roots and the spreading of wings!" I told her. She absolutely should bring her children to spend time with aunts and uncles, cousins, grandparents. This is where memories are created. The stories from these summer reunions will stay with her children throughout their lives.

When I was a child, my family vacationed at a working farm in the Amish Country of Pennsylvania. My cousins, brother and I still reminisce about our time at the Landis' dairy farm. There's the time Uncle Marv took us fishing and my brother Eric, about 4 years old, caught not a fish but his own earlobe. And the big wind that blew shut the top half of a Dutch door with a huge BANG! We screamed in fear and jumped on to the big double bed in a tumble of arms and legs and, eventually, giggles of relief.

These memories and so many more form the roots of our extended family. They are stories of less than perfect moments. Perhaps the kind of moments an overprotective mother would have protected us from and, in the process, denied us from learning about pain and recovery, fear and laughter, and relationships that have lasted nearly 60 years. Yet they are part of what anchors the four of us together despite decades of living on opposite sides of the country and the busy years of our own child-raising and career-building, when both time and money for cross-country visits were limited. Now three of our four parents are gone. Our memories are what we hang on to bring them back to us, memories that

are all the more powerful when shared, when the conversation starts with "Do you remember…?"

And where did those wings that took my children away from me to their own spouses, careers and adventures come from? In part they came from establishing relationships with caretakers outside of their father and me. They came from the attention of the teenaged babysitter who amused them with his drawings of fantastical beings, and from favorite teachers and coaches. Our children learned that the net of safety extended wider than just their mom and dad, to those other moms and dads, uncles and aunts, friends and extended family who played a role in their growing up.

When my son Brian was 12 or 13, before cell phones, he went out riding on his bicycle. We lived on the southeast side of town. Somehow he found himself far to the west, on Cerrillos Road, with no clue how to get back home. He went into a hotel, explained the situation, borrowed their phone and started calling. I don't remember why he couldn't reach either his father or me, but eventually he did reach the father of a friend. "Don't go anywhere," said Larry, "I'm on my way." Did Larry feel inconvenienced or dumped on when he took on the responsibility of rescuing my son? I doubt it. If anything it is now part of his repertoire of stories of fatherhood and community.

Sometimes strengthening wings means taking a risk or failing. Babies don't learn to walk without also learning to fall. Roots and wings come from shared experiences, from meeting physical and emotional challenges. As parents, teachers and caregivers, our job is to allow just the right amount of challenge into the lives of those that we nurture, not overprotect them from the opportunity to grow. Sometimes this means challenging ourselves as parents to push that zone out a bit further than is comfortable for us, so that our young ones can develop the confidence to spread their wings.

Shari Cassutt taught kindergarten in Santa Fe Public Schools for 20 years. Though she considers herself a Santa Fean, she finds herself temporarily living in Simsbury, Connecticut where her inner New Englander is blossoming.

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Los chiquitos y el ballet

Aprenden pasos y lecciones para la vida

Por Sarah Rivera
Traducción por Flor de María Oliva

Enseñar a niños chiquitos no es un don de todos. A quienes lo hacen bien les recuerdan por mucho tiempo después de que terminan las clases tanto los estudiantes como sus padres, que llegan a ser testigos de la enseñanza y, a veces, seguramente se preguntan cómo hacer para conservar esa magia para usarla en casa.

Muchos se han sentado maravillados cuando una de las maestras más queridas de Santa Fe, Allegra Lillard, enseña clases de movimiento creativo a niños de 3 y 4 años de edad en el Instituto Nacional de Danza (NDI, por sus siglas en inglés). Tiene con sus pequeños bailarines y bailarinas una conexión que es completa y llena de alegría. Les llama "ventanas al alma" y jura que aprende más de ellos de lo que les enseña.

¿Dé donde viene esta maestra? ¿Y cómo lo hace?

Lillard ha enseñado ballet y los principios básicos del baile en Santa Fe por dos décadas desde que "se jubiló" de bailarina profesional. Participó en el NDI desde el principio e iba a las escuelas públicas para enseñar un estilo básico de jazz que se trataba más de las lecciones secundarias que van con el baile: Haz lo mejor que puedas; nunca te des por vencida; trabaja duro y sé saludable. Luego tuvo su propio estudio de danza ("No podía dejar el ballet") y regresó al NDI hace seis años para encargarse del programa extracurricular.

Criada en Jacksboro, un pueblito en el centro norte de Texas, a temprana edad Lillard se enganchó al ballet en el sótano de una iglesia, inspirada en su primera maestra de danza, Elizabeth Rhoades.

"Ella ni siquiera era de este planeta", dijo Lillard, todavía maravillada por su maestra. De chica, ayudaba a la Srta. Rhoades con los estudiantes más pequeños por dos horas antes de empezar su propia clase. La maestra vio lo serio que tomaba el ballet y animó a sus padres para que la llevaran las 120 millas de ida y vuelta a Wichita Falls, donde había una compañía regional de ballet. Más adelante, Lillard escogió Walnut Hill, una preparatoria de artes escénicas privada en Massachusetts, donde pudo continuar su educación como balletista y terminar la preparatoria un año antes de lo común. A los 17 años de edad, empezó su carrera profesional en el Ballet de Atlanta.

Tiene lo que se necesita para ser bailarina de ballet: capacitación, atletismo, intensidad, constancia, la habilidad de llegar a su audiencia y entender las claves que le dan, habilidades similares a las que se requieren para enseñar a niños pequeños.

"Nunca, jamás pensé que enseñaría. Siempre dije: 'Nunca voy a enseñar'", dijo Lillard.

La vida de una bailarina de ballet profesional puede parecer breve. Muchas "se jubilan" como

a los 30 años de edad, como lo hizo ella. Su amplio entrenamiento en ballet les hace ideales para enseñar danza. Sin embargo, enseñar los principios fundamentales del ballet a niños de edad preescolar es una tarea que muchas maestras dicen que es más difícil que enseñar ballet a nivel avanzado. Lillard hizo notar que algunas de las primeras clases que enseñó "fueron un desastre", porque muchos de sus estándares como bailarina profesional aplican particularmente bien a los pequeños. "Una tiene que estar completamente presente y 150 por ciento llena de energía y lista. Si no entro en una clase con la motivación debida, no va a funcionar". Según ella, sus pequeños bailarines y bailarinas parecen saber cuando la maestra no está del todo presente y la provocan.

Como todo buen actor, Lillard percibe el estado de ánimo de su audiencia.

"Llego preparada con algo, pero también estoy preparada para descartarlo si no funciona", dijo.

Una de sus primera lecciones como nueva maestra fue limitar la variedad.

"Pensé que cada clase tenía que ser diferente, pero con los chiquitos me di cuenta que les gusta la estructura. Se dan cuenta de lo que sigue y eso les genera confianza".

Empieza sus clases con una danza de preparación, después pasa lista en un círculo y procede a varias actividades con indicaciones consecuentes, tales como sentarse en la fila de "en sus marcas, listos", el punto de partida de los bailarines. La gran final de los 45 minutos de clase es un baile con accesorios, tales como listones o animales de peluche, que los niños llevan en la cabeza o los hombros. Cada estudiante baila para despedirla y ella les pone brillo en la nariz o les da una pegatina.

La maestra trata de retar a los estudiantes justo con la lección adecuada para su aprendizaje.

"Si uno les da cosas que son muy difíciles, van a perder interés", dijo. Sus estudiantes tienen diferentes niveles de atletismo y tienen diferentes experiencias con el trabajo en grupo. Algunos han recibido educación preescolar y entienden la dinámica de estar en una clase. Para otros, la experiencia es totalmente nueva.

Sus clases mantienen un ritmo dinámico. "Una hace algo y no lo hace por mucho tiempo. Hay días que hay que parar y dejarse llevar por la corriente." Hay un deseo de escuchar lo que sus pequeños necesitan cada día. Recién están aprendiendo a usar sus cuerpos y a llevarse bien con los demás. Realmente no tienen las habilidades necesarias para ocultar sus sentimientos. Sus días malos con frecuencia se convierten en los días malos de los padres.

En estas clases no es nada más de ir a dejar a los hijos. Se espera que los padres de familia o guardianes se sienten en la clase y ofrezcan apoyo y, talvez, hasta que lleven a un niño inquieto al baño. Algunos niños son muy tímidos y cautelosos para ponerse a bailar con los demás el primer día. Un niño puede pasar sentado en el regazo de la mamá y sólo mirar hasta seis meses antes de decidir unirse al grupo. "No presiono", dijo Lillard. Mira a los ojos a los que están a los lados y sabe que lentamente van a ir formando parte de la clase. Los estudiantes que observan la clase hasta por medio año al principio pueden convertirse en bailarines seguros de sí mismos en el próximo.

El ballet es únicamente el vehículo para impartirles enseñanzas.

"No es sólo cuestión de pasos de baile", dijo. "Una está inculcando lecciones de vida. Los niños aprenden a ser atentos, a levantarse cuando se caen, a mirar a las maestras a los ojos y más."

Ponerse a su altura es tan importante al hablarles como lo es escucharlos. Una pequeña puede interrumpir con un tirón a la falda y Lillard para y se pone en cuclillas. "Una les ve a los ojos. Tan solo dejarles saber que una está allí es importante – aunque la respuesta sea: 'No' o, lo más probable: 'Tratemos otra cosa'".

Su paciencia con los estudiantes es innegable, así como lo es su alegría de bailar con ellos. Es un tipo de paciencia diferente al que dice que necesita ahora que su primera hija se apresta a asistir a la universidad, empezando con el proceso de solicitar admisión. Se alegra de que sus hijos tengan sus propios maestros especiales, porque requiere todo un pueblo y, como dice, "Estamos en ese pueblo juntos", maestros y padres de familia que encaminan a los niños en la danza de la vida.

Sarah Rivera, madre de tres niños, es escritora independiente y maestra en Santa Fe.

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TOUCHING THE QUAD

Warm layers, kid-directed games, hot cocoa help ease the climb

By Katie Macaulay

It was just a regular winter Tuesday, except there was a full moon that night. Instead of our usual weekday routine of dinner, chores, reading and a sensible bedtime, we had planned to snowshoe and "skin" up the mountain with our friends Oliver and Felix and their dad, Justin. My kids, Owen and Ella, were excited for their first big hike up the mountain under the moon, a new adventure.

After school we made a big thermos of hot cocoa, gathered snacks and water, put on warm layered clothes and loaded up our gear: snowshoes, skis with skins, poles, and of course our trusty dog, Coover. Our goal was to hike up to the top of the Quad chairlift, enjoy some hot cocoa and ski or snowshoe down.

We met our friends before sunset at the dogleg on the road to the ski basin, where we got everyone suited up for the adventure. I was surprised to find only one other car there. The moon rises earlier on the night before a full moon, so perhaps there had been more people there the night before.

After some swapping and wrestling with gear, we were on our way. At first the boys raced ahead, eager to outdo each other and show off their speed. They clanged poles together, on trees, the ground and each other, in a primitive display of boyish enthusiasm. Their bursts of speed alternated with flopping to the ground, where they lay strewn like soldiers until we got close and they rose to race off again. Justin, Ella and I brought up the rear. Ella, the youngest, complained about how far we had to go and about being last. I reminded her that there would be hot cocoa at the top, which seemed to spur her on her way, for the time being.

As we progressed, a dark cloud appeared over the mountains to the east. The sun dipped below the western horizon and it began to get dark. Very quickly darkness descended; the cloud rolled over the mountains and appeared very threatening. I was concerned that it would obscure the moon from view, but we trudged on. We passed Adventure Land with barely a glance, more concerned about getting to the top on this cloudy night than visiting the bear cave, teepee and trees.

By the first plateau the curtain of darkness had fully descended. It got very chilly very quickly, on this darker than expected night. The kids decided they wanted to stop here to make a jump for their dad to ski on his way down. This is where my adult goal-oriented style of climbing needed to chill and go with the flow, something I have learned and re-learned as a parent and outdoor educator during this lifetime! The four kids industriously gathered and shoved snow into a pile using snowshoes as shovels and patted it down with skis, their steamrollers. It was an impressive burst of energy from a crew that minutes ago had been dragging up the steep incline. There's nothing like a kid-initiated task to get kids fired up. Of course, snack-time helped too. Once the jump was built to their satisfaction and everyone had some fuel in their tummy, we geared up and were on our way again.

There was no moon in sight and I wondered if we would see it at all. I was glad to have a flashlight with fresh batteries, as my cell phone battery usually dies in the cold. We settled into a steady pace, passing the eerily pitch-black forest, with the snow on the ski runs providing just enough reflection to

Courtesy photos

Left: Felix takes off, while Owen, Oliver and Ella gather their strength. Right: Ella, Felix, Owen and Oliver chill at the top. Below: Ella, all smiles, makes a ski jump.

light our way. Of course, the kids wanted to cut through the dark forest with its steep bumps and icy snow. It was here that Owen and Felix decided to capitalize on the gloomy darkness to hide from us in the trees. We could see nothing and were easy victims of their sudden leaps, sending our hearts racing and shrieks echoing.

This led to a game of Camouflage, a great distraction for tired legs and minds while hiking. To play, several kids run ahead to hide in the forest near the trails edge, while the "searchers" slow down, then hike ahead to find them. Camouflage took on a whole new dimension in the dark, the forest serving as a cloak of secrecy for the hiders. Once our eyes adjusted, however, it was amazing what would give someone away: the light stripe of a hat, the skin of an exposed neck, or a faint silhouette against the white snow. Night vision gets 100 times better after five minutes of darkness and a million times better after 45 minutes. That's why it's a good idea to keep the flashlights off on a night hike and let your eyes adjust. Hiking at night, in any place, is so much fun for that reason.

For my daughter Ella, this game provided an excellent diversion from the lead-legged feeling she had during much of the climb. We played almost all the way up the mountain before the looming cloud descended, the wind started to blow and the snow came at us sideways. We were really close to the top, so we decided to stop playing Camouflage and focus on climbing for the final push. To my surprise, Ella got out ahead, suddenly energetic and happy to have the end in sight. She was first to the top and was very pleased. I was proud of her, too, and relieved when we all made it to an empty chairlift for a brief hot cocoa break. The icy wind and snow made for a short pit stop and I was suddenly aware of how far we were from the comfort of our warm cars. I was glad that we had come prepared. We slurped our cocoa, piled on all the layers we had, and made our departure as quickly as possible.

Once off the open peak of the Quad and on the downhill, we were much more protected from the wind and the storm. Getting down was more interesting and humorous than I would have imagined. The kids on snowshoes attempted every technique possible to slide rather than walk their way down the mountain: back-sliding feet first, back-sliding head first, belly-sliding head first, knee-sliding, and even attempted head-sliding. This, combined with a lot of shoving using poles, hands and feet, made for some good entertainment. It was clear who had the slippery snow pants and who did not, a feature we had not considered in snow clothes before. The glee with which they slipped and slid down the mountain was an amazing display of creativity and pure joy.

Amidst the whooping and laughter, we watched the light of the snowcats slowly making their grooming rounds on distant parts of the mountain. They were like mountain climbers, slowly and steadily persevering up the steep slopes. One cat was headed in our direction and then veered off to park in front of Totemoff's. A dark figure emerged and I guessed it might be our friend Michael, the mountain manager. I called out to him over the frosty expanse. He hollered back. We hustled over to greet him in the darkness. It seemed random and fortuitous to see our friend on this dark and stormy night.

The home stretch was easy. We were all relieved to be safely out of the storm and so close to the warmth and comfort of the car (and bed!) We also had a great feeling of accomplishment, having hiked all that way, reached our goal and successfully escaped the storm. While we never saw the moon that night, we were still grateful for its clandestine rise behind the clouds, as it got us out of our routine for a night of memorable adventure close to home.

Note to parents: Night hiking under a full moon can be done in any season and anywhere. One need not have fancy gear or great ambitions to head out for a walk under a full moon. To get out of your everyday routine, try heading out under the moon, with your flashlight turned off (five minutes or more), for a magical and fun experience. Who knows, maybe you'll start a new family tradition!

Katie Macaulay is the founder and director of Mountain Kids!, an outdoor education and adventure-based summer program in Santa Fe.

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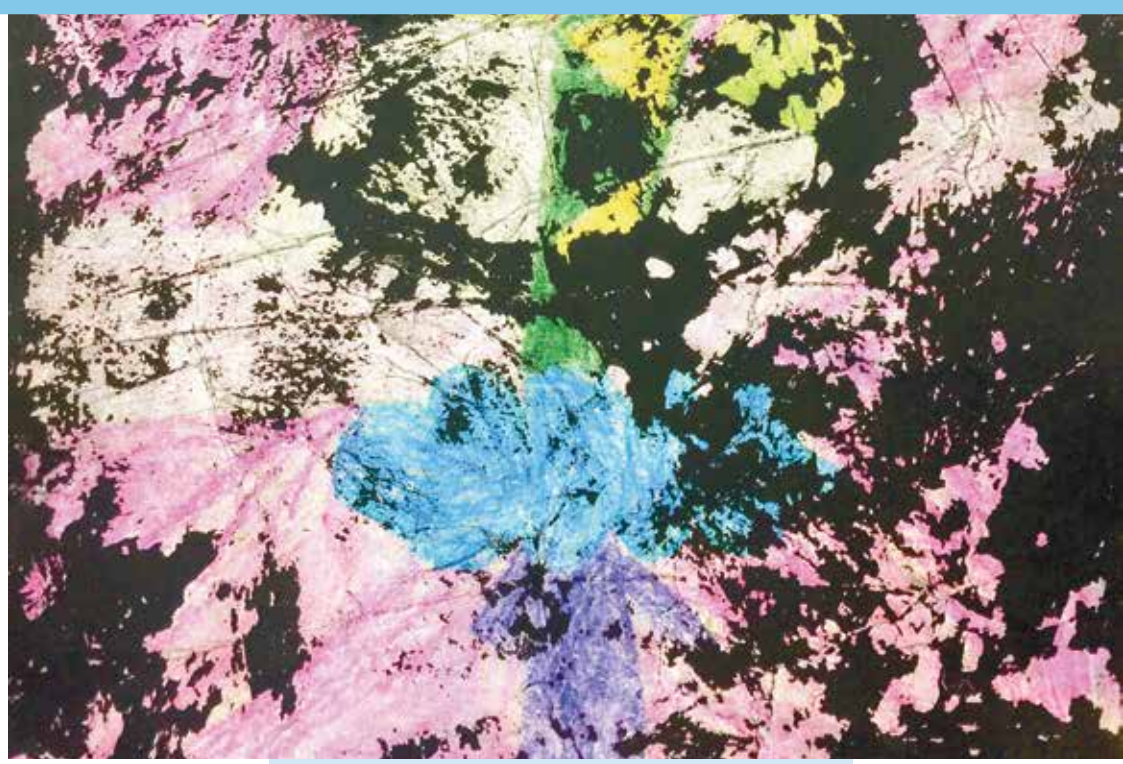


By Meneese Wall

Can't avoid this kind of thing forever, Nadine reasoned as she looked across the rutty red bricks of Main Street to Nicole's shop, then down at the invitation in her hand. It bore a watercolor of the shop's facade and a whimsical font — Saturday, January 20, 11 a.m., For A New You. *Why would anyone want a new self? What's wrong with the old one?* Nadine continued pacing the sidewalk until she'd reached 55 steps, the same number needed to land at Nicole's door.

I'm not fluent in small talk and have no desire to participate in it. Those who do are either trying to prove to themselves that others fit into their box (which they don't, exactly), or they're wooing a potential box-mate, sometimes working extra hard to turn a 'no, we don't have enough in common' into a 'yes, let's be friends.' 'Maybe' is never an option. Either way, I can always tell when it works 'cause everybody's transformed into a chorus of Bobblehead dolls. Mama says that the conversations will be of little consequence but that we do it to be sociable.

The invitation momentarily hypnotized her. *The things they focus on are such a waste of time — boys, make-up, fashion, iPhones. They act like their happiness would be compromised without them. And they say the dumbest stuff, as though the mere utterance of words excuses them from the use of logic. Honestly, do they ever read? Draw? Play chess?*

These sort of gatherings inverted Nadine's world. With the exception of Nicole, those party people weren't in Nadine's life. They were *edge dwellers,* only participating from the fringes, making life blurry instead of clear. *I get so tired of having to ask Mama to explain what those people mean. Sarcasm and metaphors are exhausting; and their humor makes no sense.*

I know being social is part of life; but what they call small talk, I say is just empty ... no, self-congratulatory. They usually talk fast, vomiting hollow words. When speaking to me however, their blather is ridiculously protracted. I think they mostly like the sound of their own voices. This morning Mama was talking about how those who pride themselves on their proficiency in fads and gossip indenture themselves to the whims of society. I have no talent for such things and prefer to decide stuff for myself. Every therapist I've seen says the same thing, "Confidence is a battle worth waging."

Author's note: What if your "accident of birth" wasn't what it was? This question fascinates me. "Normal" is written from the perspective of a teen on the autism spectrum. I often ask myself, "What's the difference between normal and typical; does it matter?" Seeing the world as it is instead of how it ought to be informs much of my work; so I write about the human experience from this paradigm while challenging myself to be more observant, more curious, more mindful, more inclusive and more accepting of others' lives (knowing that I'll fail more often than I'd like). I hope this story inspires you to see the world differently and to share those differences with your children in a positive light.

Main Street might as well have been the River Styx; for now, Nadine's side was the more sanguine. So, she sat on a bench — the one she enjoyed every summer Saturday with her mother as they shared mint-chocolate chip ice cream at 1:30, after checking out seven books from the library — one for each day until their return.

Sitting there, transfixed in uncertainty as she peered beyond the bricks, Nadine enumerated her and Nicole's shared traits — a technique she often employed to embrace those close to her. *N's; we both have N-names. I love N's. Is that because I grew up with one? Would I have been happier if I'd had another letter of the alphabet? Or is it learned, like nature vs. nurture? Doesn't everyone have an affinity for their initials?*

Come to think of it, I'm fortunate to have an N-name. They're sturdy and balanced with fast-acting turns. You have to be clever to handle a designation with such a steep slant.

She thought of the tall slides at the playground she used to enjoy with her father when she was younger. *Letters with curves might roll about, too unstable.*

Oh my gosh, we both have six-letter names — Nicole, Nadine. Can't believe that never occurred to me before now. We're both girls, brunettes, average height, and sensitive to wheat. We're sisters, sort of.

Nadine's brother, Billy, met and married Nicole in France while stationed there in the Air Force. "William is a royal name," Nicole recounted for Nadine as often as needed. " 'Billy' didn't live up to his potential. Now he's Liam, a much better fit." And so he became, despite the initial squinty-eyed looks and snarled lips from family and friends upon his return home two years back.

I wonder if Liam feels 'family' toward his L-name since he spent so many years with a B-name, even though it really was a W.

10:56; almost time for the bells to clang at the church on the square. *OK, I'll start walking across the street just after the 11th strike. That way I'll be fashionably late; at least that's what the social butterflies at school say is cool to do. Nicole won't mind if I'm not there straight up at 11.*

A woman wheeling a shopping cart packed with aluminum cans trudged toward Nadine, stopped and sat on the bench. Her rotted smile stared at Nadine with anticipation. *Whoa!* She recalled the bacteria she just studied in ninth grade science and thought for sure she glimpsed some of its spherical shapes on the woman's teeth. Her distinctive stench of sewage made Nadine rethink her timeline. Besides, it was cold and snow had started to fall. She looked at her watch, *10:59; I'll walk slowly.*

Halfway to her destination, she looked at the invitation again. *This is going to be terrible.* When she looked up, Nicole beckoned with a hurrying gesture, interspersed with dramatically thrown kisses. A tingle danced in Nadine's chest.

Live And Let Dye was the town's only beauty salon. Before Nicole opened it, professional haircuts could only be found 35 miles away in the next town — a metropolis by comparison. Nadine's long straight hair had yet to brave the uncertainty of any scissors other than her mother's. *Paying someone to cut my hair is a waste of money.*

Nicole's shop was in the old drugstore building, a fact announced by white hexagon ceramic tiles on the floor at the entrance with 'Drugs' laid down in black. Inside, it bragged of the latest Parisian salon chairs, sinks and products off to the left, while the right side flaunted the past with retro hairdryer chairs and vintage black-and-white beauty parlor photos — it was the waiting and socializing area. Nadine came by often, mostly to say hello to Ranger, Nicole's chocolate Lab, who permanently bogarted the beehive hairdryer chair closest to the window. The menagerie of chemical fumes and sweet fragrances overwhelmed her every time, but the soothing interior colors fought to dispel her discomfort — black, silver and taupe with splashes of teal and pale reds.

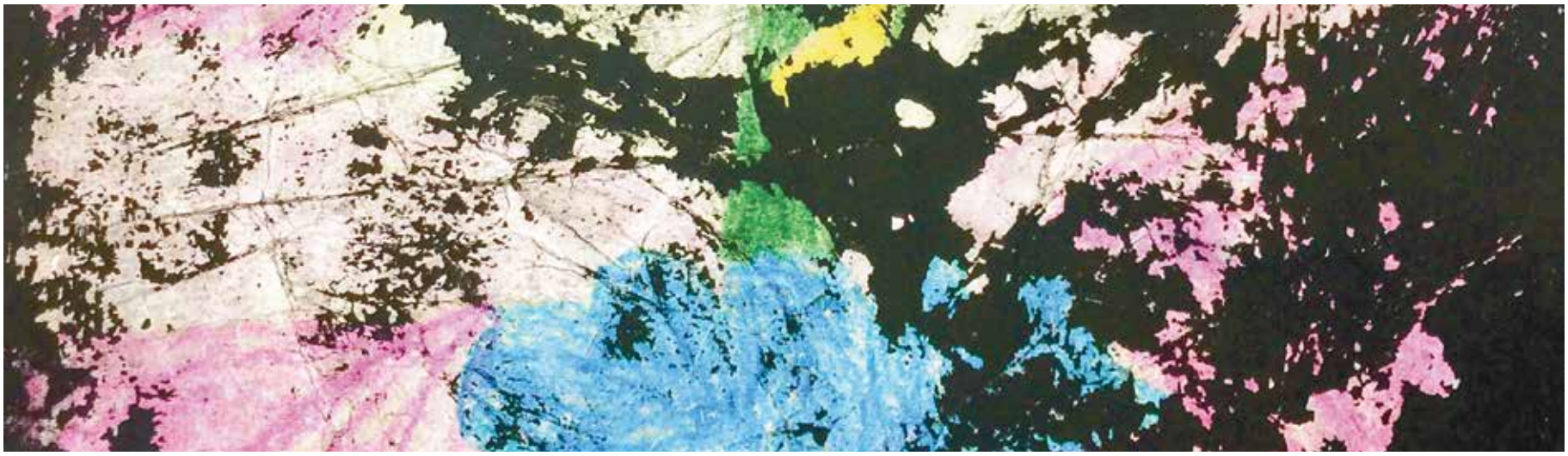
Today's gathering was for young women to get together, talk and munch, with discounts offered on all services. "Sweetie," Nicole beamed with her usual unconfined joy, "Ranger's been waiting for you. We have plenty of gluten-free goodies, and I made your favorite spaghetti with rice noodles; it's in the back. Your hair looks fabulous. If you want a trim, let me know."

"Thanks, but Mama says there's beauty in imperfection." Nadine looked expectantly at Nicole, who greeted Nadine's stiffness with a warm smile. "I can stay for 30 minutes," Nadine continued in a matter-of-fact tone. "Then Ranger and I are going for a walk. It's snowing those Styrofoam-sized pellets he likes so much."

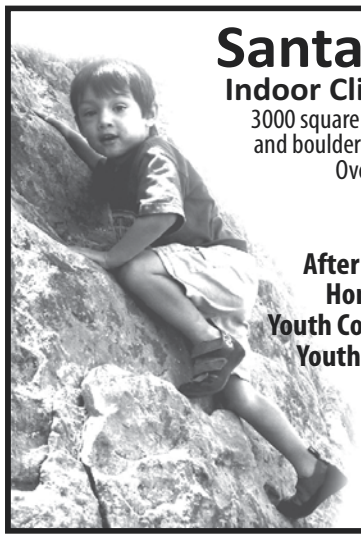
No eye contact was necessary as she made her way to the back room. *How is it that people at social gatherings take up more space in a room than just their body size?*

OK, I came; I did the right thing. Like Mama says, this is just practice. Her left arm bent at the elbow, bringing her watch into view. *Twenty-six minutes to go.*

Meneese Wall is a Santa Fe-based writer, graphic designer, domestic slave, healthcare guru, wife and mother to a catalytic daughter (not necessarily in that order). See more of her creative dexterity at www.meneesewall.com. This story originally appeared in Amygdala Literary Magazine.



Miranda Martinez, grade 1



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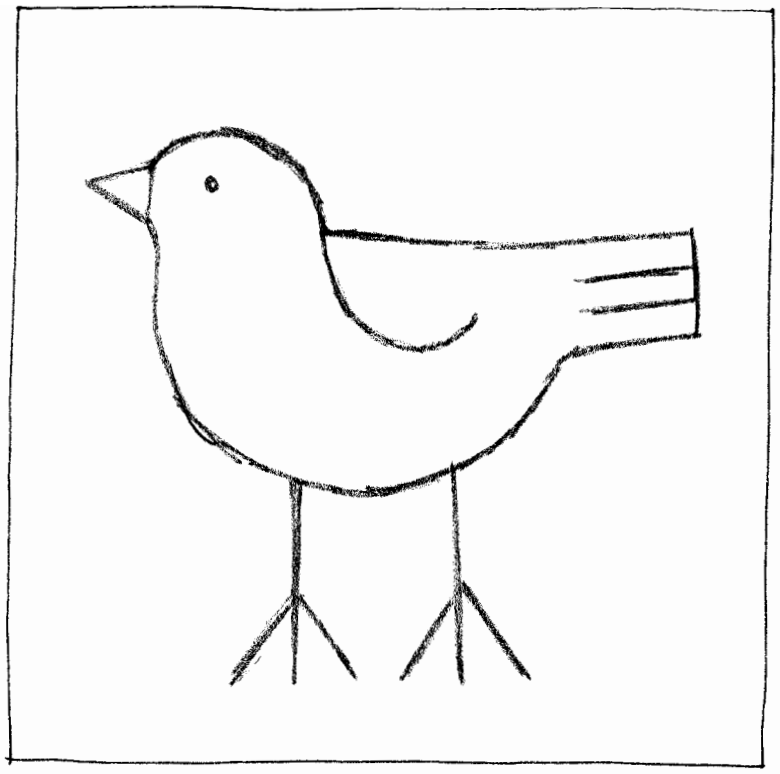


HOMEMADE RUBBER STAMPS

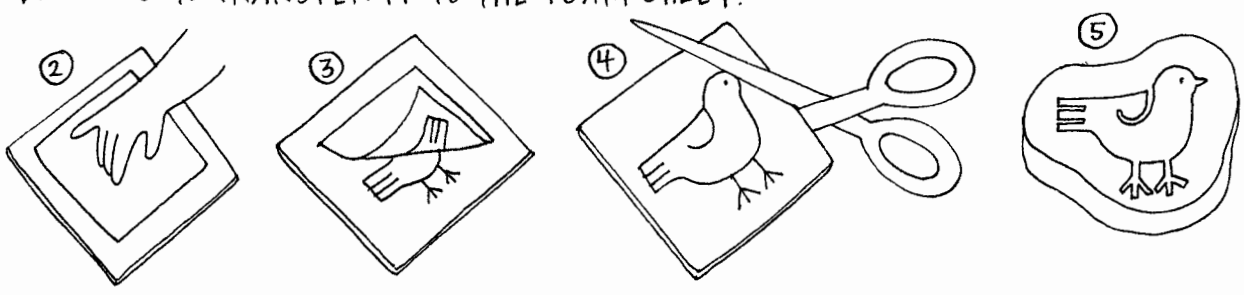
by Jone Hallmark

YOU WILL NEED:

- PENCIL
- PAPER
- THIN SHEET OF FOAM (white is best)
- SCISSORS
- XACTO KNIFE
- HOLE PUNCH ($\frac{1}{8}$" or $\frac{1}{4}$" optional)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ INCH FOAM CORE BOARD
- SPRAY GLUE
- STAMP PAD
- PAINT & BRUSH (optional)

① DRAW YOUR IMAGE WITH PENCIL ON PAPER. (within a 4" square is best for printing) GO OVER YOUR LINES AGAIN WITH YOUR PENCIL TO MAKE THEM HEAVY AND DARK. THIS WILL ALLOW YOU TO MAKE A "carbon copy" OF YOUR IMAGE.

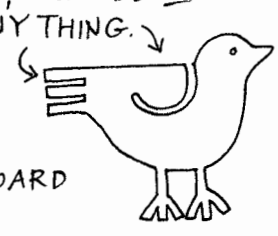
② PLACE YOUR DRAWING UPSIDE DOWN ON THE FOAM SHEET AND FIRMLY RUB OVER YOUR DRAWING TO TRANSFER IT TO THE FOAM SHEET.



③ CAREFULLY PEEL BACK THE PAPER TO SEE IF YOUR DRAWING TRANSFERRED. IF NOT, TRY RUBBING A BIT HARDER. IF IT STILL DOESN'T TRANSFER, REMOVE YOUR DRAWING AND USE YOUR PENCIL TO TRACE OVER IT AGAIN. REPEAT STEP ②

④ WHEN THE TRANSFER IS SUCCESSFUL, USE YOUR SCISSORS TO CUT ALONG THE OUTSIDE LINES OF YOUR DRAWING. IF YOUR DRAWING HAS "SIMPLE" LINES (ie. BIRD LEGS) YOU MUST CUT AROUND THE LINE → SMALL DETAILS MAY ALSO BE CUT, BUT BE SO CAREFULLY NOT TO CUT OFF ANYTHING.

EYES & DOT PATTERNS CAN BE "punched out" USING A SMALL ($\frac{1}{8}$" - $\frac{1}{4}$") HOLE PUNCH (available at craft stores)



⑤ LAY YOUR CUT-OUT IMAGE ON A PIECE OF $\frac{3}{4}$ INCH FOAM CORE BOARD AND LOOSELY TRACE AROUND IT. GET SOME HELP CUTTING THE FOAM BOARD WITH AN XACTO BLADE.

⑥ SPRAY ADHESIVE ON TO THE BACK OF YOUR CUT OUT AND SET IT ON THE FOAM BOARD. ALLOW IT TO DRY BEFORE USING A STAMP PAD AND PRINTING YOUR NEW STAMP.

YOU CAN MAKE WRAPPING PAPER BY STAMPING YOUR DESIGN ON A BIG PIECE OF PAPER. YOU CAN ALSO MAKE SPECIAL CARDS TO SEND IN THE MAIL or PUT 8-10 CARDS WITH ENVELOPES TOGETHER AND TIE THEM WITH A RIBBON AS A GIFT FOR SOMEONE.

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School Grade Report Card
2016

Final Grade

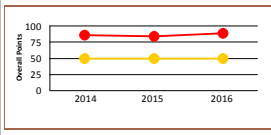
A

NM School for the Arts Charter

District: State Charters
Grade Range: 9 - 12 Code: 509001

This School
Statewide C Benchmark

	Grade	School Points	Possible Points
Current Standing How did students perform in the most recent school year? What percent of students are on grade level? Did students improve more or less than expected? (12.5)	A	23.92	30
School Growth Did the school as a whole improve student performance more or less than expected? (5.8)	B	8.34	10
Student Growth of Highest Performing Students Are the highest performing students in math and reading improving more or less than expected? The highest performing students are in the top three quarters (75%) of past performance of their school. (3.6)	A	8.93	10
Student Growth of Lowest Performing Students Are the lowest performing students in math and reading improving more or less than expected? The lowest performing students are in the bottom quarter (25%) of past performance in their school. (7.7)	B	9.01	10
Opportunity to Learn Do parents and students believe their school is a good place to learn? Is student attendance high? (6.0)	A	7.21	8
Graduation Are students graduating in four years? What percent of students are graduating in 4, 5, or 6 years? And is the school improving its graduation rate over time? (12.8)	C	13.11	17
College and Career Readiness What percent of students are participating in college preparation or career pathway programs while in high school? What percent are meeting expectations when presented with those opportunities? (9.0)	A	13.75	15
Bonus Points Does the school earn additional credit for reducing truancy, promoting extracurricular activities, and engaging parents and students? (1.6)		3.99	5
		Total Points	
		88.26	



3-Year Average

86.2

A

Final School Grade	
75.0 to < 100.0	A
65.0 to < 75.0	B
50.0 to < 65.0	C
35.0 to < 50.0	D
0.0 to < 35.0	F

Details of Each Grade Indicator

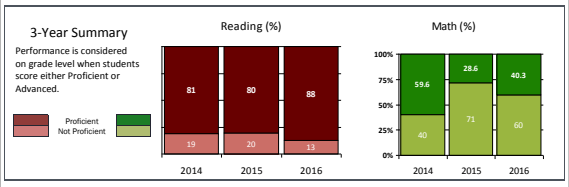
These next pages show the school's results divided into smaller groups to show how specific classes of students are doing. The information explains how a school compares to other schools and identifies groups within the school that are performing well or that need additional instructional support based on achievement. Points that the school earned on each of the indicators are provided in more detail and when summed will equal the totals on the first page summary.

Current Standing Knowing how many students are proficient in a given year is a measure of the school's overall success. Single-year performance will vary with differing classes of students. Therefore, Current Standing uses up to 3 years of data to provide a more accurate picture of the school's achievement. Current Standing is augmented with Value-Added Modeling (VAM) by capturing the school's size, student mobility, and prior student performance. Details of VAM can be found in the PED's School Grading Technical Guide at http://webapp2.ped.state.nm.us/SchoolData/SchoolGrading.aspx.

	All Students	Gender F	Gender M	White	Afr Amer	Hisp	Asian	Am Indian	Economically Disadvantaged	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
Reading											
Proficient and Advanced (%)	87.5	91.1	79.2	91.0	-	80.9	-	-	80.4	66.7	-
Proficient and Advanced (Pts)	6.56										
Value-Added Model (Pts)	7.47										
Math											
Proficient and Advanced (%)	40.3	40.6	39.5	43.8	-	30.2	-	-	30.2	27.3	-
Proficient and Advanced (Pts)	3.02										
Value-Added Model (Pts)	6.87										

3-Year Summary

Performance is considered on grade level when students score either Proficient or Advanced.



School Growth School growth compares the students enrolled in the current year to the same students from prior years. Unlike Current Standing, School Growth accounts for improvement of all students, not just those reaching proficiency.

Growth in proficiency is calculated with Value-Added Modeling (VAM), which accounts for the school's size, student mobility, and prior student performance. Details of VAM can be found in the PED's School Grading Technical Guide at http://webapp2.ped.state.nm.us/SchoolData/SchoolGrading.aspx.

	Reading	Math
Value-Added Score	2.680	0.460
Points Earned	4.98	3.39

School growth is expressed as a score that can be both negative and positive. When it is positive, the school performed better than was expected relative to its peers with the same size, mobility, and prior student performance.

Student Growth Just like schools, individual student achievement is expected to improve over time. Student growth is shown as a value-added score (VAS) that accounts for all students in each group for up to 3 years. Student groups are further divided into highest and lowest performing subgroups. Every student's prior test scores are used to estimate how they should perform today.

- Above 0 means that the group, in general, scored higher than expected. This is an exciting finding when students are below the proficiency line, because they are closing the achievement gap and catching up to their higher-performing classmates.
- Near 0 means that the group scored about as expected compared to their academic peers. While some students may have performed better than anticipated (positive growth), they were balanced by students that did poorer (negative growth).
- Below 0 means that the group performed below expectations and students are losing ground when compared to their peers.

Details of student growth and value added scores are explained in PED's School Grading Technical Guide at http://webapp2.ped.state.nm.us/SchoolData/SchoolGrading.aspx. Note that separate analytic techniques are used for the school overall and for the subgroups.

	School Overall	Female	Male	White	African American	Hispanic	Asian	Am Indian	Econ Disadv	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
Reading Growth											
Highest 75% (VAS)	1.92	0.70	0.78	0.71	0.65	0.75	0.98	0.31	0.73	0.95	-
Highest 75% (Pts)	4.86										
Lowest 25% (VAS)	2.2	0.42	0.49	0.23	-	0.82	1.20	-	0.09	0.48	-
Lowest 25% (Pts)	4.92										
Math Growth											
Highest 75% (VAS)	.9	.1	.3	.1	-.3	.1	.4	.2	.0	-.8	-
Highest 75% (Pts)	4.06										
Lowest 25% (VAS)	.9	.3	.2	.2	.5	.2	-	-	.1	-.1	-
Lowest 25% (Pts)	4.08										

Opportunity to Learn (OTL) The successful school invites students to be part of a thriving learning culture that uses proven teaching methods. A school's learning environment is reflected in a survey of classroom practices and in student attendance.

	All Students	Gender F	Gender M	White	Afr Amer	Hisp	Asian	Am Indian	Economically Disadvantaged	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
Attendance (Average)	95.0	94	95	95	94	94	97	93	94	93	
Attendance (Points)	2.99										

Survey (Average)	38.0	Surveys consisted of 10 questions with answers from 0 (Never) to 5 (Always), yielding a maximum score of 50. A typical question includes "My teacher introduces a new topic by connecting to things I already know." Schools that scored higher demonstrated better classroom teaching practices.
Survey (Points)	4.2	
Count of Surveys (N)	331	

Graduation Students are expected to graduate in 4 years. However, some students require longer and are captured in 5-year and 6-year rates. Similar to school and student growth, the expectation is that the school increase the percent of successful 4-year graduates over time. SAM (Supplemental Accountability Model) schools are a subset of schools that target returning dropouts or students with disabilities. These schools receive an additional rate that reflects their ability to graduate any student, not just cohort members, in a given year. Details of the federally approved graduation rules are in the Graduation Technical Manual on the PED website at: http://ped.state.nm.us/Graduation/index.html.

	All Students	Gender F	Gender M	White	Afr Amer	Hisp	Asian	Am Indian	Economically Disadvantaged	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
Cohort of 2015 - 4-Year Rate											
Cohort Graduation (%)	88.7	97.0	72.7	89.9	-	82.3	-	-	96.8	-	-
Non-Cohort Graduation (%)	-										
SAM Adjustment (Weighted %)				This school did not qualify to be a SAM school.							
Points Earned	7.10										
Cohort of 2014 - 5-Year Rate											
Graduation (%)	86.2	86.9	84.8	83.2	-	93.0	-	-	78.0	-	-
Points Earned	2.6										
Cohort of 2013 - 6-Year Rate											
Graduation (%)	94.4	95.8	91.4	>98.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Points Earned	1.9										

Growth in 4-Year Rates

Growth takes into account three years of graduation rates.

Growth Index	-.30
Points Earned	1.53

College and Career Readiness (CCR) High school students are expected to participate in at least one college or career readiness program. These activities include one of the following:

1) College entrance assessments (SAT, SAT Subject Test, PSAT, ACT, PLAN, Compass, ACT Aspire, or Accuplacer)
2) Evidence that the student can pass a college-level course (Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, or IB)
3) Eligibility for an industry recognized certification (Career Technical Education, SAM School Supplemental)

Points are given separately for students' participation and for their success. To be considered successful, students must meet established benchmarks. Details are in the School Grading Technical Guide on the PED website at http://webapp2.ped.state.nm.us/SchoolData/SchoolGrading.aspx.

CCR follows the Shared Accountability model used for cohort graduation rates. Cohorts are fully described in the Graduation Technical Manual on the PED website at http://ped.state.nm.us/Graduation/index.html.

50% or Higher
20% -50%
Below 20%

	All Students	Gender F	Gender M	White	Afr Amer	Hisp	Asian	Am Indian	Economically Disadvantaged	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
Participation (% of Cohort)	81.2	90.1	64.0	77.4	>98.0	81.7	>98.0	>98.0	90.4	61.9	>98.0
Participation (Pts)	4.06										
Success (% of Participants)	96.9	97.5	95.4	>98.0	>98.0	90.1	>98.0	>98.0	91.2	66.7	60.0
Success (Pts)	9.69										
Percent of School's Cohort of 2015 Participating in Each CCR Opportunity											
ACT	61.6	70.6	44.0	60.1	66.7	60.5	>98.0	48.7	59.8	61.9	>98.0
PLAN	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0
ASPIRE	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0
SAT	<2.0	3.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	30.4	4.0	<2.0	<2.0
PSAT	18.5	14.0	27.3	8.6	33.3	40.5	<2.0	<2.0	18.3	<2.0	<2.0
AccuPlacer	<2.0	2.7	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	5.7	<2.0	<2.0	5.6	<2.0	<2.0
Advanced Placement	3.5	2.3	5.9	3.4	<2.0	4.8	<2.0	<2.0	4.8	<2.0	<2.0
Dual Credit	35.0	37.1	30.8	30.0	33.3	50.9	<2.0	20.9	46.6	<2.0	<2.0
International Baccalaureate	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0
Career Technical Education	35.8	40.0	27.9	34.3	66.7	38.8	50.0	<2.0	31.1	41.3	60.0
Compass	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0
SAT Subject Test	2.5	3.8	<2.0	4.3	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0
SAM School Supplemental	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0

Bonus Points

While most schools provide a sampling of athletics, club participation opportunities, and parent meetings, a few schools stand out among the rest. These schools are recognized for their extraordinary dedication to keeping students invested in school and their efforts in empowering parents to engage actively in their child's education.

- [x] Student and Parent Engagement
- [ ] Truancy Improvement
- [ ] Extracurricular Activities
- [x] Other

Participation

Schools must include all of their enrolled students in the annual statewide assessment. If the percentage of students is less than 95%, the school's letter grade is reduced by one grade. Supplemental Accountability Model (SAM) schools and small schools with fewer than 100 students receive special consideration.

Reading (%)	100
Math (%)	99

Supplemental Information

Similar Schools While statewide comparisons are helpful, schools may want to see how they rank next to their peers that have similar students and settings. The figures below show how this school contrasts with other schools in the state that are most like it in student characteristics.

Schools are grouped into categories that have similar proportions of English language learners (ELL), students with disabilities (SWD), ethnicities, economically disadvantaged (ED), and mobile students. Different schools are in each category set. A composite score incorporates all categories into a general measure of at-risk students.

Ranks High
Ranks Mid
Ranks Low

School Rank

	ELL		SWD		Ethnicity		ED		Mobility		Composite	
Students (% Tested)	0.0		7.9		34.3		28.0		19.8			
	Rank	Total	Rank	Total	Rank	Total	Rank	Total	Rank	Total	Rank	Total
Current Standing	3	(36)	1	(37)	2	(36)	2	(36)	1	(37)	2	(36)
School Growth	7	(36)	7	(37)	9	(36)	9	(36)	6	(37)	6	(36)
Student Growth, Highest 75%	4	(36)	2	(37)	4	(36)	2	(36)	2	(37)	3	(36)
Student Growth, Lowest 25%	3	(36)	3	(37)	3	(36)	6	(36)	2	(37)	5	(36)
Opportunity to Learn	23	(34)	24	(35)	24	(36)	16	(31)	18	(36)	24	(36)
Graduation	9	(34)	8	(35)	11	(36)	6	(31)	5	(36)	8	(36)
College and Career Readiness	10	(34)	11	(35)	13	(36)	8	(31)	8	(36)	11	(36)

School History Student performance over time can demonstrate the success of interventions and school reform. Students who score proficient or higher are considered to be performing at grade level. For a more detailed history, see the PED website: http://www.ped.state.nm.us/AssessmentAccountability/AcademicGrowth/NMSBA.html.

		All Students	Gender F	Gender M	White	Afr Amer	Hisp	Asian	Am Indian	Economically Disadvantaged	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
Reading Proficiency	2016 (%)	87.5	91.1	79.2	91.0	-	80.9	-	-	80.4	66.7	-
	2015 (%)	80.3	82.5	75.0	82.7	60.0	76.0	>98.0	83.3	75.0	61.5	
	2014 (%)	80.8	86.6	68.8	86.2	-	71.0	-	-	75.0	-	-
Math Proficiency	2016 (%)	40.3	40.6	39.5	43.8	-	30.2	-	-	30.2	27.3	-
	2015 (%)	28.6	27.7	30.8	31.1	40.0	26.7	25.0	<2.0	17.5	23.1	
	2014 (%)	59.6	64.2	50.0	58.6	-	58.1	-	-	50.0	-	-

End Notes

1 The Statewide C grade was established in the first year of A-F School Grading as the midpoint of all schools. It was fixed in 2011 as the framework for all future letter grades and is not recalculated each year.
2 For high schools that do not have members of 4-year, 5-year, or 6-year graduation cohorts, the scale is abbreviated, and letter grades are adjusted to account for the school's remaining non-cohort indicators or non-cohort years.
3 A dash is substituted where a school has too few students (N<10) to meet confidentiality requirements for reporting.
4 Feeder schools are schools that do not have students in tested grades 3-11.
5 Schools that administered tests on computers received bonus credit based on the number of students participating.

Note for Families: If your child is enrolled in a school that has earned two "F" grades in the last four years, New Mexico state law allows you to transfer your child to a school with a higher school grade. Please call (505) 827-6909 to learn more. For information about other schools in your community and their grading history, please see the school grading web page at http://aae.ped.state.nm.us/.

Winter Fun Directory

Camps, classes, programs and workshops for the winter months and school holidays.

AFTERSCHOOL TENNIS
Afterschool tennis programs are now underway at the Santa Fe Tennis and Swim Club. Program offers one, two and three-day a week group lessons for ages 6 and up, and individual lessons. Located at the facility in the Museum Hill neighborhood, at 1755 Camino Corrales. Call 988-4100, email club@santafetennis.net or visit www.santafetennis.net for more information.

BELISAMA IRISH DANCE
Belisama Irish Dance offers classes for the whole family to enjoy. Performance opportunities in the community, local competition and fun choreography classes. Ages 5 and up. Santa Fe and Los Alamos locations. Call Adrienne Bellis, Director, 670-2152, or go to www.belisamadance.com.

CIRCUS CAMPS – WINTER BREAK AND SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Does your house turn into a circus over the holidays? Channel that energy through Wise Fool's circus camps for kids ages 7 to 12. Students learn stilt-walking, aerial fabric, trapeze, puppet-making, acrobatics, clowning and more in a safe, non-competitive environment. Suitable for all levels. New one-day camps on school holidays: Martin Luther King Junior Day, President's Day, etc. Four-day Winter Camps, December 19 to 22 and December 26 to 29. Registration opens November 1. Camps fill fast, so register soon! www.wisefoolnmexico.org or 505-992-2588.

CREATIVE DANCE FOR CHILDREN
Children ages 3 to 4 meet on Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. Ages 5 to 6 meet on Wednesdays from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Ages 7 to 8 meet on Thursdays from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Cost is $72 per six-week session. Move Studio, 901 San Mateo X-2, in Ironstone Gardens across from the Midtown Bistro patio. Call 920-6235 or visit owldancer.net.

DRAGONFLY ART STUDIO AFTERSCHOOL ART CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS
Dragonfly's fine art classes, for ages 6 to 16, are designed to stimulate kids' imagination and creativity, while they have fun experimenting with a range of art media. Afterschool art classes meet one day per week from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and end with a student art show at a local gallery. Dragonfly also offers Art Birthday Parties, adult and kid workshops, and holiday workshops where kids can create unique, handmade gifts. Call Oceanna at 670-5019 or visit www.dragonflyartstudioforkids.com.

FAST TRACK READING COURSE
End reading frustration and struggles. The average progress of a student, with a 30-hour course, is over three grade levels and 80 percent or greater comprehension. Student reading rate, spelling, vocabulary, testing skills and self-esteem skyrocket while other subjects improve and homework takes less time. Ask Floy Gregg, Developmental Reading Specialist, about "no risk guarantee." Call 570-1276 for your complimentary consultation and evaluation, or visit www.floygregg.com.

FRED KRONACHER PIANO STUDIO
Patient, accomplished teacher/pianist, new to Santa Fe, now accepting students at his home studio in town. Over 30 years experience teaching children of all ages and levels. M.M. in piano from Manhattan School of Music, former faculty Brooklyn Conservatory, NY, current faculty New Mexico School of Music. "Nurturing and developing young musicians over the years has been and continues to be deeply rewarding," Kronacher says. For more information, call 428-0437, email fredkpiano@gmail, or go to fredkpiano@gmail.com, or visit www.fredkronacherpiano.com.

Felicity Roniger, grade 4

GENOVEVA CHAVEZ COMMUNITY CENTER WINTER BREAK DAY CAMPS
Kids need a fun, educational and safe place to go. Winter break camps, Week 1: December 19 to 23, $45 a day or $145 Monday through Friday. Week 2: December 27 to 30, $45 a day or $125 Tuesday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for ages 6 to 12. Proof of age required for 6-year-olds. Activities include social games, sports, swimming, ice-skating and arts and crafts. Parents provide daily lunch and snacks. Contact Melissa, 955-4005, or Katelyn, 955-4014, or visit www.chavezcenter.com.

GIRLS INC. AFTER SCHOOL
Do you want your girl to be in a supportive fun environment after school? Girls Inc. of Santa Fe inspires all girls to be strong, smart and bold. Your girl will have an opportunity to participate in fun, hands-on activities in a safe, girl-centered environment, while also enjoying science, sports, fieldtrips, art and homework help. Pick-up is available from many schools. Sliding scale tuition and scholarships also available. Call 982-2042 or go to www.girlsincofsantafe.org.

J.F. MAZUR STUDIO WINTER ART CAMP
Painting on canvas, sculpture, block printing and more! Exceptional art experience for creative children ages 5 to 11. Winter camp is led by certified art teacher and artist Jillian Mazur. Runs December 19 to 23, from 9 a.m. to noon. $175 per week or $45 per day. Snack and art materials provided. Other offerings include Art for Homeschoolers, Afterschool Painting and Parent & Me for Preschoolers. Gift certificates available. Located at 1807 Second Street. Register online www.jfmazurstudio.com or call Jillian at (240) 321-9212.

MARTIAL ARTS TRAINING CENTER
The Martial Arts Training Center offers both private and group classes for tots, kids, teens and adults. You are welcome to visit the center's beautiful, cutting edge facility located in the South Railyard area. The center stresses safety, discipline and respect while enjoying the art and practice of martial arts training. The atmosphere is anti-bullying with a focus on building self-confidence and learning technique. Receive professional instruction and begin your personal quest today. Try a free class. Call 982-7083 or visit www.martialartstrainingcenter.biz.

MAY CENTER FOR TUTORING
End the homework wars! May Center for Learning offers academic skill-building tutoring in reading, writing, and mathematics for students age 4 through high school. Working in a one-to-one setting, every tutor develops an individualized program designed to build the skills necessary for each student's success. All tutors have received special training to work with students who have learning differences or who struggle academically. Sessions are available during the day as well as after school. For more information call 983-7407 or visit maycenter.org.

Winter Fun Directory

PANDEMONIUM PRODUCTIONS MUSICAL THEATER CLASSES

Students will perform in a musical production of "Madagascar." Take a journey out of the zoo and onto the stage with your favorite friends. Program for ages 7 to 17. Students study acting, singing and dancing. Rehearsals run from January 18 to May 14 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3:45 to 5:45 p.m. at El Museo Cultural. Space is limited. Tuition is $695 if paid in advance, $710 with a payment plan. $100 registration deposit. Scholarships available. Call 505-920-0704 or visit www.pandemoniumprod.org.

PARENT & ME ART FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Fun and learning! Fine art lessons for ages 3 to 5. Select Tuesdays from 5 to 5:45 p.m. Lessons taught by Jillian Mazur, certified art instructor with eight years of teaching experience, pre-K to 12. $25 per class, plus tax. All materials included. Class size limited. Ask about our Four Class Pass discounts and gift certificates. Similar offerings include Afterschool and Homeschool Painting sessions for ages 5 to 12. Register online www.jfmazurstudio.com or call Jillian (240) 321-9212.

Madelyn Mossman, grade 6

POMEGRANATE SEEDS YOUTH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Through tribal style belly dance, talking circles, journal writing and presentations, SEEDs mentors promote healthy and strong youth. Spring session begins January 7. SEEDLINGs, ages 5 to 8, meets Saturdays at 10 a.m. Little SEEDs, ages 9 to 12, at 11 a.m. Contact 986-6164; pomegranatesfnm@yahoo.com; www.pomegranatestudio.org.

RIO GRANDE SCHOOL'S AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES PROGRAM (ASAP)

The program is now open to all elementary school students who love to continue learning when their school day is over. Classes offered include Yoga and Art, Mindfulness and Expressive Art, Tennis, Chess, The Game of GO, Spanish, Zumba for Kids, Spanish Story time and Movement, and Print-Making Art. Prices vary, and aftercare options are available (excluding Tennis). Register online www.riograndeschool.org/asap.

RIO RAPIDS NORTHERN SOCCER CLUB

Get in the game and play soccer this spring with Santa Fe's largest soccer league! Practice begins March 20 and the eight-week season starts April 1. Development and Academy leagues for ages 3 to 13. Practice in Eldorado and Santa Fe. Games are at The Downs at Santa Fe. For more information call 982-0878 or visit www.northernsc.org.

SANTA FE CLIMBING CENTER

Youth classes teach new climbers skills and teamwork through obstacle courses and games, and help experienced climbers advance. Afterschool, homeschool and youth classes, Friday Night Climbing Club for high school students, Rec Team and Competive Team. New location: 3008 Cielo Court. 986-8944; www.climbsantafe.com.

SANTA FE PERFORMING ARTS

Spring programs from January to April. From January 9 to April 30, "The Wizard of Oz," ages 6 to 19. Classes are Monday, Wednesday and Friday. From January 10 to April 27, Dance Workshop for ages 10 to 19. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday. Scholarships available. Program endorsed by the National Education Association of New Mexico and is the recipient of the 2012 Mayor's Award for Excellence in the Arts. Contact 982-7992; sfperformingarts@gmail.com; www.sfperformingarts.org and go to the "Classes" section.

SANTA FE YOUTH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

Music instruction and performance opportunities for youth in orchestra, mariachi and jazz. The Elementary Strings (ES) program offers afterschool viola, violin and cello instruction. ES program currently available at Atalaya, Carlos Gilbert, César Chávez and El Camino Real Academy. Winter Concert Season from December 2 to 4. See calendar listings. Academy at Larragoite, 1604 Agua Fria. For details call 672-5565 x101, email andrea@sfysa.org or visit www.sfysa.org.

SKATEBOARD SCHOOL

Indoor ramps for year-round fun! Afterschool and homeschool 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 specializing in Safety Gear. 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.

THE SCHOOL OF ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

Learn in a supportive environment that fosters confidence, technique and artistry. Classes for children ages 3 and up in creative dance, ballet, jazz, folklórico, modern and more. Performance opportunities. Call 983-5591. Enroll online at www.aspensantafeballet.com.

UMBRELLA THEATRE CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Theatre classes for kids in kindergarten to 12th grade, February through April. We teach acting skills by training the voice, body and mind through improvisation, theater games and performance. Young Actors, third to eighth grade, will have starring roles in Spring Play. Gotitas, students in kindergarten through second grade bilingual class, will be featured in cameos. Sliding scale tuition. Teatro Paraguas Studio, 3205 Calle Marie, afterschool from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Teens in ninth to 12th grade welcome for Saturday Internship Program. Contact 471-3140; tpchildrensprogram@gmail.com; www.tpchildrensprogram.weebly.com.

UNITED CHURCH KIDS CHOIR

Want to make a joyful noise? Have fun? The Kids Choir of the United Church of Santa Fe is for you! Kinders to sixth graders welcome. Rehearsals take place on Sunday morning at 10 a.m. Sing regularly in the 11 a.m. Worship Service. Global, African, Spanish, folk, kids' music of all kinds. Located at 1804 Arroyo Chamiso (corner of St. Michael's Drive). Love God. Love Neighbor. Love Creation. Contact the children's choir director, Russell Fletcher, at 988-3295, find the United Church on Facebook or visit www.unitedchurchofsantafe.org.

UNITED WAY FREE PROGRAMS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN & NEW MOMS

Gentle yoga classes on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Gain flexibility and build strength in preparation for or in recovery from childbirth and experience tension release and relaxation. Art Group on Tuesdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Play with different art styles, no previous art experience necessary. Childcare is available to participants, please RSVP with Hali 819-0137, email halic@uwsf.org or visit www.uwsfc.org to learn about other program offerings. United Way Early Learning Center at Agua Fria, 3164 Agua Fria.

Get Ready for Spring Break & Summer Camp!

List your program in the Spring Break & Summer Camp and Program Directory in our Spring & Summer Issues!

Questions? Call 984-3171 or info@sftumbleweeds.com

Listings are free for display advertisers and $60 plus tax for others. Or list your program in the Spring and Summer issues for just $100 plus tax.

Submit a description of up to 85 words by email: info@sftumbleweeds.com

or mail: Tumbleweeds, 369 Montezuma #191 Santa Fe, NM 87501

Or use the easy click-and-send form on our website, www.sftumbleweeds.com.

Deadline for sending directory listings and reserving display ads is January 27 for our Spring 2017 (March, April, May) issue.

Publication date is February 15.

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ December

Events are free, or included in the price of museum admission, unless otherwise noted. P indicates an event especially for parents.

DECEMBER

1 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Bookstore staff present picture book adventures for infants and toddlers up to 5 years old. Collected Works Bookstore, 202 Galisteo Street, 988-4226.

1 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

1 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Stories, rhymes and crafts for ages 2 to 5. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6837.

1 THURSDAY, 4-6 P.M.
Take Flight
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

1 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Hours extended to 6:30 p.m. Free admission for children under 16. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

1 THURSDAY TO FRIDAY 30, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights
Enjoy the magic of millions of twinkling lights and dazzling holiday displays at New Mexico's largest walk-through light show. Closed December 24 and 25. Ages 13 and over $12; ages 3 to 12 $6; under age 3 free. ABQ BioPark Zoo, 903 Tenth Street SW, Albuquerque, (505) 768-2000.

P 2 FRIDAY, 9:30-10:30 A.M.
Coffee With the Directors
Meet the teachers and directors, tour the campus and share a treat. RSVP with Kate at info@growingupmontessori.com. Growing Up Montessori, 2638 Via Caballero Del Norte, 795-7256.

2 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

2 FRIDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.
Bilingual Story Time
An immersive morning of stories, songs and activities in Spanish and English. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

2 FRIDAY, 11:30 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
A special time for younger children to experience the joys of books and the library. Bring your infants, toddlers and preschoolers for stories, activities and crafts. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323.

Timothy Roniger, grade 1

2 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Recycled art activities. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

2 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
All ages and skill levels welcome. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323.

2 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Connect with teen peers and express yourself through art. All materials provided. $10 suggested donation. Warehouse 21, 1614 Paseo de Peralta, 989-4423.

2 FRIDAY, 5-7 P.M.
First Friday Art Activity
Create your own drawings while exploring the use of color in modern artwork. All ages welcome, free with admission. Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, 217 Johnson Street, 946-1039.

2 FRIDAY, 5-8 P.M.
Holiday Stroll
Tour the entire museum for free during the Old Town Holiday Stroll, shop in NatureWorks, look through a telescope in the Museum Observatory starting 6 p.m., or see a 3-D DynaTheater show. Hands-on activities. New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, 1801 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque, (505) 841-2800.

2 FRIDAY, 5-9 P.M.
18th Annual Recycle Santa Fe Art Festival
Trash Fashion and Costume Show at 7 p.m. features outfits are created by adults, youth and children from at least 75 percent discarded materials. Find green holiday gifts at the Recycled Art Market through the weekend. Visit www.recyclesantafe.org for fashion show ticket information. Free admission to the art market. Santa Fe Convention Center, 201 West Marcy Street, 988-1234.

2 FRIDAY, 6 AND 7 P.M.
First Friday Fractals
This award-winning planetarium showtakes the audience on a journey through infinitely complex patterns of fractals. Call for prices. New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, 1801 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque, (505) 841-2800.

2 FRIDAY, 6-7:30 P.M.
Mariachi Christmas
A bilingual music event filled with nativity, carols and traditional Mexican songs, to help raise scholarship funds for New Mexico college students. Tickets $20-$50. Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

2 FRIDAY, 7-8:30 P.M.
Winter Concert Series: Jazz
Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association Jazz student performance. Adults $10; kids 5 and under free. One ticket provides admission to entire winter concert series. Santa Fe Prep, 1101 Camino de Cruz Blanca, 672-5565 ext.10, www.sfysa.org/tickets.

2 FRIDAY, 8 AND 9 P.M.
Fractal Rocks
Zoom into the infinite world of fractals in this dramatic show. New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, 1801 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque, (505) 841-2800.

3 SATURDAY, 9-11 A.M.
St. Nicholas Breakfast
Children share a pancake breakfast, make Christmas stockings for local shelters and meet Saint Nicholas. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

3 SATURDAY, 9-11:30 A.M.
Book Donation Day
Donate your DVDs, CDs, books and any children's materials. First Saturday of every month. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323.

3 SATURDAY, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.
18th Annual Recycle Santa Fe Art Festival
Create a recycled work of art to take home and shop for green holiday gifts at the Recycled Art Market. Santa Fe Convention Center. See December 2 listing.

3 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-2 P.M.
30th Annual Holiday Faire
Artisans market, book sale, cheese making, candle dipping, games, Wonder Shoppe and more. Performances by the Pojoaque Hoop Dancers and Wise Fool will be held throughout the day. Free admission and parking. Tickets for some events and activities are $1 each. Santa Fe Waldorf School, 26 Puesta Del Sol, 983-9727.

3 SATURDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.
Andy Mason
A brief history of Christmas music sing-along. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

3 SATURDAY, 2-3:30 P.M.
"The Nutcracker" Ballet
Presented by the professionals of the New Mexico Ballet Company. Call for ticket information. Popejoy Hall, 203 Cornell, Albuquerque, (505) 292-4245.

3 SATURDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Winter Concert Series: Elementary Strings
Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association Elementary Strings program student performance. Includes holiday season favorites. Adults $10; kids 5 and under free. One ticket provides admission to entire winter concert series. St. Francis Auditorium, 107 West Palace Avenue, 672-5565 x10.

3 SATURDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Andy Mason
A brief history of Christmas music sing-along. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4863

3 SATURDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Lighting of Ledoux
This historic narrow Taos street glows with farolitos and bonfires. Galleries, shops and museums offer holiday food and drink. People gather around the fires and share their stories in the cool starlit night. Ledoux Street, Taos.

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ December

3 SATURDAY, 6-7:30 P.M.
Winter Concert Series: Mariachi
Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association's Mariachi Garibaldi and Mariachi Estrella student performance. Adults $10; kids 5 and under free. One ticket provides admission to entire winter concert series. St. Francis Auditorium, 107 West Palace Avenue, 672-5565 x10.

3 SATURDAY, 7-8:30 P.M.
"The Nutcracker" Ballet
Popejoy Hall. See December 3 listing.

4 SUNDAY, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.
18th Annual Recycle Santa Fe Art Festival
Santa Fe Convention Center. See December 2 listing.

4 SUNDAY, 1-2:30 P.M.
Winter Concert Series: Orchestra Concerts
Performance by students of the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association. Adults $10; kids 5 and under free. One ticket provides admission to entire winter concert series. St. Francis Auditorium, 107 West Palace Avenue, 672-5565 x10.

4 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.
Andy Mason
A brief history of Christmas music sing-along. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6837.

4 SUNDAY, 2-4 P.M.
Holiday Grand Opening Celebration
Holiday delights to sip and nibble, live music, festive art-making activities and a visit from Santa. ARTsmart New Mexico, 1201 Parkway Drive, 992-2787.

4 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Informal meet and greet with Cornelius the Snake. Learn fun facts about snakes and watch weekly feeding. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

4 SUNDAY, 4-6 P.M.
Flamenco Dance Student Showcase
The Santa Fe School of Flamenco presents a performance by students of all ages in traditional flamenco dance and percussive works. Adults $15, Kids $10. El Flamenco, 135 West Palace Avenue, 209-1302.

4 SUNDAY, 7-8:30 P.M.
"The Nutcracker" Ballet
Popejoy Hall. See December 3 listing.

P5 MONDAY, 6-7 P.M.
Hospital Tour for Expecting Couples
Follow the path of getting admitted to the hospital when you are in labor, including where to go for registration and what will happen during your assessments. Free. Offered by The Birthing Tree, at Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center, 455 Saint Michaels Drive, 552-2454.

6 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6837.

7 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Toddler activities, stories and games. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

7 WEDNESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON
Gingerbread House Building For Toddlers
Toddlers are supplied with graham crackers and house-decorating material. Children must be accompanied by an adult. $10 per child. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network, 1990 Diamond Drive, Los Alamos, 662-4515.

7 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Stories, rhymes and crafts for ages 2 to 5. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

7 WEDNESDAY, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
Gingerbread House Building for School-Age Children
Participants school-age and older build a gingerbread house with a kit and decorating materials. Children must be accompanied by an adult. $20 per kit. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network, 1990 Diamond Drive, Los Alamos, 662-4515.

7 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Weekly workshop for beginner children & teens. First two classes $10, then it's free. Warehouse 21, 1614 Paseo de Peralta, 989-4423.

7 WEDNESDAY, 5:30-7:30 P.M.
GLOW Luna & Sol Preview Party
Dazzling lights, illuminated geodesic domes, laser shows, live entertainment, dinner from La Fonda and festive beverages. Call for pricing. Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill, 715 Camino Lejo, 471-9103.

7 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Play chess with other kids. The group also organizes tournaments that include the Santa Fe Mayor's Cup. Drop in any time. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6781.

7 WEDNESDAY, 8-10 P.M.
Ground Zero Youth Radio
A voice for youth on arts, social justice and issues relevant to the Santa Fe community. Youth from W21 broadcast live on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Tune in at 101.1 FM, KSFR.

8 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

Keep an Eye on Water!

Download this App!
Have More Control
Set-up Leak Alerts • Save Money

Keep an eye on water...
using your phone, tablet or computer to spot costly leaks, set-up alerts and find ways to save water at home or work.
Go to eyeonwater.com to enter your zip code, select Santa Fe and enter your account #
do not enter any zeros

save water
SANTA FE
savewatersantafe.com

Real Santa Fe Water Customer

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ December

8 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

8 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Stories, rhymes and crafts for ages 2 to 5. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6837.

8 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.
La Leche League
Support and information for mothers and mothers-to-be interested in breastfeeding. Children are always welcome. Indigo Baby, 185 Paseo de Peralta, 466-2738.

8 THURSDAY, 4-6 P.M.
Take Flight
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

8 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

8 THURSDAY, 4:30-6:30 P.M.
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
Grandparents who are primary caregivers to their grandchildren are invited to this supportive meeting. Las Cumbres staff participate in an activity with the children. Call to RSVP. United Way Early Learning Center at Agua Fria, 3164 Agua Fria Road, 955-0410.

9 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 11:30 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 4-6 P.M.
Gingerbread House Building For Teens and Adults
Participants use a house-building kit and decorating material. $20 per kit. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network, 1990 Diamond Drive, Los Alamos, 662-4515.

9 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 5:30-8 P.M.
Christmas at the Palace
Enjoy hot cider, cookies, live music, piñatas, crafts, a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Claus, and a chance to operate an antique printing press. Palace of the Governors, 105 Palace Avenue, 476-5200.

9 FRIDAY, 7-8 P.M.
Santa Fe Opera Family Holiday Concert
Opera artists perform a repertoire of arias, songs of the season, musical theater selections and sacred music. General admission. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Cathedral Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi, 131 Cathedral Place, 946-2409.

Bella Clark, grade 3

9 FRIDAY, 7-8:30 P.M.
Family Movie Night
Free showing of a family film on the library's big screen. Popcorn and juice included. Call for title and rating. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323.

10 SATURDAY, 9 A.M.-3 P.M.
Young Native Artists Winter Show
Offspring of artists in the Palace of the Governors' Portal Program will sell their own crafts in the Meem Community Room. New Mexico History Museum, 113 Lincoln Avenue, 476-5200.

10 SATURDAY, 4-7 P.M.
Bring in the Light
Kindred Spirits holiday celebration includes a traditional candle lighting of the tree with senior animals. Enjoy vegan refreshments and hot cider. Tour at 4:30 p.m. Kindred Spirits Animal Sanctuary, 3749-A Highway 14, 471-5366.

11 SUNDAY, NOON-5 P.M.
International Children's Day
Children under 16 years of age receive $1 off admission to the museum. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

11 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 4 listing.

11 SUNDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.
Mariachi Christmas
An evening of folk music and dance, featuring swirling dresses, lively violins and joyous horns. Popejoy Hall, 203 Cornell, Albuquerque, (505) 925-5858.

11 SUNDAY, 4-6 P.M.
Christmas Treasures Concert
David Felberg leads the Santa Fe Symphony's annual afternoon of Christmas favorites. $22-80. Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

11 SUNDAY, 5:30-7 P.M.
Las Posadas
The annual candlelit procession travels around the Santa Fe Plaza, recreating Mary and Joseph's search for an inn. Carols, cookies and hot cider in the Palace Courtyard. Palace of the Governors, 105 Palace Avenue, 476-5200.

13 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 6 listing.

13 TUESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Science After School
For ages 6 to 12. Call to register. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

13 TUESDAY, 6-7 P.M.
Los Alamos Kiwanis Club Family Night
Enjoy an evening of books, games, hands-on activities and music. Recommended for ages 4 to 10. Adults requested to stay and join the fun. Los Alamos Nature Center, 2600 Canyon Rd, Los Alamos, (505) 662-0460.

14 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

14 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

14 WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Science After School
For ages 6 to 12. Call to register. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6837.

14 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

14 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Branch Library. See December 1 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Main Library. See December 1 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 4-6 P.M.
Take Flight
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

16 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

16 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

16 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

16 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

16 FRIDAY, - 1 SUNDAY JANUARY, 5-8 P.M.
GLOW Luna & Sol - A Winter Lights Event
An extraordinary display of winter lights, illuminated geodesic domes, glittering tunnel of lights, festive food and beverages and live music on select nights. Open nightly. Closed Dec. 24 and 25. Call for pricing. Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill, 715 Camino Lejo, 471-9103.

17 SATURDAY, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
Family Movie Matinee
All ages. Family-oriented movies. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

17 SATURDAY, 2-2:45 P.M.
Feature Film: "We Are Stars"
An exciting film that explores the secrets of our cosmic chemistry and our explosive origins. Call to reserve your seats. Not recommended for children under 4. Adults $6, kids $4. Los Alamos Nature Center Planetarium, 2600 Canyon Rd, Los Alamos, (505) 662-0460.

17 SATURDAY, 2-3:30 P.M.
"The Nutcracker"
Presented by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet. Children of all ages will marvel at this whimsical interpretation of a seasonal classic. $25-$94. Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

17 SATURDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
NDI-New Mexico Dance-a-Thon
Help NDI New Mexico "Dance On" and raise funds. Games, food, dancing and a whole lot of fun. The Dance Barns, 1140 Alto Street, 983-7646.

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ December

Arianna Grab, grade 3 and Elizabeth Valdivia, grade 1

17 SATURDAY, 7:30-9 P.M.
"The Nutcracker"
Presented by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet. Children of all ages will marvel at this whimsical interpretation of a seasonal classic. $25-$94. Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

17 SATURDAY TO 31 FRIDAY
Holiday Trains
Visitors will take the controls, maneuver the trains and build scenery for the exhibit. Also enjoy Thomas the Train display. Monday to Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.; Closed at 3 p.m. on December 24 and 31; Closed all day on December 25. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

18 SUNDAY, 8:30 AND 11 A.M.
Some Children See Him
Lessons and carols for all ages. Children's and Youth Choir. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

18 SUNDAY, NOON-4 P.M.
Annual Holiday Open House
A round-robin of puppet plays, art making projects, photos with Santa Claus and other activities for all ages. New Mexico Museum of Art, 107 West Palace Avenue, 476-5072.

18 SUNDAY, 1-3:30 P.M.
"The Nutcracker"
Lensic Performing Arts Center. See December 17 listing.

18 SUNDAY, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
Families Make History: Hanukkah
Enjoy Hanukkah-based activities. Make a beeswax candle to take home. Learn how to play a spinning top game of dreidel and compare it to the Mexican game of pon. First with museum admission; children 16 and under free daily. Palace of the Governors, 105 Palace Avenue, 476-5200.

18 SUNDAY, 2-2:45 P.M.
Feature Film: We Are Stars
Los Alamos Nature Center Planetarium. See December 17 listing.

18 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 4 listing.

18 SUNDAY, 5-6:30 P.M.
"The Nutcracker"
Lensic Performing Arts Center. See December 17 listing.

18 SUNDAY, 5:30-7:30 P.M.
Winter Solstice
Celebrate the upcoming longest night of the year with drums, bonfires, a farolito labyrinth, story-telling and hot chocolate. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

18 SUNDAY – 3 TUESDAY JANUARY
Santa Fe Children's Museum Holiday Hours
The museum will host special hours during winter break. Open Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Normal business hours will resume on January 4. The museum will close at 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, and will be closed all day Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

19 MONDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
A fun recreational day camp filled with games, sports, swimming, ice-skating and arts and crafts. For girls and boys ages 6 to 12. $45 per day or $145 Monday through Friday. Genoveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road, call Melissa at 955-4005 or Katelyn at 955-4014.

19 MONDAY, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.
Community Day at the Garden
Free entry to New Mexico residents and students. Please provide ID or school identification. Docent tours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill, 715 Camino Lejo, 471-9103.

20 TUESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 19 listing.

21 WEDNESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 19 listing.

21 WEDNESDAY, 10-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

21 WEDNESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-1 P.M.
Cookie Exchange
Bring a dozen cookies to share. Come with one variety, leave with several. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network, 1990 Diamond Drive, Los Alamos, 662-4515.

21 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

21 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

21 WEDNESDAY, 8-10 P.M.
Ground Zero Youth Radio
101.1 FM, KSFR. See December 7 listing.

22 THURSDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 19 listing.

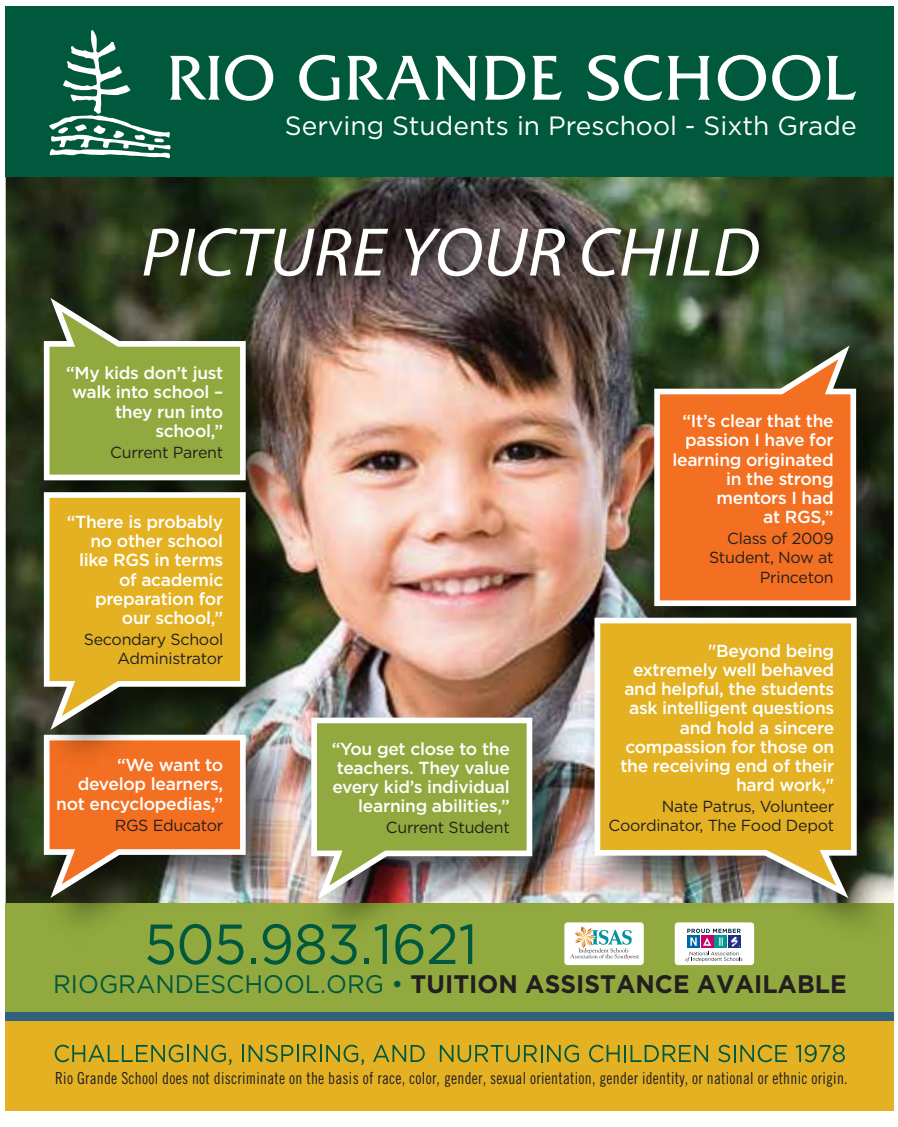
22 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

22 THURSDAY, 4-5 P.M.
Take Flight
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

22 THURSDAY, 4-5 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

23 FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 19 listing.

23 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.



Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ December/January

23 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

23 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

24 SATURDAY, 1-2:30 P.M.
Christmas Eve Family Concert
This Performance Santa Fe open dress rehearsal is an to hear world-class pianist Claire Huangci and the PSF Orchestra at a family-friendly concert. Adults $20, Kids $5. Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

24 SATURDAY, 5, 7 AND 11 P.M.
Christmas Eve Family Service of Carols and Candles
All ages are welcome at this Christmas Eve service. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

26 TUESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 19 listing.

27 TUESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 19 listing.

28 WEDNESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 27 listing.

28 WEDNESDAY, 10-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

28 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

28 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

29 THURSDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 27 listing.

29 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

29 THURSDAY, 1-4 P.M.
Holiday Family Program
Create specialized holiday crafts in this annual drop-in event. Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, 217 Johnson Street, 946-1039.

29 THURSDAY, 4-5 P.M.
Take Flight
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

29 THURSDAY, 4-5 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

Brandt Jones, grade 6

30 FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 27 listing.

30 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

30 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

30 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

30 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

30 FRIDAY, 7-8:30 P.M.
Holiday Circus Cabaret
Wise Fool teachers, students and community members wrap up the year circus style with fun for the whole family. $5-20. Wise Fool New Mexico, 1131 Siler Road, 992-2588.

31 SATURDAY, 1-2:30 P.M.
New Year's Eve Orchestra Family Concert
Performance Santa Fe presents Beethoven's Ninth Sympony. Experience the symphony to end all symphonies at this dress rehearsal for the whole family. Adults $20, Kids $5. Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

31 SATURDAY, 4-5:30 P.M.
Holiday Circus Cabaret
Wise Fool New Mexico. See December 30 listing.

January

2 MONDAY, 6-7 P.M.
Hospital Tour for Expecting Couples
Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center. See December 5 listing.

3 TUESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
School Closure Day Camp
A fun recreational day camp filled with games, sports, swimming, ice-skating and arts and crafts. For girls and boys ages 6 to 12. $45. Genoveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road, call Melissa at 955-4005 or Katelyn at 955-4014.

3 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 6 listing.

3 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Stories, rhymes and crafts for ages 2 to 5. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4863.

4 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

4 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4863.

4 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

4 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

4 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

4 WEDNESDAY, 8-10 P.M.
Ground Zero Youth Radio
101.1 FM, KSFR. See December 7 listing.

5 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

5 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Branch Library. See December 1 listing.

5 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Main Library. See December 1 listing.

5 THURSDAY, 4-6 P.M.
Take Flight
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

5 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

6 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

6 FRIDAY, 11:30 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

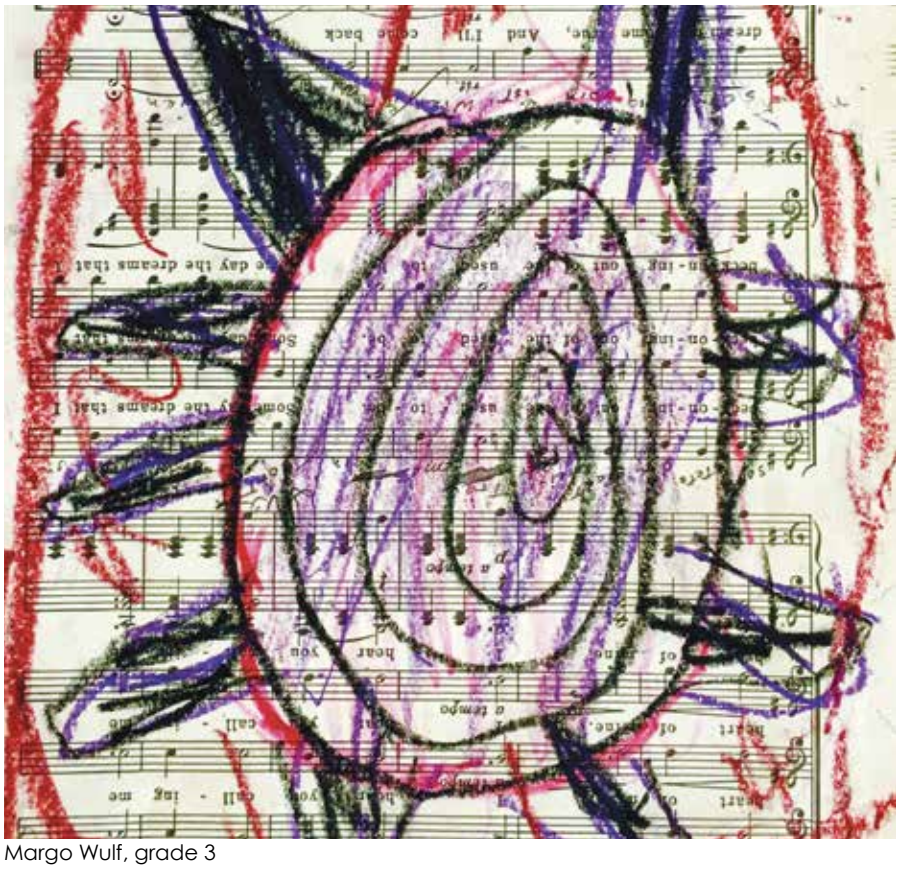
6 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Culinary arts activities. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

6 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

6 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

6 FRIDAY, 5-7 P.M.
First Friday Art Activity
Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. See December 2 listing.

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ January



Margo Wulf, grade 3

6 FRIDAY, 6 AND 7 P.M.
First Friday Fractals
New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 2 listing.

6 FRIDAY, 8 AND 9 P.M.
Fractal Rocks
New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 2 listing.

7 SATURDAY, 9-11:30 A.M.
Book Donation Day
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 3 listing.

8 SUNDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

8 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 4 listing.

9 MONDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
School Closure Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See January 3 listing.

9 MONDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

P10 TUESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
For parents of children entering grades 1 to 8. RSVP for times and parking information at info@fayettestreetacademy.org. Fayette Street Academy, 830 Fayette Street, 982-3396.

10 TUESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

10 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 6 listing.

10 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 3 listing.

10 TUESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Science After School
Southside Branch Library. See December 13 listing.

10 TUESDAY, 6-8 P.M.
Family Night at PEEC
The second Tuesday of every month is Family Night at the PEEC. Stop by the nature center for games, activities, experiments or crafts from 6-7 p.m. Afterward, explore the nature center, which is open until 8 p.m. on Tuesdays. Sponsored by Kiwanis Club. Los Alamos Nature Center, 2600 Canyon Rd, Los Alamos, (505) 662-0460.

11 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

11 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 4 listing.

11 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Southside Library. See December 7 listing.

11 WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Science After School
Main Library. See December 14 listing.

11 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

11 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

11 WEDNESDAY, 6-7 P.M.
Family Opera: Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Mikado"
Presented by Performance Santa Fe. Set in a fictitious Japanese town, this romantic, comedic opera is full of plot twists and outlandishness galore. Perfect for all ages. Free. Scottish Rite Temple, 463 Paseo de Peralta, 984-8759.

12 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

12 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Branch Library. See December 1 listing.

12 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Main Library. See December 1 listing.

12 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.
La Leche League
Indigo Baby. See December 8 listing.

12 THURSDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Science After School
For ages 6 to 12. Call to register. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4863

12 THURSDAY, 4-6 P.M.
Take Flight
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

12 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

12 THURSDAY, 7:30-9 P.M.
Roald Dahl's "Matilda" The Musical
The story of an extraordinary girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny. Call for pricing. Popejoy Hall, 203 Cornell, Albuquerque, (505) 925-5858.

P13 FRIDAY, 9:30-10:30 A.M.
Coffee With the Directors
Growing Up Montessori. See December 2 listing.

13 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

13 FRIDAY, 11:30 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

13 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See January 6 listing.

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www.SFTumbleweeds.com

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ January

13 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

13 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

13 FRIDAY, 7-8 P.M.
Family Opera: Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Mikado"
Scottish Rite Temple. See January 11 listing.

13 FRIDAY, 7-8:30 P.M.
Family Movie Night
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 9 listing.

13 FRIDAY, 8-9:30 P.M.
Roald Dahl's "Matilda" The Musical
Popejoy Hall. See January 12 listing.

14 SATURDAY, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
Family Movie Matinee
Southside Branch Library. See December 17 listing.

14 SATURDAY, 2-3 P.M.
Family Opera: Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Mikado"
Scottish Rite Temple. See January 11 listing.

14 SATURDAY, 2-3:30 P.M.
Roald Dahl's "Matilda" The Musical
Popejoy Hall. See January 12 listing.

14 SATURDAY, 8-9:30 P.M.
Roald Dahl's "Matilda" The Musical
Popejoy Hall. See January 12 listing.

15 SUNDAY, 8:30 AND 11 A.M.
Sing Freedom, Sing Hope!
A celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

15 SUNDAY, 1-2:30 P.M.
Roald Dahl's "Matilda" The Musical
Popejoy Hall. See January 12 listing.

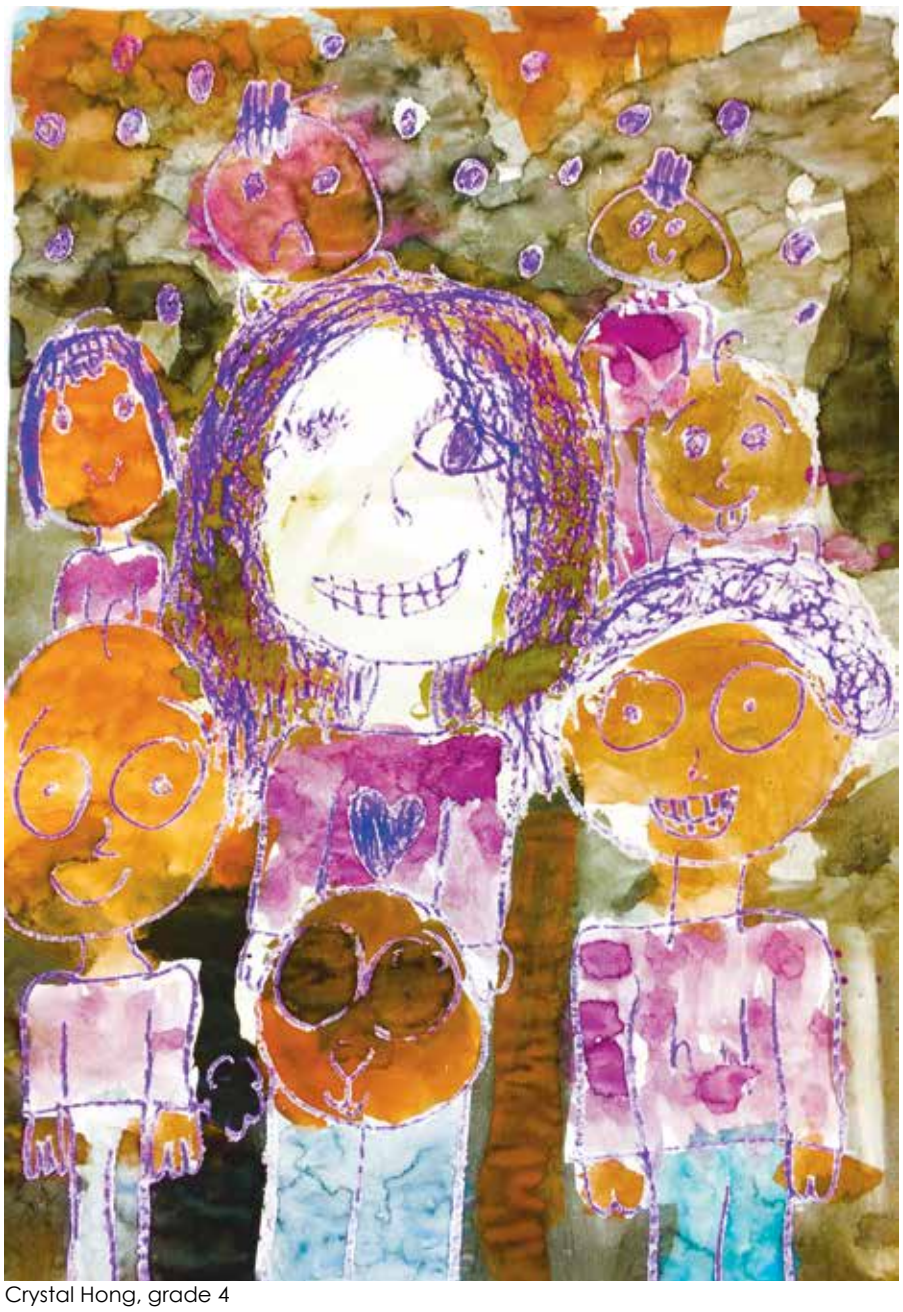
15 SUNDAY, 2-3 P.M.
Family Opera: Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Mikado"
Scottish Rite Temple. See January 11 listing.

15 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 4 listing.

15 SUNDAY, 4-5:30 P.M.
Trout Fishing in America
Show features Dana Louise and the Glorious Birds with a repertoire that includes kid-friendly tunes filled with tongue twisters and silly animal characters. Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

15 SUNDAY, 6:30-8 P.M.
Roald Dahl's "Matilda" The Musical
Popejoy Hall. See January 12 listing.

17 TUESDAY
Desert Montessori School Cowgirl BBQ Fundraising Dinners
Mention Desert Montessori School when you eat at the Cowgirl BBQ and 25% of revenue will benefit the school. Cowgirl BBQ, 319 South Guadalupe Street, 983-8212.



Crystal Hong, grade 4

P17 TUESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See January 10 listing.

17 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 6 listing.

17 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 3 listing.

17 TUESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
For ages 6 to 12. Call to register. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

18 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

18 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 3 listing.

18 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

18 WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
For ages 6 to 12. Call to register. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6837.

18 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

18 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

P18 WEDNESDAY, 6:30-7:30 P.M.
Executive Function Skills 101
Explore how these skills impact learning and success and learn specific strategies for supporting a child's skills at school and in the home. May Center for Learning, 2019 Galisteo, Building B, 983-7407.

18 WEDNESDAY, 8-10 P.M.
Ground Zero Youth Radio
101.1 FM, KSFR. See December 7 listing.

19 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

19 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Library. See December 1 listing.

19 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Main Library. See December 1 listing.

19 THURSDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
For ages 6 to 12. Call to register. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4863

19 THURSDAY, 4-6 P.M.
Take Flight
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

19 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

20 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.
Sing, Shake, Sign
Families sing with signs and movement. Children of all ages are welcome. United Way Early Learning Center at Agua Fria, 3164 Agua Fria Road, 819-0137.

20 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

20 FRIDAY, 11:30 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

20 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See January 6 listing.

20 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

20 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

20 FRIDAY, 6:30 P.M TO 21 SATURDAY, 8 A.M.
Aquarium Overnight
Explore the aquarium at night during this ultimate sleepover. Learn about ocean animals and their nighttime behavior, visit the Touchpool, play games and take in a marine movie at the Aquarium theater. Children under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. $30 per person. ABQ BioPark Aquarium, 2601 Central Avenue, Albuquerque, (505) 848-7180.

21 SATURDAY, NOON-2:30 P.M.
23rd Annual Souper Bowl
Area chefs come together for a friendly soup competition in the name of ending hunger in Northern New Mexico. Proceeds benefit The Food Depot. Tickets go on sale on December 1. Advance tickets: $30 adults, $10 ages 6 to 12, ages 5 years and under free. Call 988-1234, or visit www.thefooddepot.org. Santa Fe Convention Center, 201 West Marcy Street.

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ January/February

21 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.
Children's Health Fair
Activities and discussion with community health professionals. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

21 SATURDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.
Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary
Meet the wolves. Learn about their natural habitats and habits. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

21 SATURDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary
Meet the wolves. Learn about their natural habitats and habits. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4863

22 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.
Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary
Meet the wolves. Learn about their natural habitats and habits. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6837.

22 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 4 listing.

P24 TUESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See January 10 listing.

24 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 6 listing.

24 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 3 listing.

25 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

25 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 4 listing.

25 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

25 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

25 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

26 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

26 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Branch Library. See December 1 listing.

26 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Main Library. See December 1 listing.

Francesco Aimale, grade 5

26 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

26 THURSDAY, 4-6 P.M.
Take Flight
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

27 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

27 FRIDAY, 11:30 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

27 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See January 6 listing.

27 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

27 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

29 SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M.
Lloyd's Treasure Chest: Folk Art in Focus Exhibition Opening
Explore folk art through interactive displays and hands-on activities. Free with admission; children 16 and under free daily. Museum of International Folk Art, 706 Camino Lejo, 476-1200.

29 SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M.
Lunar New Year Celebration
Celebrate the new year with an Asian style lion dance parade, taiko drumming, art activities and special foods. Free with admission; children 16 and under free daily. Museum of International Folk Art, 706 Camino Lejo, 476-1200.

29 SUNDAY, 2-3 P.M.
Santa Fe Symphony
Brass Quintet Experience. All ages. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

29 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 4 listing.

29 SUNDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.
DRUMLine Live!
Riveting rhythms, bold beats and ear-grabbing energy, the staged show offers a synchronized musical showcase incorporating original compositions and soul-infused interpretations of top 40 hits. Popejoy Hall, 203 Cornell, Albuquerque, (505) 925-5858.

P31 TUESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See January 10 listing.

31 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

31 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 3 listing.

FEBRUARY

1 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

1 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 4 listing.

1 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

1 WEDNESDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.
After School Reading Club
Children in grades K through 4 can enjoy books, crafts and activities to stimulate their curiosity and love of reading. Free; registration is required. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323.

1 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ February

1 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

1 WEDNESDAY, 8-10 P.M.
Ground Zero Youth Radio
101.1 FM, KSFR. See December 7 listing.

2 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

2 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Branch Library. See December 1 listing.

2 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Main Library. See December 1 listing.

2 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

2 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
Seeds and Sprouts
Plant a seed for the museum's garden or your own. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

2 THURSDAY, 7:30-9 P.M.
Russian National Ballet: "Cinderella"
The ballet captures the delight, fantasy and drama of the classic fairy tale. Popejoy Hall, 203 Cornell, Albuquerque, (505) 925-5858.

Las Cumbres
Community Services

Confident Parenting
Home Visiting Program

FREE Parenting Information & Support

Prenatal to 3yrs

Call today !

(505) 955-0410
www.lascumbres-nm.org

3 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

3 FRIDAY, 11:30 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

3 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Explore exciting ways to express yourself using glue, paint, crayons, found objects and collage. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

3 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

3 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

3 FRIDAY, 5-7 P.M.
First Friday Art Activity
Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. See December 2 listing.

3 FRIDAY, 6 AND 7 P.M.
First Friday Fractals
New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 2 listing.

3 FRIDAY, 8 AND 9 P.M.
Fractal Rocks
New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 2 listing.

4 SATURDAY, 9-11:30 A.M.
Book Donation Day
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 3 listing.

P4 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON
Journey School Open House
Meet the teachers, see a slide show and share a treat. Children and adults are welcome to visit in the classroom and learn about the Montessori method. Register with Willow Graham at willow.journeyschool@gmail.com. Journey Montessori School, 1212 Unity Way, 470-8928.

4 SATURDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON
Opera Makes Sense
The Santa Fe Opera invites children to explore opera with all five senses, through movement, music, arts and crafts. All ages. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

4 SATURDAY, 2-3:30 P.M.
The Peking Acrobats
Gravity-defying acts performed by gymnasts, jugglers, cyclists and contortionists. Popejoy Hall, 203 Cornell, Albuquerque, (505) 925-5858.

P4 SATURDAY, 5:30-9 P.M.
Desert Montessori School Valentine's Gala
Enjoy great food, live music, a silent auction and buy raffle tickets with your sweetheart. Tickets can be purchased at door. $100 per person or $180 per couple. La Choza, 905 Alarid Street, 983-8212.

Isaac Borrego, grade 4

5 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 4 listing.

P6 MONDAY, 6-7 P.M.
Hospital Tour for Expecting Couples
Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center. See December 5 listing.

P7 TUESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See January 10 listing.

7 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 6 listing.

7 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 3 listing.

7 TUESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Science After School
Southside Branch Library. See December 13 listing.

8 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

8 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 4 listing.

8 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

8 WEDNESDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.
After School Reading Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See February 1 listing.

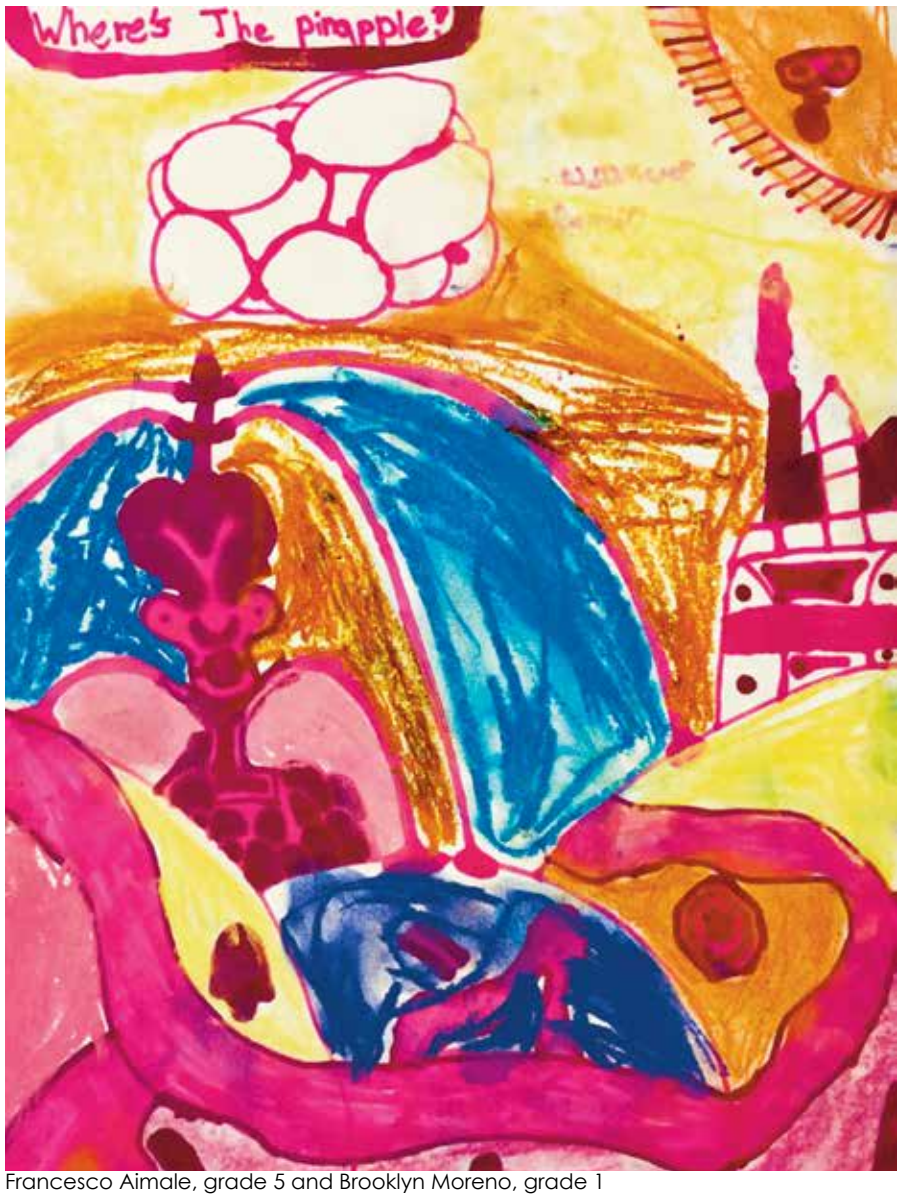
8 WEDNESDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.
After School Reading Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See February 1 listing.

8 WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Science After School
Main Library. See December 14 listing.

8 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

8 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ February



Francesco Aimale, grade 5 and Brooklyn Moreno, grade 1

9 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

9 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Branch Library. See December 1 listing.

9 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Main Library. See December 1 listing.

9 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.
La Leche League
Indigo Baby. See December 8 listing.

9 THURSDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Science After School
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 12 listing.

9 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

9 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
Seeds and Sprouts
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See February 2 listing.

P10 FRIDAY, 9:30-10:30 A.M.
Coffee With the Directors
Growing Up Montessori. See December 2 listing.

10 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

10 FRIDAY, 11:30 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

10 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See February 3 listing.

10 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

10 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

10 FRIDAY, 7-8:30 P.M.
Family Movie Night
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 9 listing.

11 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-2 P.M.
SCUBA Day
Learn about SCUBA classes and trips, where to purchase equipment and supplies, and other information from local diving companies. Guests can enter for a grand-prize giveaway of a dive in the Aquarium's shark tank. ABQ BioPark Aquarium, 2601 Central Avenue, Albuquerque, (505) 848-7180.

11 SATURDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON
Opera Makes Sense
Southside Branch Library. See February 4 listing.

12 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 4 listing.

P14 TUESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See January 10 listing.

14 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 6 listing.

14 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 3 listing.

14 TUESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
Southside Branch Library. See January 17 listing.

14 TUESDAY, 6-8 P.M.
Family Night at PEEC
Los Alamos Nature Center . See January 10 listing.

15 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

15 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 4 listing.

15 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

15 WEDNESDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.
After School Reading Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See February 1 listing.

15 WEDNESDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.
After School Reading Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See February 1 listing.

15 WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
Main Library. See January 18 listing.

15 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

15 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

15 WEDNESDAY, 8-10 P.M.
Ground Zero Youth Radio
101.1 FM, KSFR. See December 7 listing.

16 THURSDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
School Closure Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See January 3 listing.

16 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

16 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Branch Library. See December 1 listing.

16 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Main Library. See December 1 listing.

16 THURSDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
Oliver La Farge Library. See January 19 listing.

16 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

16 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
Seeds and Sprouts
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See February 2 listing.

Collected Works Bookstore & Coffeehouse

Cozy up with your new favorite read in front of our fireplace, while your kids enjoy Story Time on Thursdays and Fridays at 10am!

Hundreds of books, including a huge selection of children's books, for your reading pleasure, and locally roasted coffees and artisan teas for your tasting pleasure.

ICONIK Coffee Roasters Santa Fe

Collected Works Bookstore & Coffeehouse
202 Galisteo Street | 505.988.4226
cwbookstore.com
iconikcoffee.com

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ February

17 FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
School Closure Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See January 3 listing.

17 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

17 FRIDAY, 11:30 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

17 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See February 3 listing.

17 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

17 FRIDAY, 6:30 P.M. TO 18 SATURDAY, 8 A.M.
Aquarium Overnight
ABQ BioPark Aquarium, Albuquerque. See January 20 listing.

18 SATURDAY, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
Family Movie Matinee
Southside Branch Library. See December 17 listing.

GREEN KNEES

a radio show for children Saturday mornings 7 to 8 on KSFR 101.1 FM Santa Fe

We have special guests who read stories and books.

We play music to sing and dance to and a special birthday song,

and Tumbleweeds reminds us of what there is for children to do in Santa Fe each week.

505-216-1855

greenkneesradio @gmail.com

19 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 4 listing.

P 21 TUESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See January 10 listing.

21 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 6 listing.

21 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 3 listing.

22 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

22 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 4 listing.

22 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

22 WEDNESDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.
After School Reading Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See February 1 listing.

22 WEDNESDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.
After School Reading Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See February 1 listing.

22 WEDNESDAY, 5-7 P.M.
Break Dancing for Bboys & Bgirls
Warehouse 21. See December 7 listing.

22 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-7:45 P.M.
Children's Chess Club
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

23 THURSDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

23 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Branch Library. See December 1 listing.

23 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Main Library. See December 1 listing.

23 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays Are Yours Days!
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

23 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
Seeds and Sprouts
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See February 2 listing.

24 FRIDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Children's Story Hour
Collected Works Bookstore. See December 1 listing.

Emmelina Trujillo, kindergarten

24 FRIDAY, 11:30 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

24 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See February 3 listing.

24 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess Club
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 2 listing.

24 FRIDAY, 4:30-6 P.M.
21 Arts Group
Warehouse 21. See December 2 listing.

25 SATURDAY, 8:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M.
Southwest International Dyslexia Association (SWIDA) Parent and Student Conference
For parents, a simulation of learning differences, discussion about appropriate intervention strategies for students with dyslexia, and a seminar on promoting executive functioning strategies in the home. Students will have an opportunity to meet peers, share experiences and hear from adults with dyslexia and related learning differences. Presented by SWIDA and The May Center for Learning. Sandia Resort and Casino, 30 Rainbow Rd, Albuquerque, (505) 255-8234.

25 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-2 P.M.
Winter Wool Festival
Celebrate the connection between people, plants and animals. Visit demonstrators as they spin, hook and weave. Discover how artisans turn fleece into thread and thread into colorful tapestries, rugs and clothes. ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden, 2601 Central Ave. NW, Albuquerque, (505) 768-2000.

26 SUNDAY, 8:30 AND 11 A.M.
Mardi Gras Celebrations
All ages celebration with live music by the Andy Kingston Trio. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

26 SUNDAY, 10 A.M.-2 P.M.
Kid's Fishing Fair
Children ages 4 to 12 are invited to learn all about fishing by visiting interactive Discovery Stations at Tingley Beach. Tingley Beach, 1800 Tingley Drive SW, Albuquerque, (505) 768-2000.

26 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Meet Cornelius
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 4 listing.

27 MONDAY, 10-11:30 A.M.
Homeschool Art
Explore the Harwood's collection and create art in the Museum's Fern Hogue Mitchell Education Center. This program is designed for kids 4 to 12. Parent participation required. Contact education@harwoodmuseum.org for more information. Harwood Museum of Art, 238 Ledoux Street, Taos, (575)758-9826.

P 28 TUESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See January 10 listing.

28 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 6 listing.

28 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Storytime
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 3 listing.

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ Ongoing Events

Molly Knowlton, grade 4

ONGOING EVENTS

Museums, cultural centers and other nonprofit organizations within an easy drive of Santa Fe offering exhibits, programing 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. Zoo, 903 Tenth Street, Albuquerque; Botanic Garden and Aquarium, 2601 Central Avenue NW, Albuquerque. (505) 768-2000, www.cabq.gov/biopark.

ABQ BIOPARK: TINGLEY BEACH

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

BATAAN MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Artifacts from the Bataan Death March, Medal of Honor ribbons and biographies. Private tours available; call to arrange. Open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe. 474-1670, 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. Open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday and Monday 1 to 5 p.m. Fifteenth Street and Central Avenue, Los Alamos. (505) 667-4444, 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. Open Tuesday through Saturday 1 to 5 p.m. Call or visit website to view calendar for upcoming events. 555 Camino de la Familia, in the Santa Fe Railyard. 992-0591, 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. Open Wednesday through Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from June through September; by appointment in April, May and October. Adults $6; seniors and ages 13 to 18 $4; under 13 free; prices for special events vary. 334 Los Pinos Road, Santa Fe. 471-2261, 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 Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 6 p.m. Ages 12 and up $8; seniors, students and military with ID $5; ages 1 to 11 $4; under age 1 free. 1701 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque. (505) 224-8300, www.explora.us.

GEORGIA O'KEEFFE MUSEUM

The largest single repository of O'Keeffe's work in the world. Exhibitions, education programs, family and youth programs. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. General admission $12; New Mexico residents $8 and free on the first Friday of the month; seniors and students over 18 with ID $10; ages 17 and under free. 217 Johnson Street, Santa Fe. 946-1000, www.okeeffemuseum.org.

HARWOOD MUSEUM OF ART

Historic and contemporary art and culture of the Taos region. Many family activities and events. Open Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Adults $10; seniors, students and AAA members $8; ages 18 and under free; free to Taos County residents on Sundays with proof of residence. 238 Ledoux Street, Taos. (575) 758-9826, www.harwoodmuseum.org.

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY NATIVE ARTS

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

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. Call for directions. 471-9103, www.santafebotanicalgarden.org/visit-us/leonora-curtin-wetland-preserve.

MEOW WOLF

Meow Wolf's House of Eternal Return is a unique art experience featuring a new form of non-linear storytelling that unfolds through exploration, discovery and 21st century interactivity. Sunday to Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; closed Tuesday. Adults $18; children $12; seniors $16; free to children under 3. NM residents: Adults $15; Children $10; Senior $13. 1352 Rufina Circle, Santa Fe, 780-4458. www.meowwolf.com

MUSEUM OF INDIAN ARTS AND CULTURE

Stories of the people of the Southwest from prehistory through contemporary art. Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission $12; New Mexico residents $9 daily and free on Sundays; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays; ages 16 and under free. Museum Hill, 710 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. 476-1250, www.indianartsandculture.org.

MUSEUM OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK ART

Wide range of folk art displays from around the world. Open Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission $12; New Mexico residents $7 daily and free on the first Sunday of every month; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays; ages 16 and under free. Museum Hill, 706 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. 476-1204, www.internationalfolkart.org.

MUSEUM OF SPANISH COLONIAL ART

The only museum in the country dedicated to the art of the Spanish colonial period. Special activities for families and children include a Costume Corner and Youth Art and Activity Center. Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission $8; free to New Mexico residents on Sundays; ages 16 and under free. Museum Hill, 750 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. 982-2226, www.spanishcolonial.org/museum.

NEW MEXICO HISTORY MUSEUM AND PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS

Explore New Mexico history from the pre-Colombian era through the Atomic Age, including the clash and melding of cultures. Features the Discovery Center for hands-on, self-paced family activities. Open Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Fridays until 8 p.m. General admission $12; New Mexico residents $7 daily and free on the first Sunday of every month; under age 16 free; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays; free Friday evenings 5 to 8 p.m. 113 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe. 476-5200, www.nmhistory.org.

NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF ART

Guided tours free with museum admission. Drop in and draw during regular museum hours, front desk provides sketchbooks and pencils. Open Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. General admission $12; New Mexico residents $7 daily and free on the first Sunday of every month; under age 16 free; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays; free Friday evenings 5 to 8 p.m. 107 West Palace Avenue, Santa Fe. 476-5041, www.nmartmuseum.org.

Gentle Shepherd Preschool

Pre-Kindergarten Program (ages 3-5)

7:30AM - 12:30PM

M/W/F Classes

T/Th Classes

Highlights:

Art • Stories • Music • Creative Play

Field Trips • Christian Environment

Aftercare available until 3:00PM

505-983-9838

209 East Barcelona Road
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Winter 2016-2017 Calendar ~ Ongoing Events

NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY AND SCIENCE

Many exhibits on the history of Earth, Planetarium and movies at the giant-screen Lockheed-Martin Dyna Theater. Open Wednesday to Monday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Museum admission: Adults $8; seniors $7 and free Wednesdays; ages 3 to 12 years $5; free to New Mexico residents with ID on the first Sunday of every month. Separate admission fees for DynaTheater and Planetarium. 1801 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque. (505) 841-2800, www.nmnaturalhistory.org.

PAJARITO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Nature center and outdoor education programs provide opportunities for people of all ages to explore the rich natural and cultural heritage of the Pajarito Plateau. Preschool and home school discovery programs, nature clubs, middle school and high school environmental clubs and many other activities. Registration required for most activities. Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. 2600 Canyon Road, Los Alamos. (505) 662-0460, www.peecnature.org

RAILYARD ARTISAN MARKET

Local artists and craftspeople, farmers, ranchers and food artisans, musicians, refreshments and entertainment, in the heart of the Santa Fe Railyard. Open Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Santa Fe Farmers Market, 1607 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe. 983-4098, www.artmarketsantafe.com.

RANDALL DAVEY AUDUBON CENTER AND SANCTUARY

Over 135 acres of striking landscapes and wildlife, bounded by the Santa Fe National Forest and Santa Fe River Watershed land. Activities include guided bird walks and hikes, and tours of the Randall Davey home. Open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 1800 Upper Canyon Road, Santa Fe. 983-4609, www.nm.audubon.org/randall-davey-audubon-center-sanctuary.

RIO GRANDE NATURE CENTER STATE PARK

270 acres of woods, meadows and farmland flourishing with native grasses, wildflowers, willows and cottonwoods, just outside of Albuquerque. Gates open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily; visitor center open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission $5 per vehicle. 2901 Candelaria NW, Albuquerque. (505) 344-7240, www.rgnc.org.

SANTA FE BOTANICAL GARDEN AT MUSEUM HILL

Eleven acres of gardens that celebrate, cultivate and conserve the botanical heritage and biodiversity of our region. April through December open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; adults $7; seniors and military $6; students and children 6 and up $5; children under 6 free. January through March open Wednesday to Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; general admission $3; free for children under 6. Members always admitted free. Museum Hill, 715 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. www.santafebotanicalgarden.org.

Joseph Sanchez, grade 4

SANTA FE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

A learning laboratory with exhibits and programs designed to cultivate habits of inquiry. Wednesday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Special Holiday hours from December 18 through January 3. Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Normal business hours will resume on January 4. The museum will close at 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve, and will be closed all day Christmas Day and New Year's Day. General admission $7.50; children ages 16 and under $5; free for children under age 1. Children under 16 free Thursdays after 4 p.m. Family memberships available. 1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe. 989-8359, www.santafechildrensmuseum.org.

SANTA FE FARMERS MARKET

Over 150 active vendors selling hundreds of agricultural products, with locations in the Railyard and on the Southside. Railyard Farmers Market open Saturday and Tuesday, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. June to September and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. October through May. 1607 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe. Southside Farmers Market open Tuesday 3 to 6:30 p.m. from July through September, outside Santa Fe Place Mall near JC Penny, 4250 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe. 983-4098, www.santafefarmersmarket.com.

SANTA FE MOMMY MEETUP GROUP

For all moms (and dads!) who delight in having fun with their children, primarily ages 0 to 5 years old. Mommy Meetup offers play dates, parents' events, charity and educational events, and an online discussion board. $16 annual dues. www.meetup.com/santafemoms.

SANTA FE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.; 955-6781. Oliver La Farge Branch, 1730 Llano Street, open Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Thursday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sundays; 955-4862. Southside Branch, 6599 Jaguar Drive, open Monday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.; 955-2820. www.santafelibrary.org.

VISTA GRANDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Story times, family movie nights, reading programs and special events. Open Tuesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Wednesday through Friday, noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado. 466-7323, www.vglibrary.org.

WAREHOUSE 21

Dance concerts, theater productions and other events and classes for youth under 21. Tuesday to Thursday 3 to 7 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday 5 to 7 p.m. Open later for events. 1614 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe. 989-4423, www.warehouse21.org.

WHEELWRIGHT MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

Contemporary and historic Native American art with an emphasis on the Southwest. Talks, seminars, meet-the-artist receptions and many other events. General admission $8. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 704 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. 982-4636, www.wheelwright.org.

Please send us information about family events happening in March, April and May for our Spring 2017 Calendar. Send by email (preferred), calendar@sftumbleweeds.com; or mail, Tumbleweeds, 369 Montezuma#191, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Deadline: January 27.

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