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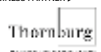
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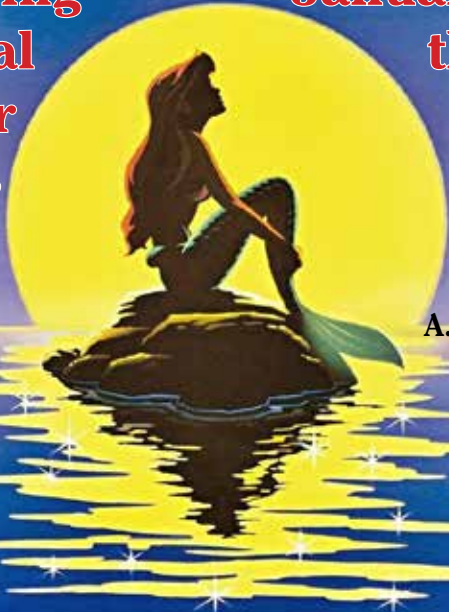
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GOING "BIG"

Is she good?

Yeah, she's really nice.

The sixth-graders were talking about me, in front of me, with that charming cloak of invisibility that children sometimes wear around adults. My new "Little Brother" was taking me on a tour of his school. He ran into a few friends in the courtyard. One girl wanted to know who I was and what he thought of me. No time like the present to ask. I smiled inside and pretended I hadn't heard.

The seed of this sweet moment had been planted a few months earlier by two articles in the summer *Tumbleweeds*. Actually, I think it was sown a year ago, when we were wrapping up our Winter 2016-17 issue.

That was last November, just a few days after the election. A couple of my co-workers and I were discussing the implications for New Mexico families, particularly about the president-elect's proposals on immigration and health care repeal. Someone on "Team *Tumbleweeds*" suggested that we spearhead some action, or join onto an existing initiative, to support families in our community, perhaps volunteering or lobbying or organizing a charitable drive. We were in the final stages before going to press, too late for another article, so I put a short note in my editor's column asking readers to propose civic actions we might undertake "under the umbrella of *Tumbleweeds*."

I can't say I'm surprised that we didn't get responses to this request, given how general it was, and how little free time parents have. The suggestion filtered into edito-

rial choices in the year since, however, as we've considered how *Tumbleweeds* can help parents respond to the rising challenges of our time. I wrote in our spring issue about the Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration at the Roundhouse and reflected on ways Santa Fe might realize Dr. King's vision of a "Beloved Community." We ran articles on the "soda tax" effort to expand funding for pre-kindergarten, and the Council on International Relations' programs to increase global awareness in local elementary and secondary schools. In our fall issue we printed suggestions for creating an "emergency preparedness plan" in the event of a natural disaster, terrorist attack or deportation, which we expanded and translated into

Spanish in this issue ("Alístese para lo inesperado," page 24). We might have run these articles otherwise, but they seemed to have a special push now as nonpartisan ways for readers to step up to challenging times.

So I suppose the ground in my brain was primed for the two articles in our summer issue about Santa Fe's Big Brothers Big Sisters program: "Enjoying the Ride," by David Berkeley and "Friend, Mentor, Superhero," by Brianna Neumann (our former intern). I admired Berkeley and Neumann's dedication to spending several hours a month with their "Littles," but I doubted I could find time for that commitment. I might, on the other hand, have time for BBBS's school-based program, which I hadn't known much about until then. This entails meeting with a child once a week throughout the school year, for about an hour during their lunch and recess.

I dialed the BBBS office here in Santa Fe. (Tip: It's 983-8369.) No harm in calling, I thought. An inquiry isn't a commitment. I left my name and number, and got a call back from the volunteer coordinator the next day. We set up a preliminary interview. The ball was rolling. I submitted an application, gave names of references, and got a finger print test.

Shortly after the school year started I was assigned a match: a sixth-grade boy from Aspen Community Magnet School. (Our local BBBS chapter will match a Big Sister with a Little Brother to meet demand.)

In the meantime I wondered: What would my "Little" be like? What if we

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Tumbleweeds

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

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

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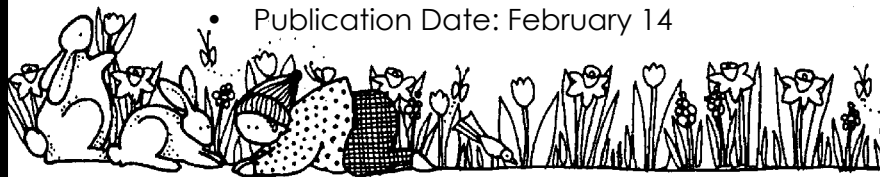
ON THE COVER: Savannah (age 4) and Alexander (1) are the children of Jessica Ventura-Ewing and Reny Ventura. Savannah likes lions, unicorns and her friends from Little Earth School. She wants to be a veterinarian when she grows up. Alex loves trains, trucks and being outside. Photo © Ana June 2017.

ARTWORK IN THIS ISSUE is by K-8 students in Jonathan Cohen and Edward Nemeč's art classes at Aspen Community Magnet School. Look for more on our website, www.sftumbleweeds.com.

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Spring 2018 Deadlines

- Article Submissions: January 15
- Spring Break/Summer Camp Directory and Spring Calendar Listings: January 26
- Ad Reservations: January 26
- Ad Copy: February 2
- Publication Date: February 14



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Continued from page 4

didn't hit it off? What if the challenges that led the child to be referred to the program were more than I could handle? I figured I wasn't the first person to have such questions, and trusted that answers could be found.

I needn't have worried. We've met several times so far. Sometimes we play board games. He reads stories aloud and I help him with words. (He likes fish. He has a fish tank and is saving for a bigger one. I helped him sound out "anemone.") We do art projects. He shows me around his school. This isn't therapy — though I'll listen to anything he wants to talk about. It's not tutoring — though I'll help him with math problems if he wants. It's friendship. I have a new person I look forward to seeing, and it seems he does, too.

"Who's this?" one of his sixth-grade classmates asked him, nodding to the unfamiliar woman walking round the school with him.

"She's my Big Sister," he said.

"Is she good?"

"Yeah, she's really nice." My heart puffed out.

The stories about BBBS inspired me to take part in their program, and my life and my Little's are richer for it. Looking back on the year, I believe this is how *Tumbleweeds* can best step up to help families: through stories that you, or I, can turn into actions.

Take, for instance, Sarah Harrison's suggestion in this issue to buy a few extra cans of food when we're grocery shopping with our children and donate the cans to a food bank. (See "A Habit of Helping," page 14). So doable, so valuable.

If you think the outdoors is only for summer, try Katie Macaulay's wonderful suggestions for winter hikes ("Winter Hikes Near Santa Fe," page 20), with information about some of the awesome geological formations you see out there.

Dr. Christy Wall and Melissa H. Moore will entice you into a field trip to the New Mexico Wildlife Center, outside Española, to see how some of our local species — rattlesnake, magpie, kestrel, bobcat and many others — cope with the changes of winter. ("Animal Ambassadors Bear Witness to Winter," page 18.)

Helping others requires taking kind and gentle care of ourselves — as I'm reminded by Adrienne Harvitz's beautiful reflections about her postpartum emotional turmoil ("Doing It," page 10). Susan Aguayo, of Rio Rancho, responded to the most horrific of tragedies, the death of her daughter Kassy, by creating a nonprofit organization to support women and men suffering from pregnancy-

related depression. ("Kassy's Kause is Everyone's Cause," page 8). Their articles are accompanied by a list (in English *y en español*) of local and national services for perinatal — prenatal through postpartum — mood disorders.

The practice of mindfulness is making its way into the classroom, and Santa Fe is fortunate to have some excellent resources for teachers, which Erin Doerwald and John Braman share in "The Magic of Mindfulness," page 16.

Two longtime Santa Feans returned from international travels recently with ideas for our Santa Fe schools and families. Rev. Talitha Arnold, minister of United Church of Santa Fe, visited refugee camps in northern Iraq this summer and shares ways we can help refugees from Syria and other countries — starting with learning their names and stories, and extending as far beyond that as we wish (see her "Jesus Was A Refugee," page 22). Kathryn Mark, longtime director of Movement Arts for Every Body, came back from three years in Poland with new perspectives gleaned from teaching in a system with a different population and priorities ("Reflections from an Ex-Pat," page 26).

Fred Nathan, Think New Mexico's executive director, talks with us about their next legislative push, to improve schools by reallocating dollars from administration to the classroom. (See "New Math for School Budgets," page 32.)

Like me, you may find inspiration in the experiences of these adults, and the unguarded honesty of children.

And if you want to share with us some of the ways these stories inspire you, please do. We know a seed can sit for a while before it takes root. If it does, we'd love to hear from you.



“
When I was first approached about being a Big Brother, I thought I wasn't qualified. I don't know much about kids, and I don't have any special training or skills to teach them. But when I met Fabian, I realized that going to the dog park and hanging out was enough to make a difference to him.
”
Alli, Big Brother



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Dear Tumbleweeds

A Little Horn Tooting for Tumbleweeds!

Thank you so much for featuring ARTsmart in your Fall 2017 issue. We were honored to be a part of your wonderful publication. Keep up the good work and thank you for being such a great resource for families in our community.

Warm regards,

Amanda Thomas, Program Director
ARTsmart New Mexico

Thanks so much for the awesome placement of the Desert Montessori School ad on the Table of Contents page!! We love it and we're thrilled. The Fall issue is terrific and congrats on your well-deserved awards too.

Much appreciated!

Stephanie Taxy
Desert Montessori School



Kassy's Cause is Everyone's Cause

Bringing awareness to perinatal depression

By Susan Aguayo

On March 23, 2015, my daughter

Kassandra Alexis Williams took her life. She took her life due to her silent suffering of perinatal depression. She had just become a wife and soon found out she was expecting a child. Hers was a surprise pregnancy, as many are. Her pregnancy was a time of momentous transition in her life. Within her first month of being married she lost her beloved puppy to parvovirus and discovered shortly thereafter that she was pregnant. She faced the good news of pregnancy with an aching heart, having lost an adored pet. We all — her parents, siblings, husband and midwife — missed the signs of a problem, thinking that the moods she was experiencing were just normal symptoms of pregnancy.

Kassandra, our Kassy, had recently had to put college on hold so her husband, who had less time left to finish his degree, could continue playing football for the university. Their plan was for her to go back to school once he was done. Now it appeared to her that this was not going to happen because of the news. The unplanned pregnancy didn't come easily. She was the only one working and recently had been promoted to a management position at her job. Her health changed during pregnancy, and she suffered from frequent vomiting and bloody noses. She had been so used to keeping everything under control that she hid her insomnia, anxiety attacks and mood swings. All this put her in a turmoil of guilt. She was plagued with questions: Why couldn't she feel happy, comfortable and not so irritable at everything or everyone? She lost weight the first two months, instead of gaining, and was dehydrated because of the vomiting. She was exhausted. She isolated herself from friends, not something she would usually do.

Although her dream as a child had been to become a mom, this was not what she expected of being pregnant. Kassandra had heard me describe my experiences, and she had two older sisters with babies. Her pregnancy was different. Her mood swings were eating her up. I learned of all this once her husband gave me her phone after her death. That's when it came together. I looked at her search history and saw she had been looking up anxiety, depression and questions like: Is it normal to feel this way? Is it possible to think you might not be a good mom if you feel miserable while expecting a baby? Should I go to the hospital? She did go to the hospital the night before her suicide, but they told her that her feelings were normal and sent her home. It was shocking for me to learn that she had been feeling this way and had not come to us for help. Several



Kassy Williams, a year before her death.

of us had spoken to her within days and even hours of her death.

It seemed so unreal that our Kassy — a young, bubbly and happy woman who was a former cheerleader, a dancer from age 3, a member of the student council in high school, and a musician who played clarinet, viola and piano — was gone. Getting that phone call, hearing of her death, stopped my heart. My whole world froze. I wanted to dig myself into a hole and not hear again what I was being told on the phone. My hysterical reaction and screaming didn't last long. I looked around at my family and went into survival mode. I had to become the pilot and take control. It was now, more than ever, that I would be needed the most. I needed to help my family get through this.

I also had to get my questions answered. I couldn't leave it as just that she took her life because of a pregnancy depression. This was suicide, and I needed more information.

I started to do research by calling hospitals and reaching out to different doctors. I then learned that this mental disorder is more common than people may know. I felt the need to share our experience with more women and families, but I needed to figure out how. The idea of a blog came to mind, but I felt it wouldn't be enough. I surrounded myself with University of New Mexico doctors who specialized in perinatal depression.

Then I took a leap of faith and opened up a non-profit organization. We called it Kassy's Kause. Why the K and K? Her nickname at home was KK.

**We offer resources for women
who reach out to us with any concerns
with symptoms of perinatal depression.**

**Kassy's Kause makes them
feel comfortable to talk
and not feel judged.**

We are now recognized by many other organizations that work with families during pregnancy. I never thought we would get to where we are. We offer resources for women who reach out to us with any concerns about symptoms of perinatal depression. Kassy's Kause makes them feel comfortable to talk and not feel judged. We are currently offering individual support and setting up a group where women can make friends and share advice on how they overcame perinatal depression. We refer people — women and men — to a therapist who has personal experience with the issue. [See page 12 for more resources.]

UNM and Lovelace hospitals have come onboard to help us create a documentary — "Kassy's Hope" — to help raise awareness, focusing on the different types of people who have suffered and are now speaking out on the subject. This mental illness

does not discriminate against anyone. No matter your race, financial status, age or social lifestyle, you can be affected. Even partners may suffer from perinatal depression or anxiety, when their relationship changes significantly during pregnancy and after birth.

My daughter lives on. I want families to become educated about the condition and be aware of the signs, if not for themselves then for someone they might know. You never know whom you might be able to help. The consequence of not recognizing and treating depression can be very serious. It is especially important for partners to be educated on these conditions because they may be the first to see the signs. The emotions we experience during pregnancy should be treated with a sensitive approach, with compassion instead of judgment or blame, because it could be a more serious situation than we expect. We hope to have more people share their experiences, so others can relate and realize they are not alone.

Please visit us at www.kassyskause.org and follow us on Facebook, Kassy's Kause. Our documentary, "Kassy's Hope: My Life 4 Yours," will premiere Dec. 2, 2 p.m., at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th Street SW, in Albuquerque. Please join us for a film that is inspiring and uplifting, and may save the life of someone you know.

Susan Aguayo, founder and president of Kassy's Kause, describes herself as a woman of hope. She lives in Rio Rancho with her husband and family.

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- Kendel Broad, Mom

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DOING IT

Moving through postpartum stress

By Adrienne Harvitz



Photo by Ana June

When my daughter was born, I had the distinct feeling that something was not right. To be honest, I had felt that way through the pregnancy as well. I would push those thoughts to the side and tell myself, “It will be just like it was with your first baby. There she’ll be, and a rush of euphoric hormones will swoop through you, and tada! You will bond and be blissed out and back in your jeans in no time!”

Imagine seeing your baby and knowing what you should do to care for her, yet not feeling the impulse to complete those actions. I felt like a mothering robot, with instructions computed into the code of my body, but no feelings to go with them. I felt like I was in a shell of myself, just going through the motions.

A counselor recommended that I talk to my doctor about these feelings. My doctor thought this was a normal second-child experience. Researching it since then, however, I recognized some red flags that I was experiencing, including

isolation from a support network, being overwhelmed, exhaustion, diminishing joy in my daily activities and a reduced ability to respond to stress.

I could point to several factors at the root of these feelings. The circumstances of my life were truly challenging. Being recently separated, single, now a mother of two young children, without any family in town, I was dealing with substantial stress just in my daily baseline existence. Beyond the basic responsibilities of running a household, maintaining the kids’ routines, feeding, cleaning, bathing, playing and cleaning, (did I mention cleaning?), there was making a living. Working as a yoga teacher, part-time administrative assistant and whatever else I could do to make a buck (the “Santa Fe shuffle”), my life involved flux, flow and scarcity.

And I was physically depleted. Despite jumping on the traditional-foods-homesteading-DIY bandwagon, I still had quite a nutritional and energetic deficit from my first four years of parenting. The sleep deprivation, caregiving, creating

and sustaining a human being added up and took a toll physically, psychologically and emotionally. I was tired all the time.

I had once been a calm, patient and giving mother who found joy and bliss in the duty of motherhood. Dishwashing, bedtime-story reading, making costumes and coloring together — I enjoyed it all. I used to facilitate mother's circles and go for outings with my kid and any others I could wrangle into my car, at the drop of a hat. At this point, all this was a burden.

I felt lost in a desert landscape with no recognizable landmarks, walking on and on in the scorching heat, with the illusion that I was approaching an oasis. I was losing my faith that things would get better and forgetting even what an oasis, if I ever arrived at it, would look like. What would it look like if my life were better? I'd had a partner, a homestead, two babies, guitar and bedtime stories ... I had been there, done that and lost it. But would a new guy or a new house really make anything better?

The breakthrough I needed came on spring break, while I took a staycation to Fort Marcy Park with my children, then 1 and 5. Each day we went to the park with a bicycle and a snack pack, and I let my son ride in circles around the playground while I bounced my daughter on my hip. I was there, but a million miles away inside. I was listening to an internal audiobook, narrated by myself, about what a failure I was and how unendurable this felt.

I was yanked back to reality when another mother walked up next to me, chatting loudly on the phone with her husband about the kids' itinerary for the day. She ended the call with a boisterous guffah and a "Love you, bye," then turned casually toward me with a kind smile and asked, "How you doin'?"

Almost in tears, I rambled with a shaky voice and pathetic tone about how my day had gone. Her response was, "You're doing it." Then she half-jokingly confessed to me that she "had it all" — the husband, the three healthy kids, the calm, collected demeanor — and still she confessed that she often did not enjoy being a mom.

Her effortless resignation to reality was a shock to me. Theoretically, she and I were both "doing it,"

WAS IT "ALL IN MY HEAD"?
NO, BUT IT WAS WITHIN. THE STRESS
RESPONSE WAS IN MY MIND, IN MY
NERVOUS SYSTEM AND IN MY BODY.

being moms, hanging out at the park while our kids played. While she was experiencing outward ease and contentment, just right next to her I was going through the same experiences but telling myself that I was a failure and couldn't endure it.

Was it "all in my head"? No, but it was within. The stress response was in my mind, in my nervous system and in my body.

Gradually, I began the work of changing my patterns, primarily through trauma-informed counseling. I began with somatic experiencing and other techniques such as EMDR (eye movement desen-

sitization and reprocessing). I learned that trauma, even relational trauma like loss of a partner, lives deeply and intricately embedded in our somatic reality. Current traumatic experiences can be more damaging if they resemble traumas earlier in life. I lost my father to an aneurysm, and my mother was widowed, when I was 2 years old. This trauma was echoed by my losing a partner and becoming a single parent when my children were young. Trauma

has many layers and presents in many ways.

Did I have postpartum depression? Maybe. Did it all go away once I found the "magic cure"? No, but I have begun the lifelong work of feeling, listening and tending to my needs. With consistent counseling, movement and mindfulness practices, I am learning to value and take care of myself. I often surrender to humor, too.

At our last family outing to the zoo, we all came close the edge of a family meltdown, but I took the highroad: boundaries and humor. I stopped myself mid-rant about having stayed too long at the Lorakeet adventure, took a breath and made up a small lie, "The

cheetahs are napping, we have to go now." I had a huge full-body releasing laugh at the absurdity of the words I was speaking, picked up the little one before the tantrum hit and said "no" to taking on more stress at that moment. No, we did not see the cheetahs. Yes, it was an upset. Even in the tough moments, I remind myself: I am doing it.

.....
Adrienne Harvitz is an RYT 200 yoga instructor and certified group and personal fitness instructor with a background in holistic health, integrative nutrition and sustainability studies.

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- Youth "Initiation to Adulthood" (8th/9th)—9:45
- "Young Adventurers" (6th/7th)—11:00
- High School Programs throughout the year



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¿SUFRE DE DEPRESIÓN?

Hay ayuda para madres y familias de recién nacidos

Por los esfuerzos informativos de los servicios de salud pública, muchos están enterados de la depresión posparto. Sin embargo, pocos saben que la depresión también puede ocurrir durante el embarazo. Los trastornos del estado de ánimo perinatal cubren una amplia variedad de emociones que pueden afectar a una mujer durante el embarazo y después del alumbramiento, incluso con depresión prenatal y ansiedad, depresión posparto y psicosis posparto. Aunque un 15 por ciento de las mujeres sufre de depresión durante y/o después del embarazo, un fuerte estigma existe sobre los trastornos del estado de ánimo perinatales. Muchas mujeres y quienes las rodean no hacen una conexión entre las emociones que sienten y la depresión causada por el embarazo.

Si está embarazada o acaba de dar a luz (o es compañero de una de ellas o padre del bebé) y se siente agobiada, ansiosa, sin poder dormir, temerosa, triste, con pánico, deprimida o con síntomas obsesivos, por favor recurra a cualquiera de estos servicios mencionados abajo.

En caso de emergencia: Llame al 911 o a la línea de emergencia de la prevención del suicidio (800) 273-8255.

En situaciones de crisis: Llame a la línea de emergencia de crisis de Nuevo México (855) NMCRIISIS (662-7474) o consulte el sitio www.nmcrisisline.com.

En cualquier momento: Notifique a su proveedor de atención médica, quien podrá ponerle en contacto con los servicios apropiados, o llame a cualquiera de estos servicios locales y nacionales:

- **Birthing Tree**

Esta cooperativa de enfermeras-parteras, doulas, acupunturistas, masajistas, practicantes de Ayurveda y educadores de padres de familia ofrece clases y servicios durante el periodo prenatal, el nacimiento y el posparto. Sus oficinas están en 1315 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM; (505) 552-2454; www.thebirthingtree.com; info@thebirthingtree.com.

- **Centro médico La Familia**

Ofrece servicios médicos, dentales y de la salud del comportamiento. Se habla español. Tiene dos clínicas: una en 1035 Alto Street, (505) 982-4425, y una al sur de la ciudad, Southside Clinic, en 2145 Caja del Oro Grant Road, (505) 438-3195. www.lafamiliasf.org.

- **Kassy's Kause**

Ofrece apoyo individual y en grupo, recomendaciones de agencias y servicios y ayuda para madres y familiares que sufren de depresión perinatal o ansiedad. (505) 603-2988; www.kassyskause.com; kassykause@yahoo.com.

- **Many Mothers**

Éste es un programa de voluntarias que provee apoyo práctico, emocional y físico a cualquier familia después del nacimiento o adopción de un bebé. (505) 983-5984; www.manymothers.org.

- **PostPartum Support International**

En este sitio de la Internet encontrará artículos útiles e historias personales, así como servicios locales y un coordinador estatal: www.postpartum.net/locations/new-mexico. (800) 944-4773; correo electrónico: psioffice@postpartum.net.

- **Servicios comunitarios Las Cumbres**

Entre sus programas están: *Healing Hearts*, un grupo de apoyo para madres; Nuestra Jornada, un grupo para padres jóvenes que ofrecen junto con Gerard's House; *Preparing the Way* un grupo que ayuda con los preparativos prenatales y que ofrecen junto con United Way del condado Santa Fe; *Qué Cute*, un programa para bebés saludables; y otros servicios que incluyen la salud del comportamiento y visitas domiciliarias. Hay guardería gratis y se habla español. También ofrecen servicios de transporte y cena a los participantes. Sus oficinas están en 1915 Fifth Street, Suite 100, Santa Fe, NM; (505) 955-0410; www.lascumbres-nm.org.

- **United Way del condado Santa Fe**

Sus programas incluyen: Great Start, el cual ofrece a las familias tres visitas de apoyo en el primer mes de vida del bebé; el grupo prenatal *Preparing the Way*; un programa de visitas domiciliarias para recién nacidos; y otros, como servicios de apoyo, clases de crianza, salud del comportamiento, grupos de padres y visitas al hogar. Hay guardería gratis y se habla español. También ofrecen transporte y cena a los participantes. 3164 Agua Fria Street, Santa Fe, NM; (505) 819-5483; www.uwsc.org.

- Traducido por Flor de María Oliva

THERE'S HELP FOR PERINATAL MOOD DISORDERS

Through years of public health outreach, many of us have heard of postpartum depression. Few are aware that depression can also occur during pregnancy. Perinatal mood disorders encompass a wide range of emotions that can affect a woman during pregnancy and after the birth of her child, including prenatal depression and anxiety, the "baby blues," and postpartum psychosis. Though 15 percent of women experience depression during and/or after pregnancy, a strong stigma still surrounds perinatal mood disorders. Many women, and those around them, do not connect the difficult emotions they are feeling with pregnancy-caused depression.

If you are pregnant or have just had a baby (or are a father or a partner) and are feeling overwhelmed, anxious, unable to sleep, fearful, sad, panicked, depressed or experiencing obsessive symptoms, please reach out for help.

In an emergency: Call 911 or the Suicide Prevention Hotline: (800) 273-TALK (8255).

In crisis: Call the New Mexico Crisis Hotline: (855) NMCRIISIS (662-7474); www.nmcrisisline.com.

At any time: Notify your medical provider, who will be able to connect you to appropriate services, or contact any of these local or national resources.

- **Birthing Tree**

This cooperative of nurse-midwives, doulas, acupuncturists, massage therapists, Ayurvedic practitioners and parent educators provides classes and services throughout the prenatal, birth and postpartum period. Office location: 1315 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM; (505) 552-2454; www.thebirthingtree.com; email: info@thebirthingtree.com.

- **Kassy's Kause**

Individual and group support, referrals and advocacy for family members suffering from perinatal depression or anxiety. (505) 603-2988; www.kassyskause.com; kassykause@yahoo.com.

- **La Familia Medical Center**

Medical, dental and behavioral health services. Se habla español. Two clinics: Alto Street Clinic: 1035 Alto Street; (505) 982-4425; and Southside: 2145 Caja del Oro Grant Road; (505) 438-3195; www.lafamiliasf.org.

- **Las Cumbres Community Services**

Programs include *Healing Hearts*, a support group for mothers; Nuestra Jornada, a young parent group offered with Gerard's House; *Preparing the Way* Prenatal Group, presented with United Way of Santa Fe County; *Que Cute* Healthy Baby Program; and multiple additional services including behavioral health and home visiting. Free childcare is available. Se habla español. Transportation and dinner are often included with participation. Their Santa Fe office is located at 1915 Fifth Street, Suite 100, Santa Fe, NM; (505) 955-0410; www.lascumbres-nm.org.

- **Many Mothers**

Volunteers provide physical, emotional and practical support to any family following the birth or adoption of a new baby. (505) 983-5984; www.manymothers.org.

- **PostPartum Support International**

Website with helpful articles and personal stories, as well as local resources and a New Mexico coordinator. www.postpartum.net/locations/new-mexico. Call (800) 944-4773 or email psioffice@postpartum.net.

- **United Way of Santa Fe County**

Programs include: Great Start, providing families with three supportive visits in the baby's first month; *Preparing the Way* Prenatal Group; First Born Home Visiting Program; and multiple other services including support groups, parenting classes, behavioral health, fathers' groups and home visiting. Free childcare available. Se habla español. Transportation and dinner often included with participation. 3164 Agua Fria St. Santa Fe, NM; (505) 819-5483; www.uwsc.org.

- Katy Yanda



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Visit us online at nmschoolforthearts.org

Deadline is February 5, 2018

Save the date for ArtSpring! May 17 & 18, 2018

ArtSpring is our year-end celebration featuring performances of theater, music, dance, and visual arts.

NMPED School Grading Report Card 2017 Final Grade 2017 **A**

NM School for the Arts Charter
 District: State Charter
 Grade Range: 9-12 Code: 309031

Overall Score 87.93

Current Standing
 Are students performing on grade level? Did they improve more or less than expected? **30** **A**

School Improvement
 Is the school as a whole making academic progress? **10** **B**

Improvement of Higher-Performing Students
 Are higher-performing students improving more or less than expected? **10** **A**

Improvement of Lowest-Performing Students
 Are the lowest-performing students improving more or less than expected? **10** **B**

Opportunity to Learn
 Do students and families believe their school is a good place to attend and learn? **8** **B**

Graduation
 Are students graduating high school, and is the graduation rate improving? **17** **A**

College and Career Readiness
 Are students participating in college and career readiness opportunities? Are they demonstrating success? **15** **A**

Bonus Points
 Schools can earn points for reducing truancy, promoting extracurricular activities, engaging families, and using technology. **3.99**

This School's History
 Note for Families: If your student is enrolled in a school that has earned two "A" grades in the last four years, state law allows you to transfer your child to a school with a higher grade. Please call (505) 827-4527 to learn more. For information about other schools in your community, please visit the School Grading web page at <http://ped.state.nm.us/schoolgrading>.

New Mexico School Grading 2017 Page 1 of 6 NM School for the Arts Charter

Final Points

High Schools
75.0 to 100.0 A
65.0 to 74.9 B
50.0 to 64.9 C
35.0 to 49.9 D
0.0 to 34.9 F

High schools earn a final grade based on these ranges, which were set in 2012.

Tests
 School Grading draws on student performance from these state assessments:

Tests	Grades
PARCC Standards-Based Assessment - Spanish	Mathematics, Reading 3-11
NMAPA New Mexico Alternate Performance Assessment	Mathematics, Reading 3-11
DBELS Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (prior to 2017)	Early Literacy K-2
Orflora (beginning 2017)	Early Literacy K-2

Details of Each Grade Indicator

Current Standing
 Knowing how many students are proficient is a measure of the school's overall success. Current Standing uses up to three years of student performance to provide a broader picture of school achievement. Current Standing also includes a measure of student growth (Value-Added Modeling) that looks at school size, student mobility, and prior student performance.

Reading

Proficient (%)	All Students	F	M	W	Hispanic	Asian	Black	White	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
7.53	79	80	79	88	—	87	—	79	79	—
Points Student Growth	3.88	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Math

Proficient (%)	All Students	F	M	W	Hispanic	Asian	Black	White	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
4.11	41	38	48	48	—	37	—	21	23	—
Points Student Growth	4.80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Proficiencies Over Time
 Students are performing on grade level with Proficient or Advanced scores.

New Mexico School Grading 2017 Page 2 of 6 NM School for the Arts Charter

School Improvement
 School growth (Value-Added Modeling) compares overall student performance from year to year and considers the progress of all students whether or not they are proficient.

Growth Index	Reading	Math
0.55	1.48	4.66

Student Growth
 Every student's prior test scores are used to estimate how they should have performed this year. Their academic growth is considered within two groups, the lowest-performing 25% of students and the higher-performing students (75%).

Above Zero This group performed higher than expected.
New Zero This group performed as expected based on their academic history.
Below Zero This group performed below expectations, and students are falling behind when compared to their peers.

School Overall

Reading Growth	Points	All	F	M	W	Hispanic	Asian	Black	White	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
Highest-Performing	2.13	2.09	2.11	2.40	—	2.41	—	2.21	2.19	—	—
Lowest-Performing	0.75	0.89	—	0.13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Math Growth

Points	All	F	M	W	Hispanic	Asian	Black	White	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners	
Highest-Performing	4.68	4.13	4.24	3.18	—	0.08	—	0.05	0.06	—	—
Lowest-Performing	0.32	0.17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Growth Over Time

Year	Reading (Lowest-Performing)	Reading (Highest-Performing)	Math (Lowest-Performing)	Math (Highest-Performing)
2013	4.26	—	0.23	—
2014	3.18	—	0.92	—
2015	—	—	0.92	—
2016	—	—	—	—
2017	—	—	—	—

New Mexico School Grading 2017 Page 3 of 6 NM School for the Arts Charter

Opportunity to Learn
 Opportunity to Learn is a reflection of the environment schools provide for student learning.

Student Attendance

Average (%)	All Students	F	M	W	Hispanic	Asian	Black	White	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
2.99	95	94	95	95	95	94	95	94	94	91

Surveys
 Score (Average) 35.75
 Points 3.97
 Number of Surveys 790

Graduation
 Students are expected to graduate in four years. Each year the school is expected to increase the number of on-time graduates.

Graduation (%)	All Students	F	M	W	Hispanic	Asian	Black	White	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
7.63	91	96	95	94	—	96	—	100	91	85

Growth in 4-Year Rates
 Growth takes into account three years of graduation rates.

Growth Index	Points
4.5	4.80

New Mexico School Grading 2017 Page 4 of 6 NM School for the Arts Charter

College and Career Readiness
 High school students are expected to participate in at least one college or career readiness program:

- College entrance exams (Accuplacer, ACT, ACT Arise, Compass, PLAN, PSAT, SAT, or SAT Subject Test)
- Evidence that the student can pass a college-level course (Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, or IB)
- Eligibility for an industry-recognized certification (Career Technical Education)

Points are given separately for students' participation and for their success in achieving targets.

Participation in Each CCR Opportunity

Opportunity	All	F	M	W	Hispanic	Asian	Black	White	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Advanced Placement	34	35	11	34	—	35	—	35	—	—
Career Technical Education	11	10	13	13	—	10	—	10	—	—
College	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
International Baccalaureate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PLAN	96	91	97	91	—	97	—	96	91	85
PSAT	34	35	11	34	—	35	—	35	—	—
NM School Supplemental	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SAT	18	8	12	12	—	12	—	12	—	—
SAT Subject Test	4	3	8	4	—	4	—	4	—	—

Bonus Points
 Schools can earn points for reducing truancy, promoting extracurricular activities, engaging families, and using technology.

Participation
 All enrolled students must take the yearly state tests. If a school tests less than 50% of their students, the school's letter grade is reduced by one grade.

Reading (%) 100
 Math (%) 96

New Mexico School Grading 2017 Page 5 of 6 NM School for the Arts Charter

Additional Information

Similar Schools
 This shows how this school compares with other high schools in the state that have similar student demographic characteristics.

Rank Among Similar Schools

Current Standing: **35** (Rank Lower to Rank Higher)

School History
 Student performance over time can show the success of interventions and school reforms. Students who score Proficient or Advanced are considered to be performing at grade level.

Year	Reading	Math
2013 (N)	79	80
2014 (N)	88	83
2015 (N)	80	83
2016 (N)	81	80
2017 (N)	81	80

Notes
 School grading calculations and procedures are described fully in the School Grading Technical Guide posted on the PED's website at <http://ped.state.nm.us/SchoolGrading/TechnicalGuide>. This guide provides definitions and decision rules for each indicator, including growth. In addition, the guide details how the state benchmark of C was established.

For Student Growth, separate procedures are used for the school overall and for the student groups. Therefore, the values for student groups will not sum to the total show under school overall.

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 students.

A flag is used to protect student confidentiality as required by state and federal law when there are fewer than 10 students in a group.

Schools that administered tests by computer received bonus points based on the number of students participating.

New Mexico School Grading 2017 Page 6 of 6 NM School for the Arts Charter

A HABIT OF Helping



It's always the season for giving

By Sarah Harrison

Rabbi Neil Amswych holds up a small blue

coin box and asks the preschool children, "What is this?" The older children all shout "Tze-da-kah!" The rabbi then asks, "What is it for?" Again, several children yell out, "For people who need it!"

The winter holidays often bring with them an increase in giving to charitable organizations and an awareness of those who are less fortunate, but as we know, these organizations need help year-round. What we might forget is that children love to be shown ways to help others, and even young children can be involved in decisions on how to do this.

Donating to charity, or *tzedakah*, as it is known in Hebrew, is a weekly occurrence at Temple Beth Shalom Preschool during our school Shabbat (Sabbath) service. Most Fridays, Rabbi Neil explains to the children the importance of giving and how it helps to make the world a fair place. Fairness and sharing are very relevant concepts for preschool age children, as they begin to develop more concrete understandings of themselves, others and the world around them.

When asked about the meaning and importance of teaching *tzedakah* to young children, Rabbi Neil explains, "Tzedakah comes from the root letters meaning 'justice.' If we are to have a just world, we have to instill just values in our children, so we encourage the regular giving of *tzedakah*," he says. "Regular *tzedakah* is more important than one-off large-scale donations because, according to Jewish tradition, it trains the hand to giving."

All year long, we ask preschool families to drop their spare change into a small communal box by the entrance to the school. Then, we transfer the coins to a basket that we use during Shabbat services. Some children bring coins or bills from home on Friday mornings, while others draw one or two coins from the school basket to contribute to charity at the end of the service. Several months ago, a child approached me in the hall, excited to show me something. As I got closer, he opened his clenched fist to reveal a pile of coins in his palm. He said enthusiastically, "I brought money for *tzedakah*!"

After collecting money at the preschool throughout the year, we begin to talk to the children about which charity they would like to donate to. We typically pick three charities and let the children choose. Recently the list included Habitat for Humanity, Kitchen Angels and the New Mexico Children's Foundation. In her article, "Teaching Tzedakah to Children," on the My Jewish Learning website, Sara Shapiro-Plevan writes, "A child who is empowered to choose will make an ethically grounded decision, and will more likely feel a deep connection to both the cause and the process."

Courtesy photos



Temple Beth Shalom Preschool children drop change into the school's "tzedakah" or charity box. Rabbi Neil Amswych talks with them about the importance of giving as a way to make the world a fair place.

Each classroom teacher talks to the children about the different charities in an age-appropriate way. For example, in our 2-year-old class the teacher presents the charities by telling the children, "One helps build houses for people who need it, one helps cook food for people, and one helps children in New Mexico." In our 4- and 5-year-old class, the teachers might go into more depth about each charity and how they help people. This year, the children chose to donate the money they collected to Habitat for Humanity. Some of the older children can connect their knowledge of homelessness to the fact that this charity helps build homes for people in need.

One of our preschool parents, Jessica, describes how she talks to her 5-year-old daughter about charitable giving at home, "We talk about how not everybody has the things that they need, and that one way to help them is by giving money. I like how Rabbi Neil always reiterates that it is to help make things fair, because not everyone has the same advantages in life. We have also talked about homelessness and the challenges that people who don't have a home face, and how we can help them. We recently saw a man asleep on a bench as we drove past, and she said that she wanted to draw him a picture so that he could find her school and get money from the tzedakah box for food and a house."

As parents and educators of young children, we aim to instill the values we hope to see in the next generation. Here are a few suggestions of ways you and your young children can get in the habit of giving this holiday season and all year long:

- **Two Piggy Banks:** If your child or family has a piggy bank or coin jar, introduce a second jar for people in need. Whenever you have coins for your bank, you can talk to your child about sharing a coin or two with the charity jar. As the jar fills up, begin to talk to your child about various charities they might be interested in donating to. Introduce the idea in a relatable and age-appropriate way. For example, if your child is interested in gardening, you might suggest a charity that helps bring gardens and education to communities and schools. Personalize the experience by working with your child to create a card for the charity of their choice.
- **At the Grocery Store:** The next time you're in the canned food aisle with your child, pick up a few extra cans of food. This is a great learning opportunity for young children and creates the habit of giving. Together you can paint and decorate a cardboard box to store your food items at home. This is also a great opportunity to practice counting and sorting with your child. After a visit to the store, have your child count how many items you have gathered in your box. You can also teach them to sort the items by looking at the pictures on the packaging. After a month of gathering nonperishable food, take your child to the local food bank to make a donation.
- **Donate Toys and Books:** Talk to your child about how many toys and books they have, and point out some they don't play with anymore. Discuss how some children don't have books to read or toys to play with. Involve your child

in deciding what toys they are willing to share with children in need, maybe things they've outgrown or don't use any longer. Have your child place the toys and books they pick in a box to be donated. Together you can take them to a local donation center or shelter.

Sarah Harrison is the director of Temple Beth Shalom Preschool.

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The Magic of Mindfulness



Chiming In on Awareness in the Classroom

By Erin Doerwald

It's 5 p.m. on a Wednesday

evening in October, and about 20 rowdy second graders are preparing for their Halloween performance at Acequia Madre Elementary School.

Their teacher, Kat Sechrest, calms the room not by getting louder but by getting *quieter*. Like magic, on one ring of a soft chime, the entire room focuses their attention on Ms. Kat, and each child raises both hands in the air. She instructs them to move to the open area in the classroom for a meditation circle, which they do wordlessly and calmly. She rings the chime again and the students, now sitting in a circle, close their eyes while sitting “criss-cross-apple-sauce.”

After about a minute, Ms. Kat invites the class to open their eyes and hold hands. Turning to the student on her left, she says, “I know you’ll do your best at the performance tonight.” Each student in the circle then turns to the next, repeating this phrase and connecting eye to eye all the way around the circle. There are a few wiggles and giggles, which Ms. Kat skillfully redirects with a quiet voice and a loving and firm call to attention to the individual students acting out. It’s now time to line up and make their way to the gymnasium to sing “Monster Mash” and “Thriller,” and they follow her instructions silently as they walk in line down the hall.

This magic was the power of mindfulness in the classroom. Acequia Madre Elementary has been a pioneer in implementing mindfulness practice school-wide. They have been doing so for a few years now, with much credit due to first grade teacher Katie Norton as the school leader who introduced it. Principal Ahlum Scarola supports the practice and encourages the use of it throughout the school’s classrooms. Acequia is using it as a way not only to manage the classroom but as a safe bet that by teaching their students how to pay attention to the present moment, on purpose, their focus and self-regulation will

improve, and consequently academic achievement will be enhanced as well.

Fast-forward a few days, and this same group of rowdy second-graders are together at my son’s birthday party. The scene seems like an outtake from a battle in “Pirates of the Caribbean.” It’s time to serve the chicken nuggets and somehow get them to settle down enough to eat. My mind races until my eyes land on my own meditation chime. Aha! I grab it and ring it once. The swirling sea of 7-year-olds starts to settle. I ring it a second time and yes, like magic, all eyes are on me and their arms go up in the air. I’m able to use a clear, calm voice to give instructions for lunch. My husband looks at me as if I’m some kind of child whisperer, and I send my silent gratitude to Ms. Kat, and Acequia Madre Elementary, for giving these kiddos some serviceable skills for regulating themselves even in the midst of extreme activity.

There is a beautiful synergy at work here in the use of mindfulness systemically as a way for families, schools and institutions to improve social connection and self-regulation, within and between these settings. Susan Kaiser Greenland, a pioneer in the use of mindfulness in education, describes mindfulness as a way of being in the world with “attention, compassion and balance.”

Mindfulness, at the most basic level, is a way of finding the stillness and goodness that is inside of us that we may have forgotten somewhere along the way. Meditative and contemplative practices that cultivate peace and kindness are steeped in generations of human history and practiced in a multitude of cultures and contexts. More and more educators are finding ways to integrate mindfulness lessons in the classroom in a way that is inclusive, secular, accessible and appropriate in the context of education.

The gifts of mindful awareness practices have a large body of researchers and practitioners asking:



Children in Katie Norton’s first grade classroom participate in a daily “mindfulness minute,” announced school-wide over the intercom.

Photos by Katy Yanda

What might happen if this simple but powerful practice was offered to everyone? What if it became part of our behaviors and ethics in our homes and our schools? While the scientific research behind mindfulness is in its infancy, there is a large and ever-growing population of practitioners and teachers placing the same bet: that mindfulness can be of great benefit for the healing of our schools and communities.



And What About Stressed-Out Teachers?

By John Braman

Paying attention is one of the most fundamental

skills for learners at any age. Can it be as much of a challenge for teachers as it is for students? You bet! Class size, lack of resources, standardized testing and teacher evaluations all play into workload and morale, no doubt. But there is much more in a teacher's day that impacts emotional resilience.

This description of a teacher's day, from a study on teacher stress by Katherine Weare, a leading author and researcher in the mindfulness field, brings nods of appreciation at our "Heart of Teaching" retreats for educators:

"A teacher's day is a snowstorm of interactions with colleagues, students and parents in classrooms, staff rooms, corridors and playgrounds. These interactions routinely involve uncertainty and actual or potential conflict. To negotiate them successfully the teacher must constantly shift attention, make moment by moment decisions and carefully manage their thinking and emotions, while managing frustration, lack of control, anger and fear — and all in socially approved ways."



At teen mindfulness retreats, students practice meditation and contact yoga, and keep journals on techniques for quieting the mind.

How can mindfulness training help?

An emerging area of research draws on a body of studies on mindfulness in working adults. One effort reviewed 19 mindfulness-training programs, with over 1,000 participants. Improvements in emotional regulation and well-being was shown five weeks after a training. Another analyzed over 200 studies with about 12,000 working adults, and concluded that mindfulness is an effective treatment for a variety of psychological problems in working adults.

Despite a current surge of interest of mindfulness-in-schools, its place in American education is only about 10 years old. Back in 2007, there were 87 peer-reviewed journal articles on mindfulness. In 2015, there were 674. And typical of any new professional field, certification programs are cropping up, with many curricular approaches and unproven results. The movement also has an increasing association with celebrity names and vague implications about spirituality. This can leave skeptics dismissing it as a hokey fad.

Fortunately for Santa Fe educators, we have two top-notch resources for teacher training and school services, with instructors who have themselves been educated to a high standard.

Rio Grande Mindfulness Institute

The Rio Grande Mindfulness Institute (RGMI) works with public, private and charter schools, offering teacher training, tutorials, consultations and teen retreats. The Heart of Teaching, a daylong retreat for educators, is an opportunity to learn simple ways to cultivate mindfulness at home and school, with master teacher Henry Shukman. No educator will be turned away on the basis of financial need. The next dates are Nov. 18 and Dec. 2 at Mountain Cloud Zen Center. Find more details and register at www.mountaincloud.org/heart.

Schools can also design programs to meet their unique needs with John Braman, who works with Inward Bound Mindfulness Education, a national organization at the forefront of teacher training.

The RGMI advisory committee includes Michelle Rosen, Cindy Montoya and Bobbie Gutierrez. Contact riograndemind@gmail.com or (505) 986-3862 for more information.

Mindful Education Santa Fe (MESF)

The Sky Center of New Mexico Suicide Intervention Project sees mindfulness as an innovative macro approach to developing a healthy school environment and preventing suicide. In 2014, the nonprofit teamed up with Shelley Mann-Lev, SFPS' Prevention Coordinator, to develop Mindful Education Santa Fe. Erin Doerwald, Program Director for the Sky Center, spent the past year developing a curriculum titled The Mindful Educator at UCLA's Mindful Awareness Research Center.

MESF now offers this program in New Mexico schools, to help educators and counselors develop their own mindfulness practice to support their work in the classroom. It also hosts monthly practice sessions for teachers and counselors at The Sky Center, on the third Friday of every month. For more information, please call (505) 473-6191 or visit nmsip.org/mindful-education-santa-fe/.

Erin Doerwald and John Braman are collaborators on behalf of mindfulness education. John taught for many years at Albuquerque Academy, directing the Department of Experiential Education. Erin is a family therapist and mindfulness facilitator, when she's not chasing after her two children, Georgie (11) and Max (8).

Animal Ambassadors Bear Witness to Winter

Española center connects kids and wildlife

By Christy Wall and Melissa H. Moore

How do animals survive the winter? Some of them migrate, some hibernate, and others eat more in the fall to pack on the insulation. Each species is different, but all of them have this in common — winter brings a new set of challenges to survival!

Winter is a special time at New Mexico Wildlife Center (NMWC), located on the south side of Espanola. Rufus and Joni, our resident bobcats, become more active. Sol the Turkey Vulture and Electra the Osprey bath in the warm glow of their heat lamps. When snow falls, the hawks and owls look magical in their enclosures as they fluff up to keep warm.

Our staff spends their winter days staying busy making sure the animals are protected from harsh weather and cold temperatures. While some of the animals we house live in this area year-round and are adapted to colder temperatures, a few of them would migrate farther south in the wild. For those birds, we modify their enclosures to make sure they don't get too cold. We might put up plexiglass to block the wind. Several get heat lamps that come on at night. The bobcats and the fox need straw so they can snuggle up in their dens.

One of the most important tasks is making sure everybody has enough food to eat. Each day our staff prepares food for over 30 Animal Ambassadors that make NMWC their home. These animals cannot be released into the wild due to their injuries, or because they are no longer afraid of people. Maxwell, a bald eagle, is missing a toe and part of his wing because he was shot. Marcel, a black-billed magpie, was kept as a pet from the time he was a nestling and is too used to being around people to survive in the wild. We even have a prairie rattlesnake that was injured by getting caught in mesh netting.

Each animal requires a special diet. Maxwell likes trout, rats and wild game. Marcel likes mice, crickets and frozen vegetables. Velcro, a grey fox, likes mice and blueberries. NMWC staff carefully weighs out each animal's portion to make sure they have enough food and maintain a balanced diet. Some animals need medication in their food. Feeding these extraordinary animals is a big part of the daily routine at NMWC.

On the other side of the building, our wild animal hospital typically slows down a little in winter. Fall is a time of migration for many species, especially raptors. If we are caring for injured animals that are not physically capable of migrating with the rest of their kind, we may need to care for them all winter long. Once again, specific diets must be prepared for each animal. In the hospital area, sick or injured animals also might need blood tests, X-rays or specialized treatment to help them get better.

NMWC has been rehabilitating wild animals since 1986. We take in nearly all species, from the tiniest baby mouse to injured mountain lion kittens. When an animal enters our hospital, it is assigned a unique ID number and closely tracked throughout the rehabilitation process. Two-thirds of the animal patients that survive their first 24 hours are returned to the wild. Those that have injuries that prevent them from being released sometimes become Ambassador Animals.

These Animal Ambassadors are housed along the DePonte Family Wildlife Walk trail, which is open for public viewing. These animals are called "ambassadors" because they also visit with students and adults in our Wildlife Education



Animals brought to the New Mexico Wildlife Center are either rehabilitated and returned to the wild, or remain at the center as "ambassadors" for visitors and participants in the center's education programs.

programs; each one represents his/her species and helps people learn about wildlife and why preserving native habitats is important.

Our Wildlife Education programs are designed specifically for K through 12 students and are based on New Mexico's science standards. For example, "Animal Adaptations" is designed for children in grades 3 and 4. NMWC educators bring animals like a hawk, a vulture and a bull snake and discuss the different characteristics that make each species unique. Students learn why vultures are bald and how this adaptation helps them survive. "What's Wild" lets our youngest students (preK to second grade) touch a box turtle and learn why wild animals don't make good pets.

Each program gives students the chance to come eye-to-eye with one or more of our Ambassador Animals. This unique opportunity to make a connection with a wild animal is an unforgettable experience for any student.

If you would like to have a Wildlife Education program for your school, scout or community group this winter, please contact our main office soon; our calendar is filling up fast!

If you haven't been to NMWC, winter is a great time to visit. We're a short drive from Santa Fe, Los Alamos or Taos. Visiting our Animal Ambassadors makes a wonderful day outing for a family. Dress warmly and bring a thermos of hot chocolate to enjoy at one of our picnic tables while watching Velcro, our grey fox, explore her enclosure; or compare your outstretched arms to the wing span of an American kestrel, a red-tailed hawk, or a bald eagle.

At NMWC we are passionate about helping kids learn about wild animals and native New Mexico habitats. We hope that by meeting our Animal Ambassadors up close, kids will be able to forge a connection with these animals and understand how important they are to our world. Come visit us this winter Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 19 Wheat Street in Española. It will be an experience you won't forget!

Christy Wall, Ph.D., the New Mexico Wildlife Center's director of science and education, has led the River Classroom Program since 2014. Melissa H. Moore, NMWC's executive director, has worked in the field of wildlife education and conservation for more than 30 years and was a falconer for 20 years.



Bald Eagle Count, January 6, 2018

Join the US Army Corps of Engineers and New Mexico Wildlife Center to count bald eagles at Abiquiu Lake. This yearly event, held the first Saturday in January, has been going on for many years. Data collected helps biologists monitor the health of the bald eagle population. Several monitoring stations are set up along the highway with binoculars and spotting scopes. A limited number of spots on the ranger boat are available for eagle watchers who arrive early. If weather permits, one of NMWC's resident bald eagles will make an appearance. Dress in warm clothing. For additional information, call the Abiquiu Lake Project Office at (505) 685-4371.



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winter hikes near santa fe

Outdoor activities to inspire even the most snow-voidant indoorsman • By Katie Macaulay



Even the most avid snow-sports enthusiasts

sometimes just want a break from the snow. Perhaps you are not a snow-lover in the first place and you are waiting out winter in the warmth of your house. Or maybe the kids are driving you crazy as they bounce between rowdy house play, spending too much time on their beloved screens, or tearing apart your living room to make forts. (Actually, fort-building is one of my favorite indoor winter activities for kids, but I digress.)

If any of these scenarios ring true for you, I have a few favorite spots for winter fun to get everyone filled with nature-bliss endorphins and happily tired. These places are often too hot to enjoy in mid-summer but perfect for winter outings when a little extra sun and warmth is key.

ghost ranch education and retreat center

Ghost Ranch is just over an hour from Santa Fe on US Highway 84, near the town of Abiquiu. You can tell your kids that dinosaurs once lived here and that they might even get to see one! The Ruth Hall Museum of Paleontology, near the Welcome Center, is worth a stop (Monday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 1 to 5) to get a glimpse of our official state fossil — the *Coeleophysis*, found right at Ghost Ranch — and see some bones and a large dinosaur diorama. Pack snacks, or stop at Bode's General Store in Abiquiu to pick up lunch — burritos and burgers are family favorites!

Choose from three hikes/adventures at Ghost Ranch: Chimney Rock, Kitchen Mesa and Box Canyon. In the winter there will be almost no one else there, so

you can get your awe and solitude in one fell swoop. Stop in at the Welcome Center to pay a \$5 conservation fee and get a map of the trails.

chimney rock trail

The trail to Chimney Rock, just behind the museum, is a challenging climb for little people, and an exciting challenge for older kids and adults wishing to get big views, a workout and great rewards. It's a steady climb up to a dramatic view of the towering orphaned rock. A steep section at the beginning of the trail gives way to a more gradual climb, with a few steeper sections on the way up to the mesa top. The view is spectacular, spanning the colorful rocks of Ghost Ranch, the Chama River valley, Abiquiu Lake and Pedernal Peak. While here you can also impress your friends, and possibly your kids, by telling them what the three layers of rock in this area are. The red layer is the Chinle Formation, formed during the Triassic period about 220 million years ago, and is full of dinosaur bones, including *Coeleophysis*. The yellow layer is the Entrada Formation, a sandstone layer formed by petrified dunes from a vast desert, about 165 million years ago. The white layer, the Todlito Formation, is the remnant of a salty inland sea from about 50 million years ago.

One caveat is that there is a significant drop from the viewpoint, with no safety railings, and a plaque for someone who purportedly lost his life here. (Current mythology is that he was trying to "climb down.") My rule of thumb with my Mountain Kids! outdoor education program and my own kids is to stay two body lengths away from the edge. You can use your judgment, but a minimum of one body length is recommended. If you don't trust your kiddos to stay away from the edge, save this for another year and choose Box Canyon instead.

kitchen mesa trail

The Kitchen Mesa hike is also not for the faint of heart, but so worth it if you are not afraid of heights. (My mother sat down in the middle of the climb up the mesa and refused to budge.) That said, it is not mandatory to get up on top of the mesa to be wowed. The hike meanders amongst some massive red boulders with towering mesas on either side. If you are up for the climb to the top you'll find it exhilarating to explore this giant rock and take big cleansing breaths while on top of the world.

box canyon trail

The Box Canyon hike is perfect for people who prefer to look up instead of down. It is relatively flat compared with the others, well-suited for little legs and feet. In the summer there is a creek flowing here but in winter it is a dry riverbed. The trail begins on a dirt road and then crosses the riverbed and meanders upriver on rocky terrain. If your kids decide they are done, push a little bit farther to the box canyon, because it is wonderful. You'll know when you have arrived, as the giant semi-circle of overhanging rock is awe-inspiring. Your arrival will no doubt be accompanied by shouts of "Echo!" and a sudden surge in your child's energy to scramble and explore the sloping rock. You might want to insist they eat and drink a little water first. Also, keep your eyes peeled for a giant raptor nest on the cliff above the trail. I have seen adults and babies in these nests. It is quite exciting to witness their wingspan if you get lucky enough to see them fly.

tsankawi (bandelier national monument)

If you want a shorter drive, Tsankawi is another gorgeous winter hike, only 45 minutes from Santa Fe. Tsankawi is the smaller, lesser-known cousin of Bandelier National Monument, without handrails or concrete steps. Instead you'll find waist deep grooves in the paths and a myriad of caves to explore.

The rock here was created when the Valles Caldera blew its top, and ash and



lava flowed down to form what is now called volcanic tuff. It is a soft rock that the pueblo people dug into to make the caveates. Caveates are human-made caves that were a part of the pueblo people's settlement. They built additional rooms outside of the caves. Look for holes in the rock that held beams for a roof. Grab a map of Tsankawi for \$1 at the trailhead and stop at the numbered markers to learn more while you hike.

The loop trail involves a few ladders, so be prepared to navigate these. The first one is short (and can actually be avoided), the second can be missed entirely by taking a slot trail, and the third, at the far end of the mesa, is the longest and unavoidable. I like to do the trail "backwards" with younger kids so they can climb *up* the ladder instead of *down*, which is easier for them. To do it this way, veer right and walk along the edge when the arrow points up to the left. You will also avoid the second ladder this way. There is a drop-off on part of the trail, but the path is wide enough to avoid heart-palpitations, for the most part.

Once you reach the caves, be sure to stop and sit in one together. Tread lightly, as it is easy to kick up dust inside, which makes sitting inside no fun. In the cave, have a snack, tell a story, break out your long-lost flute or recorder, or just imagine what life would have been like for the kids who lived here. Would your kids like to live here? Why? Why not? These ideas can provoke conversations for days and weeks to come. Next time you take away their screen time, they can pretend they live in a cave and need to find their own fun!

diablo canyon recreation area

My last suggestion is the closest to Santa Fe, via 599, Camino La Tierra and Old Buckman Road. It is not far as the crow flies, but the washboard road makes driving slow and tedious (allow 45 minutes or so). This wonderland of rocks, cliffs and sand will make you feel as if you've entered another world.

As you begin your walk, you might see some little dots on the sheer rock cliff face above you. These dots are rock-climbers on this behemoth of stone, remarkable and inspiring, and for those of us who prefer to stay close to the ground, downright scary. Luckily, you will be on solid ground, climbing the big black boulders below.

With little ones you will prefer to stay in the sandy, beach-like wash that navigates between the sheer face on your right and the pile of boulders on your left. The canyon narrows and then opens up, widening and eventually reaching the Rio Grande. Walk down as far as you desire, which is often not too far with kids who love to create their own games and play, jumping off the big rocks.

If your kids are a little older and you have confidence scrambling over big rocks with them, you can walk up the black rocks on your left and go as far as you feel comfortable. I have been to the tippy-top of the mesa with some confident climbers in the 9- to 11-year-old range. If this is your cup of tea, it's a blast -- inspiring, confidence-boosting and memorable. If you are a nervous mom or dad, you may want to keep the kids on the down-low.

I have seen rattlesnakes here and at Ghost Ranch, but that should not be a concern during the winter months.

So there you have it. You have no excuse now for not getting outside with your kids this winter. Even if you hate the cold, all of these places can be quite warm on sunny winter afternoons, and will entice even the most curmudgeonly hiker to get some nature-inspired endorphins pumping.

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



Santa Fe-area trails provide endorphin-pumping opportunities even in the dead of winter.

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JESUS WAS A REFUGEE (*AND SO ARE 22 MILLION OTHER PEOPLE)

A Report from Iraq • By Rev. Talitha Arnold

“I’m Ali. What’s your name?”

“I’m Khalil. What’s your name?”

“I’m Aslan. What’s your name?”

The Yazidi boys in the Dohuk Refugee camp in northern Iraq all knew how to play soccer. They also knew their names in Yazidi and Kurdish and they wanted to know ours. “What’s your name?”

The boys had been preschoolers, or perhaps toddlers just learning to speak, when their Yazidi homeland was invaded by ISIS in the summer of 2014. They and who’s left of their families have been in the camp for over three years, along with 84,000 other Yazidis, half of whom are children. As difficult as the conditions are in the camp, these children are the lucky ones. Older children were often taken by ISIS, the boys to be soldiers, the girls — and their mothers — sold as sex slaves. Some have escaped. Many haven’t.

I met the boys, and some of their sisters and mothers, this past summer when I traveled to Kurdish Iraq in a three-person delegation sponsored by the “Week of Compassion” of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In addition to the Yazidi camp, we visited the refugee camps around the city of Erbil that are home to more than 300,000 people, many of whom fled Mosul (60 miles from Erbil) and other cities, towns and villages during the 2014 ISIS invasion and who continued to flee over the last three years of the war against ISIS.

However, Iraq’s refugee crisis didn’t start with ISIS. Its roots are in the ongoing war sparked by the U.S.-led invasion in 2003. In the Kurdistan region alone, over 2 million people, most of them women and children, are internal refugees. Over the last 14 years, hundreds of thousands more have tried to relocate in Jordan, Syria and other countries surrounding Iraq. Still others have tried to cross the Mediterranean or apply for asylum in Europe or the U.S.

Our primary goal as a delegation was to document the work of various women’s empowerment programs that provide income and jobs for the most vulnerable of refugees — “war-widows” who have lost their husbands, sons and brothers and therefore are without the means to support themselves or their children. (Current estimates put their number at 1.5 million, over 10 percent of Iraqi women.) Women’s cooperatives produce candles and tapestries sold internationally. They also teach business administration and marketing skills.

Since the focus was on women’s programs and my travel companions were both men, I did most of the individual interviews — which was actually one of the reasons I’d said yes to the trip. I was tired of being numb, tired of reading about the latest atrocities in Iraq and elsewhere and then turning the page. I wanted to learn the names behind

the headlines. Names like Ali and Aslan, the soccer boys. Like Fahima and Nadia, two refugees from Mosul. Like Targha, a young Yazidi woman in the Dohuk camp.

To know their *full* names, I needed to hear their stories. I believe we all do. Refugees have not always been “refugees” or lived in camps. They are people just like you and me who had lives, homes, jobs, families and hopes for their future and for their children. To truly know their names, we also need to know their stories — like that of Fahima, the woman from Mosul. After her eldest son was killed in the fighting, Fahima got the rest of her ten children out of Mosul, kept them together as the war raged, and somehow got all of them to the camp outside Erbil. After her ex-husband died, she took in his two children from his other marriage when their mother left them.

Fahima can’t read a word of Arabic because her father wouldn’t send his daughters to school. Yet at age 52, thanks to the women’s empowerment programs, she has discovered she has an aptitude for sewing (having never done a stitch in her life). She wants to use her newfound skill to help provide for her family.

We need to know a story like Targha’s, who was 26 when ISIS invaded her village. They killed the men and many of the old women. Then they rounded up the young women and children, first to imprison and then to sell.



Refugees, including these women and children Rev. Talitha Arnold met in northern Iraq this summer, have not always been “refugees,” as Arnold notes. They are people who had lives, homes, jobs, families and hopes.



Targha had been sold three times. By that point in her story, not only Targha but also the Yazidi translator, the Kurdish translator and I were all in tears.

With another woman, Targha finally managed to escape and make it to the Dohuk camp where she found two of her children. It was her children, she said, that kept her alive. Despite all the horror she had been through, she wanted to forge a new life for the sake of her children. And she wanted to tell her story.

The world may name women like Fahima or Targha as just “refugees” but their stories name them as women of courage, compassion and valor. We need to know those names, too. Most of all we need to know their God-given name, a name they share with the soccer-playing boys named Ali, Khalil and Aslan and with all other refugees in Iraq and around the world. Their God-given name, their “I am a child of God” name.

It’s the name Fahima, Targha, Ali, Khalil and Aslan share with three other refugees from long ago and from the same region of the world: the refugees named Jesus, Mary and Joseph. As a Christian and as a pastor, that was another reason I went to Iraq.

For Christians, the Christmas story didn’t end in Bethlehem. When the Roman-appointed King Herod learned a new king had been born, he ordered the slaughter of all baby boys throughout Israel and Galilee. Just as Fahima fled the violence of Mosul (or families flee Central America), Mary and Joseph packed up their infant son and fled to Egypt to escape. For years, they lived as strangers in a strange land, dependent on the kindness of others, until King Herod died and it was safe to return to their homeland. They may have been named Jesus, Mary and Joseph, but their story is a reminder of the real name of every refugee: “Child of God.”

Other faith traditions share a similar perspective of refugees and immigrants as beloved children of God. “My father was a wandering Aramean,” begins an early affirmation of Judaism, “who lived as a foreigner in Egypt.” “You shall love the immigrant as yourself,” proclaims the Torah, “for you were once immigrants.” Even Hanukkah is rooted in a refugee story. The Jews who celebrated that great Miracle of Lights had been forced out of their homeland, when Jerusalem was overrun by the Seleucids in 200 B.C.E. During the Maccabean Revolt, the Jews took back the city and re-consecrated the Temple. But as refugees in their own city, they had only enough oil for one night of the seven-day ceremony. Yet the menorah candles burned the whole time, reassuring the refugees God was still with them, and they were indeed beloved children of that God.

Similarly, Islam originates in a refugee story. After years of persecution and starvation in Mecca, Mohammed and his first followers made the conscious decision to leave the city for Medina, which had promised to take in the battered refugees. The Quran’ affirms the right of every human being to “a house in which to live, a garment to cover their nakedness, and a piece of bread and water.” It also affirms our responsibility to meet those needs and welcome the stranger as if they were part of our own family.

“My name is Ali. Khalil. Aslan,” said the boys playing soccer in the Iraqi refugee camp. “My name is Fatima,” said the Sunni Arab woman from Mosul. “My name is Targha,” said the young Yazidi woman, “and this is my story.”

I went to Iraq to learn their names and their stories. Most of all, I went to be reminded of the name they share with our own children and all the rest of us: “Child of God.”

** United Nations Refugee Agency figures for June 2017 estimate that there are nearly 22.5 million refugees worldwide, over half of whom are under age 18.*

Rev. Talitha Arnold is the senior minister of the United Church of Santa Fe.

WAYS TO HELP

Be aware. Knowing the stories of refugees is a crucial part of being an effective advocate.

International Rescue Committee. This organization works worldwide providing humanitarian help in regions with extreme crises. It is supporting refugees throughout the Middle East with services from cash vouchers to purchase food, legal assistance, employment and education. www.rescue.org.

UNICEF USA. Unicef is the United Nations’ aid organization focusing specifically on children. Donors can specify the country or refugee group they would like to help. www.unicefusa.org.

Week of Compassion. This is the group that supports the women’s empowerment programs in the camps I visited. It is sponsored by the Disciples of Christ but serves all in need regardless of religion or background and does not proselytize. Donors can specify that their gift goes to “Prosperity Catalyst” for the women’s programs. www.weekofcompassion.org.

Write your legislators and the president. Urge them to advocate for refugees by ending the travel ban on visitors from Muslim-majority countries and increasing the number of refugees admitted into the United States.

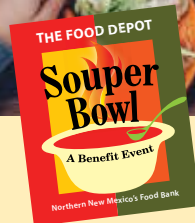
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ALÍSTESE PARA LO INESPERADO

Ideas para formular un plan de preparación familiar

El Centro de Servicios Legales para Inmigrantes

(ILRC, por sus siglas en inglés), una organización nacional con sede en San Francisco, California, ofrece un paquete para crear un Plan de preparación familiar, que puede ayudar a cualquier familia a reducir la tensión que ocasiona la incertidumbre de lo inesperado, como por ejemplo, un incendio, acto de violencia u otra tragedia. En vista de que las familias de estatus mixto o inmigrante enfrentan desafíos adicionales, el paquete contiene sugerencias específicas para los inmigrantes.

Un Plan de preparación familiar debería incluir números de emergencia y otra información de contactos importante, una declaración jurada de autorización para cuidar a otros (incluso niños) e importantes documentos personales y médicos. Este paquete del ILRC incluye formularios que ayudan a recopilar la información, incluso formularios para números de emergencia e información de contactos, nombres de las escuelas e información médica de los niños y una lista para verificar que se tienen los documentos que uno quiere incluir en su plan.

En el sitio en la web del ILRC hay instrucciones en inglés y español de cómo crear un Plan de preparación familiar: www.ilrc.org/family-preparedness-plan.

Los siguientes son algunos puntos sobresalientes:

- **Prepare un plan de cuidado para sus niños.** Seleccione a un adulto o adultos de confianza que puedan cuidar a sus niños en caso de que usted no pueda hacerlo y asegúrese que esa/s persona/s está/n de acuerdo con que su/s nombre/s aparezca/n en la lista de contactos de emergencia. Memorícese el número de teléfono de esa/s persona/s y vea que sus niños se lo aprendan también.
- **Hable con sus niños sobre su plan de preparación.** Sin preocuparlos, asegúreles a sus niños que si por alguna razón usted no puede cuidarlos aunque sea un tiempo corto, siempre habrá alguien que los cuide. Avíseles quién los va a cuidar hasta que usted pueda hacerlo nuevamente.

También asegúrese de que sus niños saben quién puede y quién no puede recogerlos en la escuela. La escuela sólo puede dejar ir a los niños con los adultos que usted ha asignado para tal efecto. Por lo tanto, es importante actualizar con regularidad los contactos de emergencia y los formularios de autorización tanto en la escuela, como en la guardería, campamento de verano y otros programas a los que vayan sus niños. Si tiene una orden

de restricción en contra de alguien, déle una copia de dicha orden a la escuela.

- **Ponga por escrito toda instrucción médica.** Haga una lista de las alergias o condiciones médicas que tengan sus hijos, los medicamentos que tomen, los nombres y números de teléfono de sus médicos y la información sobre el seguro de salud. Mantenga una copia de esta información en su archivo de documentos importantes y déle una copia a la escuela a la que van los niños y a las personas que los vayan a cuidar en caso de emergencia. Asegúrese de que sus niños saben dónde encontrar esta información en caso de que usted no esté.

- **Firme una declaración jurada para autorizar el cuidado de sus niños.** Este documento le da a un pariente o amigo autorización para inscribir a sus niños en una escuela pública y tomar decisiones médicas y otras decisiones importantes a favor de sus niños si usted no puede hacerlo. No afecta sus derechos como padre/madre de sus niños. Usted aún tiene la custodia y control de sus niños.

Para obtener un formulario e instrucciones de una declaración jurada válida

en Nuevo México, refiérase al sitio:

www.nmadvocacy.org/home/files/Caregiver%27s%20Affidavit.pdf.

- **Si lo detiene el ICE (agentes de la oficina de inmigración y aduanas),** los miembros de su familia pueden usar el localizador de detenidos de esa oficina:

<https://locator.ice.gov/odls/homePage.do>.

Asegúrese de que su familia y contactos de emergencia tienen una copia de su *A-Number*, o sea su número de registro como inmigrante/extranjero. Si lo tiene, este número se encuentra en sus documentos de ICE.

El paquete del ILRC tiene información adicional sobre servicios para inmigrantes para ayudarle a aprender más sobre sus derechos y opciones. También encontrará instrucciones para darle a alguien de su confianza un poder notarial para tomar decisiones financieras, legales o de cuidado de menores en su ausencia. Esta autorización es temporal y no requiere que usted renuncie a sus derechos paternos o de custodia.

Somos un Pueblo Unido, la organización que por más de 22 años ha estado abogando por los derechos de los inmigrantes en Nuevo México, tiene sugerencias adicionales para las personas inmigrantes.

- **Si la migra llega a su casa:** Su casa es su santuario. Ud. tiene el derecho de no entablar conversación con los agentes de ICE. No tiene que abrir la puerta, ni darles permiso para entrar. Para poder entrar a su casa sin que usted dé permiso, los agentes necesitan una orden de cateo. Sólo tener



una orden de arresto o deportación no es suficiente. Si abre la puerta usted está autorizando que entren y hagan preguntas a todos; aún así, tiene el derecho de no contestar preguntas y no divulgar su origen nacional o estatus migratorio.

- **Si la migra llega a su trabajo:** Si entran a su lugar de trabajo, tiene el derecho de no responder a sus preguntas y seguir trabajando. Les puede decir que está ocupado-a y que no puede hablar. No tiene que divulgar su origen nacional o estatus migratorio, ni mostrar su identificación. La migra no puede entrar en las áreas privadas de su lugar de trabajo sin una orden de cateo o el permiso del patrón o algún encargado del negocio.
- **Si se encuentra con la migra en la calle:** Mantenga la calma. Si le paran, no tiene que hablar con ellos, ni contestar sus preguntas o divulgar su origen nacional o estatus migratorio. Si decide correr y logran capturarlo, le pueden arrestar. Si los agentes de ICE detienen su auto en la carretera, usted no tiene que contestar sus preguntas ni darles permiso de inspeccionar su auto.
- **Si está encarcelado:** Ud. no tiene obligación de divulgar su origen nacional o estatus migratorio a nadie, incluso los empleados de la cárcel, autoridades policíacas u agentes de inmigración. Puede negarse a darle una entrevista a la migra en persona o por teléfono. Puede pedir hablar con su abogado y solicitar un intérprete en todos los procedimientos judiciales si no entiende ni habla inglés.



Somos un Pueblo Unido también desea recordar a los lectores que bajo la ley de Nuevo México existen dos licencias que son válidas para conducir y como medio de identificación en el estado y en el país:

La licencia REAL ID que es para ciudadanos y para residentes permanentes legales; y La licencia DAC que es para ciudadanos, para residentes permanentes legales y para inmigrantes indocumentados.

Para más información sobre estos asuntos, pueden llamar a Somos al

(505) 424-7832, o email a somos@somosunpueblounido.org. Para asuntos relacionados específicamente con las licencias de conducir, pueden llamar al mismo número o al 1-844-365-6635.

.....
Gracias a United Way of Santa Fe y a Somos un Pueblo Unido por compartir esta información con nuestra comunidad en Santa Fe. Puede leer este artículo en inglés en nuestro sitio en la Internet: www.sftumbleweeds.com/blog.

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Reflections

FROM A RETURNING EX-PAT

A teacher abroad discovers less testing, more travel and a globally-oriented curriculum

By Kathryn Mark

Three years ago, I embarked on a journey to teach overseas in Poland, at the International School of Krakow (ISK). Upon returning to Santa Fe, I have reflected on my experiences in Poland through a renewed New Mexico lens.

ISK is a small, private school in southern Poland. Students ranged in age from 3 to 19 and came from varied cultural backgrounds. The entire student body was less than 280, and class size was about 20 students. About half the students hailed from Poland, with the remainder from the United States, other European nations and a sprinkling from other continents.

The curriculum drew mostly from North American standards, like the Common Core. In this way, the elementary school was quite similar to what might be found in an “average” U.S. school, with a notable difference being less emphasis on testing. ISK encouraged creative teaching methods and cross-curricular activities. The upper high school had recently adopted the International Baccalaure-

ate Diploma Program, a rigorous, well-regarded and global-minded curriculum. As a result, those classes were much smaller, sometimes with a one-to-one student to teacher ratio. Last year’s graduating class was only 13 students.

Perhaps the most striking difference between education in an international school (at least at ISK) and many U.S. schools involved the integration of travel into school life. ISK was a part of the Central Eastern European Schools Association (CEESA) and the International Schools Theatre Association (ISTA). Because CEESA and ISTA schools are not local to one another, participating schools host sports tournaments and arts festivals throughout the year. The willingness of parents to support their children traveling to other countries in care of school staff surprised me, as did the level of comfort that students — some as young as 10 years old — displayed when traveling away from

home. The students’ excitement on these trips was palpable, although sometimes peppered with anxiety. The biggest discomfort for most of the younger travelers was sleeping away from home. Yet being away from home, and feeling the freedom in that, exhilarated the teenagers. I enjoyed being a part of educational experiences that extended far beyond the classroom walls and appreciated watching students’ colorful personalities come to life and seeing them in a different light outside of school. I felt honored by the trust placed in me by parents, children and the school.



These excursions provided abundant and varied growth and learning opportunities. Participating schools made great effort to welcome visiting students and staff. Host schools would arrange an activity for participants to experience some aspect of their country's culture, such as a visit to an historical site, a walking tour of the city center or a traditional meal. Small groupings of students usually bunked together at the homes of other students from the host school, and chaperones frequently stayed together at a local hotel. By the conclusion of a tournament or festival, everyone (including myself) had acquired new confidence, forged new friendships, strengthened existing relationships and reached beyond comfort zones. Students certainly exhibited academic, athletic or artistic prowess, but their ability to communicate, collaborate and problem-solve, both critically and creatively was also stretched.

During my brief tenure, I had the opportunity to chaperone students on travels to Turkey, Czech Republic, the United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Romania, Portugal, Greece and Italy. Travel might be by bus, train or airplane. Luckily all of these trips were successful, although many came with a healthy dose of stress for me as a chaperone, like the time several students had gone "missing" after curfew.

We were on a trip to Greece with about 20 high school students when the night watchman made a big ruckus in the hallway. The students had been hopping across the balconies to get to one another's rooms, which he could see on the security cameras. In his distressed state, translating from Greek to Polish to English, it was communicated to us that the kids had jumped from the balcony. When we discovered empty rooms, we thought the students had gone AWOL. What ensued was a great panic for the chaperones, until we heard the clatter of falling chairs outside and a guilt-ridden student appeared in his room.

Soon it became clear that the students were all piled in one room, but they were not willing to admit it. That night, we chaperones contemplated a set of consequences to give a gaggle of teenagers. Needless to say, we got little sleep from then on! In the morning we asked each child to call their parents to let them know what had happened and had them write a reflective letter about their behavior and actions. We separated them on the bus, gave them an early curfew and finally confiscated their cell phones for one night. The loss of their cell phone privilege sent a strong message to them. I was surprised by how crippled they felt without their devices. Nonetheless, the end result was a more respectful group of students, both on the trip and back at school. We were all grateful that the hiccup resulted in bruised trust and blemished egos rather than any physical injury.

In the international school setting, I recognized the rich opportunity for cultural exchange. Adults and children alike were eager to connect with others in a meaningful way. Of course parents wanted their children to excel academically, but families also valued building and nurturing relationships. I was hired to teach PE, health and life skills (with lower elementary grades) and drama (for middle and early high school). I also directed and produced several large scale, multi-grade theater productions each year. In this capacity, I was able to strengthen relationships with students and families throughout the school. Most



In three years teaching PE, health and drama at the International School of Krakow, Kathryn Mark escorted students age 10 and up to sports tournaments and art festivals in several countries. "Many came with a healthy dose of stress for me as a chaperone," she said.

of my classes necessarily utilized communication, collaboration, creativity and trust.

I enjoyed witnessing the growth in students through the performing arts. One young and quirky boy was cast in a lead role in one of the productions. He blossomed with that experience and proudly pronounced at the end of the show, "I like that my weirdness can be cool!" Later he traveled with a group of middle school students to a theater festival. There, he participated in a moving rendition of cellular reproduction, complete with vocalizing vocabulary and sound, not to mention the great teamwork he practiced. He embraced those experiences fully and cultivated such confidence in a few short months. It was an honor to witness.

Like my students, I gained so much more than academic knowledge while at ISK. My first year, I was able to visit the American School of the Hague and shadow the Drama department for three days. I never had an employer pay for that kind of on-the-job training before. The opportunity to learn in these diverse and stimulating environments will stay with me forever. Traveling abroad and working

at an international school nurtured my development of tenacity, trust and confidence. I participated in cultural exchange, and I discovered new and existing relationships along the way. I know the fruit of the lessons will continue to enrich my life. I remember these experiences fondly, and I hunger for more. I understand what it means to be part of a global community. I am honored to bring this expanded awareness back to my home and family in Santa Fe.

Kathryn Mark has a 25-year history of teaching performing arts to youth of many cultures and backgrounds. She currently hosts classes and workshops with multigenerational groups at the Railyard Performance Center. Please see her Movement Arts for Every Body directory listing in the Winter Fun Directory in this issue.

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LET'S GET DIGITAL: SFPS MOVES TEACHING INTO 21ST CENTURY

As a kid, you probably hauled a stack of books home from school for your homework and assignments. Perhaps you remember the frustration of realizing that you forgot that one particular textbook needed for your homework. In today's educational world, many readings, homework assignments and reference materials have gone digital, accessible from a slim digital device that tucks into a sleeve.

The Santa Fe Public Schools' Digital Learning Plan, now in its fourth year, is equipping all schools with digital access — including hardware, connectivity, infrastructure, software, applications and instructional support — with the goal of helping students be career- and college-ready. The intention is not to put a device in the hand of every student, but rather to support great teaching and learning through the integration of technology. The plan focuses technology use around the Four Cs: Critical Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration and Communication.

What does this mean for students and parents? All seventh to 12th grade students have been provided a ChromeBook (if they have their parents' permission), which is theirs to use at school or at home, throughout the school year. All sixth grade students have their own Chromebook in the classroom, available during the school day. Younger grade levels have Samsung tablets or iPads, on carts that are shared between three classrooms.

Because there is a great deal of debate about the impact of technology on our students, the SFPS Digital Learning Team is involved in local, regional and national education technology associations and is deeply involved in a national conversation about the most effective way to integrate technology into K-12 education. The Digital Learning Team is made up of members of the Consortium for School Networking, New Mexico Society for Technology in Education and the International Society for Technology in Education. The SFPS Digital Learning Plan has been featured in a technology magazine, and team members have attended many national educational conferences.

We believe that digital resources, used correctly, provide a rich, 21st-century learning experience that enables students to expand educational opportunities outside of traditional textbooks and classrooms, and beyond traditional school hours. Digital learning provides teachers with additional tools for differentiating instruction to meet students' interests and needs. Students are encour-

aged to understand the impact of their online behavior, to be responsible digital citizens.

SFPS encourages parents to continue to discover how technology and digital learning can be integrated in everyday learning at all grade levels. Learn along with your student as they explore new modes of education. The digital learning and resources being provided in schools today will play a role in your child's future success.

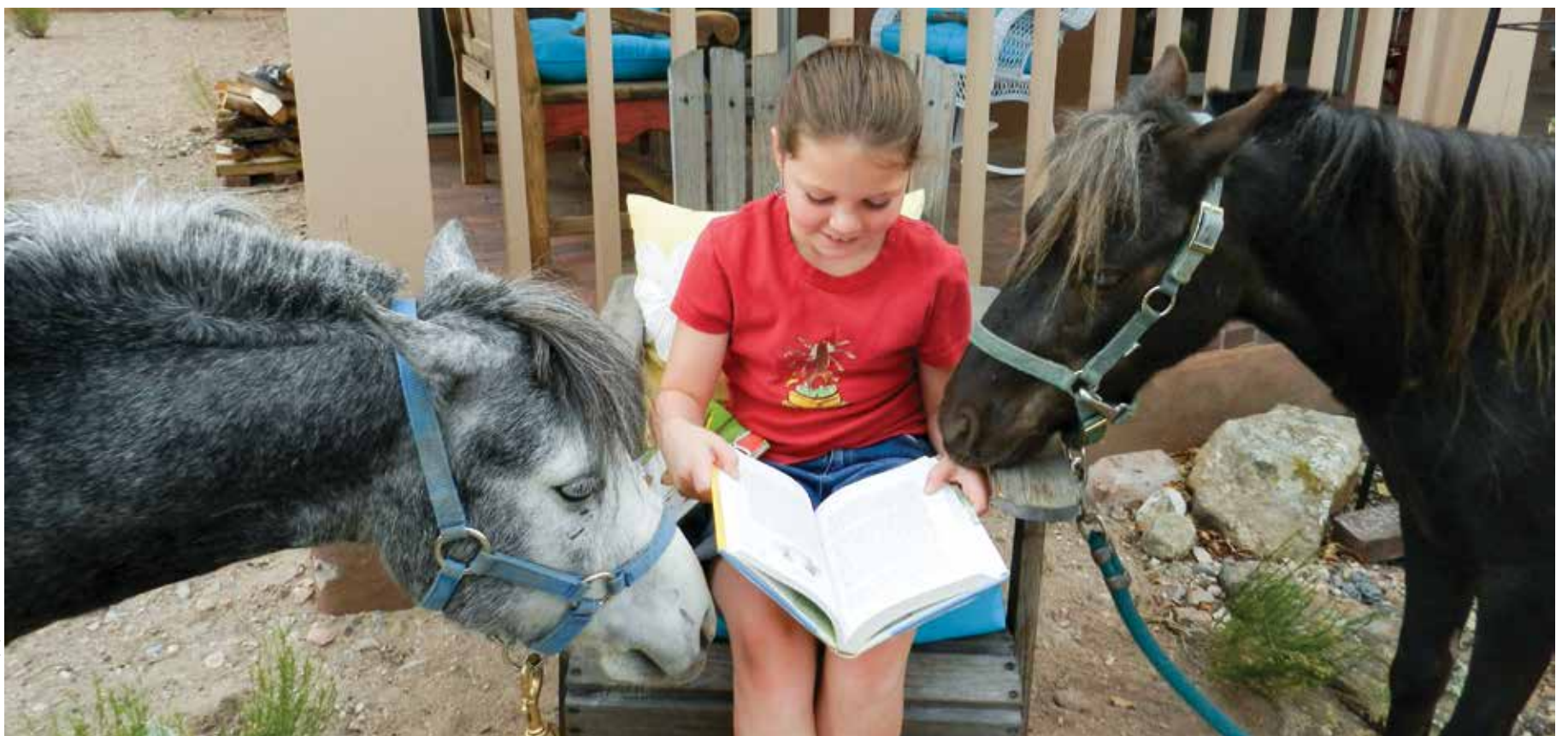
To learn more about the Digital Learning Plan, please visit www.sfps.info/departments/technology/digital_learning_at_sfps.

— Dominic Mandel, Digital Learning Coach for the Santa Fe Public Schools



At Santa Fe Public Schools' "Digital Learning Nights," teachers show students and parents how computers can expand their educational opportunities.

Courtesy photo



Shy or reluctant readers appreciate that horses are kind, non-judgmental listeners.

SMALL HORSES HELP STRUGGLING READERS AND SHY KIDS

The anxious child fell silent at the prospect of

pronouncing the first word in the book she held in her trembling hands. The tiny brown horse beside her, restless and even younger than his small partner, stopped fidgeting and quietly waited. And waited. The young reader tried to sound out the letters in a barely discernible whisper and the little horse moved his head closer, straining to hear. Finally, it was all too much. The little girl gave up and immediately received a reassuring hug from her reading teacher, who told her that she was very brave to try.

A young boy, smart and lovely as a 9-year-old child can be, really liked the little gray horse. He came back to see his horse, week after week, and read his one favorite book over and over again. His special horse didn't care if the words were halting and unsure. The horse was always happy to see him and listened patiently until the last page of a book he had heard many times before. His mother said that her son was severely dyslexic and he never wanted to read a book, until he met the little gray horse.

Another little girl stood alone, keeping her distance from the others in her group who were visiting from a summer camp program. And then she and the diminutive donkey, Serafina, met each other. The donkey was a newcomer to the horse pen and was trying to find her own way with her new equine companions. For the girl and the donkey, it was love at first sight. Neither wanted to let the other go, and the child found a new friend whose deep brown eyes communicated a wordless understanding.

Welcome to the world of My Little Horse Listener, where such quiet miracles are a common occurrence.

The program began a year ago and has quickly gained popularity with local reading and social service agencies. It was designed to provide a judgment-free read-aloud opportunity for children with reading insecurities who otherwise might not willingly allow anyone to hear the sound of their halting voice as they struggled through a page. Successful adults who experienced difficulty in reading aloud as children often still vividly recall humiliating classroom experiences from decades earlier. This program was conceived to create different kinds of memories.

My Little Horse Listener is a completely free program for children ages 6 to 12, run by Elizabeth Delfs, a corporate attorney, and her husband Gary Clendenen, a retired business professor who is active in local community organizations.. Children come to the horse's home, where they settle into a comfortable rocking chair in a courtyard in a forest-like setting. The horse, accompanied by a handler from the program, stands behind or in front of the child, while he or she reads. Every child must be accompanied by a parent, teacher or guardian.

The miniature horses are also available for site visits to local schools, where children take turns reading books to the horses. They have recently expanded their repertoire to include posing as models for young art students in a Santa Fe public school.

For more information or to make an appointment, please see www.mylittle-horselistener.com or call (505) 455-9209.

— Elizabeth Delfs, founder and director, My Little Horse Whisperer



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READING THE SOUTHWEST

Three children's books that savor our state

Lump Lump and the Blanket of Dreams, Inspired by Navajo Culture and Folklore

Written by Gwen Jackson and illustrated by Lissa Calvert
Friesen Press (2016)

Let's face it, not every child likes to take naps.

Imagine having to nap for a whole winter!

"Asleep for the winter?" Lump Lump, a little black bear, asks his mother. "I want to run in the forest. I want to eat more honey."

When Blue Bird sings Lump Lump a song about a blanket of dreams, the young bear decides that he wouldn't mind going to sleep for the winter if he had a blanket of dreams to keep him warm. He and his mother go from animal to animal to enlist their help in gathering the components needed for making this blanket (the white light of morning, the red light of evening, a net of twilight), which they will ask Spider Woman to weave into a blanket.

Consultation for this story was provided by sixth-generation Navajo weaver Barbara Teller, who allowed use of her weaving, Child's Blanket, for the blanket of the title.

"There are many sweet, insistent lessons gathered into this tale drawn from Navajo tradition," writes Booklist about a "story that has an incantatory rhythm that would lend itself beautifully as wind-down to sleep."

What parent doesn't want that?

— Claudette Sutton

Hey! What Do You Do With A Dinosaur?

Written and illustrated by William I. Johnstone
Published by the author (1978)

"Today, we are going to try to find my dinosaur."

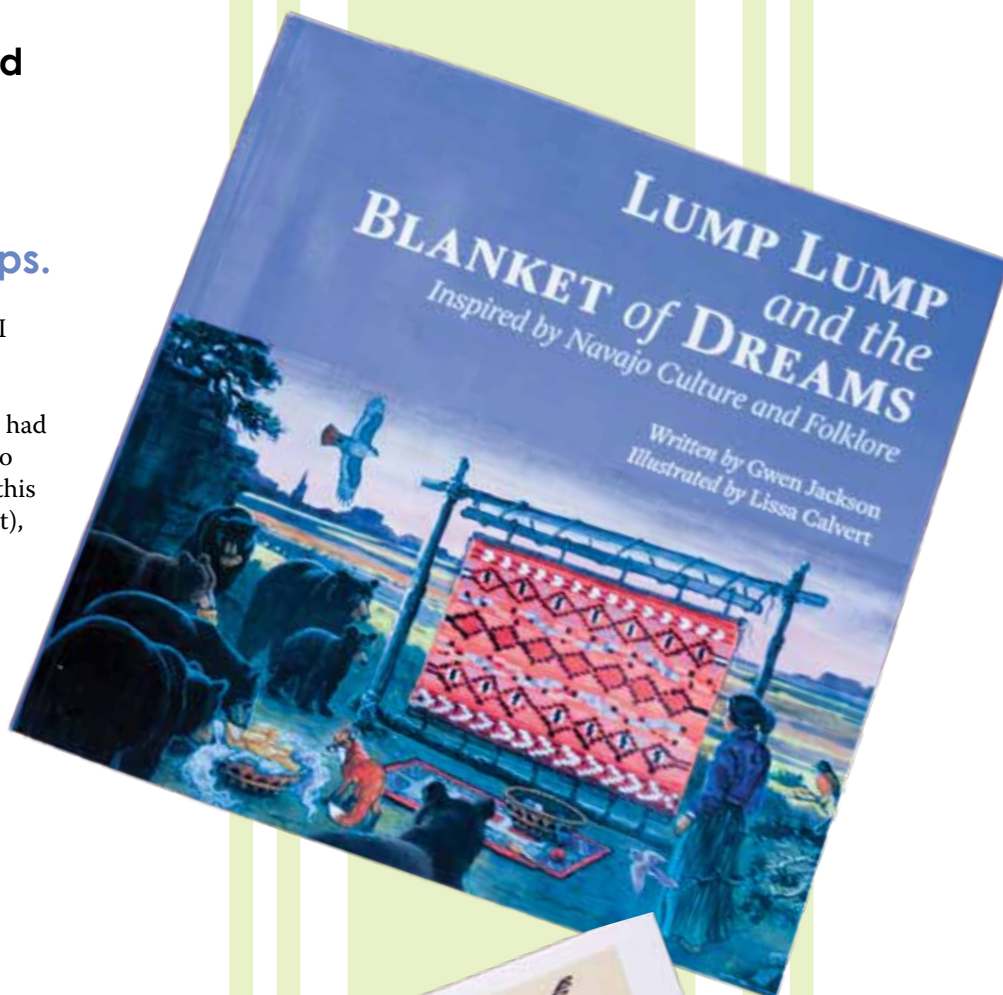
So begins *Hey! What Do You Do With A Dinosaur*, written and illustrated by William I. Johnstone.

This delightful story follows Bill (the author), his wife Marsha, and their two sons Marcus and Donald, as they search for dinosaur fossil bones that Bill found, and forgot, when he was a child. Will they be able to find them again? What will they do with them if they do? They pack the back of the car with bags and rock hammers and set out for the spot where Bill found the dinosaur with his grandfather when he was a boy.

The Johnstone family adventures take place in the American Southwest near the town of San Ysidro, New Mexico, though the full story of the dinosaur bones and how they were buried and found spans millions of years of the earth's history.

Along the way are lessons in natural history and geology, with helpful photos and illustrations. During the course of their discovery, the Johnstone family faces moral decisions and makes life-affirming choices. Johnstone captures the quality of family time well spent together with his prose and artwork. Adults and children through mid-elementary school will enjoy this wonderful book.

"Hey! What Do You Do With A Dinosaur?" is not a new book – it was published in 1978 – but is still timely and will delight children and adults with an interest in paleontology and the Southwest. It is available through the author's



website, www.willjohnstone.com, at select local bookstores, and at the New Mexico Natural History Museum in Albuquerque.

— Charles Brunn

Rudolfo Anaya's *The Farolitos of Christmas*

Written by Rudolfo Anaya and illustrated by Amy Cordova
The Museum of New Mexico Press (2015)

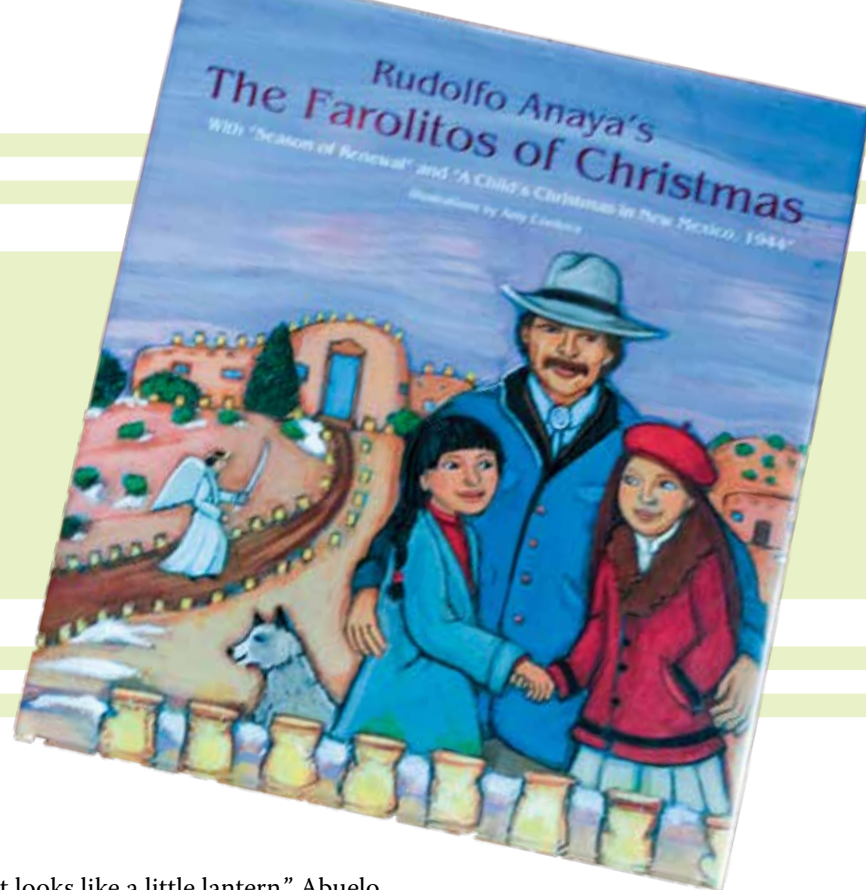
Every year in the decade since my husband

and I moved back home to New Mexico, we talk about going away for Christmas. Every year we decide to stay. The Christmas season in northern New Mexico is like no other, and *Rudolfo Anaya's The Farolitos of Christmas* is a perfect window into the season's magic.

Anaya's adored children's book was initially published in 1995. It was republished in 2015, with beautiful illustrations by Amy Cordova. Two pieces have been added: "Season of Renewal" and "A Child's Christmas in New Mexico, 1944," which describe customs, celebrations and rituals from Anaya's childhood.

The Farolitos of Christmas is the story of Luz, who lives in a village in northern New Mexico. It is December 22, 1944. She and her mother prepare for Christmas — they mix the *masa* for the tamales, make the *biscochitos* and clean the house. But Luz is worried. Her father has been injured in World War II and is not yet home. They haven't heard from him in a while. Her beloved *abuelo* (grandfather) is sick and will not be able to cut the piñon for the *luminarias* (small bonfires). The *luminarias* light the way for the *pastores* (shepherds), who act out the story of the journey to Bethlehem. The *pastores* stop to sing at the house with the brightest *luminarias*, but how will they stop at Luz's house if there are none for them?

Throughout the day of helping her mother, Luz comes up with a plan. Her mama has dozen of candles. They could light them outside, but there is a storm brewing over the mountains. Luz has saved paper bags throughout the summer and fall to sell back to the store. What if she puts a bit of sugar or sand in the bottom of the bag, places a candle inside and lines the path with the glowing bags?



"It looks like a little lantern," Abuelo said. "You have made a beautiful *farolito*." And so Rudolfo Anaya's Luz has created the *farolitos* so important to our season, to our town, and to the man who steps off the bus the next day, walking stiffly with a cane: Luz's papa! They walk to the Christmas mass together. As they return from church, "the farolitos were still glowing brightly. In the dark they shone like guiding lights, welcoming the family home."

Rudolfo Anaya's The Farolitos of Christmas is a delightful story of tradition, creativity and hope — a marvelous addition to a holiday library.

— Katy Yanda

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NEW MATH FOR SCHOOL BUDGETS

Fred Nathan, executive director of Think New Mexico, talks with *Tumbleweeds* editor Claudette Sutton

FIRST, WHAT IS THINK NEW MEXICO?

Think New Mexico is an independent, nonpartisan, results-oriented think tank whose mission is to improve the quality of life for all New Mexicans, especially those who lack a strong voice in the political process. We are best known for successfully championing the passage of landmark laws repealing the state's regressive food tax, making voluntary full-day kindergarten accessible to every child in New Mexico, and redirecting millions of dollars a year out of the state lottery's excessive operating costs and into full-tuition college scholarships for New Mexico's high school graduates.

YOUR LATEST INITIATIVE IS TO IMPROVE OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS BY REALLOCATING DOLLARS FROM ADMINISTRATION TO THE CLASSROOM. WHERE DID THIS IDEA COME FROM?

It seems like there are so many studies that dwell on the all-too-familiar litany of rankings where New Mexico scores toward the bottom of the nation. We wanted to take a different approach and look for success stories, so we began by investigating several of New Mexico's highest performing school districts to find out what makes them tick.

LEARNING FROM THE SUCCESS STORIES IS AN UNFORTUNATELY RARE APPROACH! YET YOUR SELECTION OF TEXICO AND GADSDEN AS MODELS FOR OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE STATE IS LIKELY TO SURPRISE MANY PEOPLE. CAN YOU EXPLAIN THESE CHOICES?

Texico is a relatively small school district of about 560 students on the east side of the state that has an impressive record of student achievement. Texico High School had a 95 percent graduation rate in 2016, the highest in the state. The district also ranked seventh in the state for reading proficiency and ninth for math proficiency this past year. In 2014, the U.S. Department of Education recognized Texico High School (along with 289 other public schools across the nation) as a National Blue Ribbon School, based on its overall academic excellence. Moreover, Texico students excel outside the classroom, repeatedly winning sports championships and competing at the national level in activities like Future Farmers of America.

Many people might think that in order to achieve at this level, Texico students must be wealthier than average. In fact, as we discuss in our report, the median family income in Texico is \$34,241, significantly

below the statewide median family income of \$44,963, and its poverty rate is about 30 percent, well above the statewide poverty rate of 21 percent. In addition, as we learned when we visited, the agricultural industry in Texico attracts many migrant workers from Mexico and Latin American countries whose children are learning English as a second language.

Meanwhile, Gadsden is a larger district of 13,478 students south of Las Cruces. Over the past four years, Gadsden has boasted an average graduation rate of 80 percent, surpassing the state average of 68.8 percent for the same time period. In the most recent year, the district ranked 26th highest in the state for math and reading proficiency. Like Texico, Gadsden's median family income of \$29,069 is much lower than the statewide average and Gadsden's overall poverty rate 39 percent (52 percent for children) is significantly higher than the statewide average.

To us, Texico and Gadsden demonstrate that every school district in New Mexico can perform at a high academic level.

SO WHAT MAKES THESE DISTRICTS SO SUCCESSFUL?

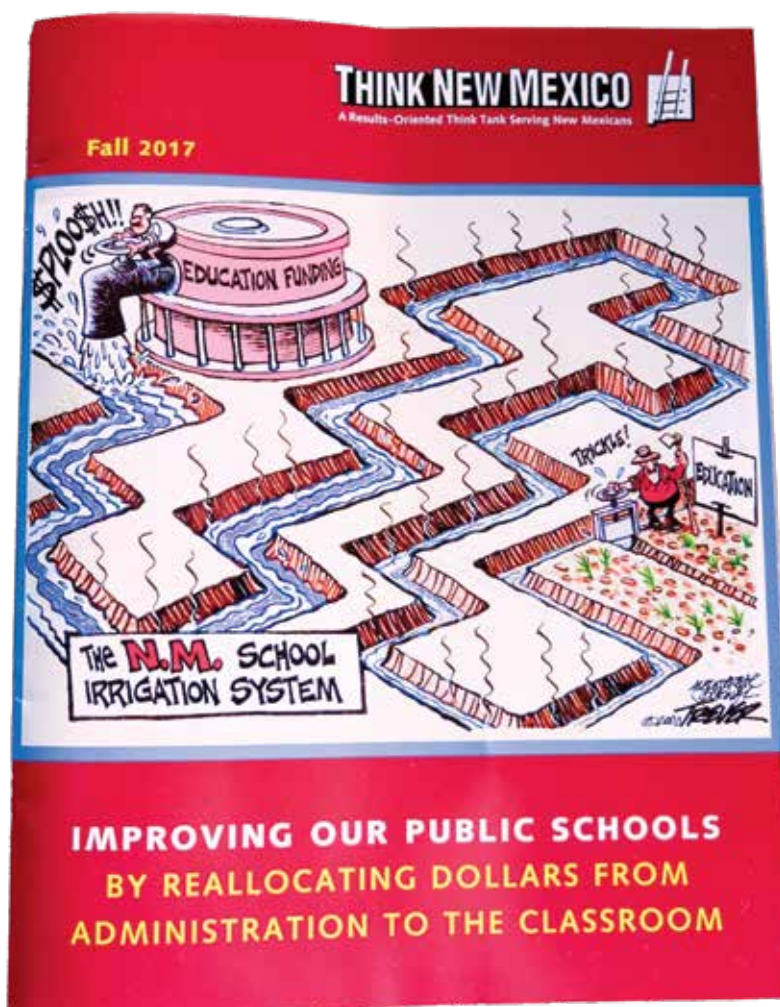
Naturally there are many factors, but an important one is that both Texico and

Gadsden prioritize spending in the classroom. Think New Mexico compared how much each of the state's 89 districts spent on general administration (i.e., office of the superintendent, deputy, associate and assistant superintendent) and central services (i.e., business office, purchasing, warehousing and distribution services, printing, publishing, and duplicating services, human resources, and public information services) for the 2015-2016 school year. When these two categories of administrative expense are combined, Gadsden ranks second most efficient of the 89 districts.

Similarly, the central administrative office in Texico consists of just the superintendent, a business manager and a secretary. Texico ranks 48th of New Mexico's 89 school districts based on its enrollment, yet it ranks 18th for efficiency in terms of the percentage of its budget that reaches the classroom. In other words, Texico outperforms 30 larger districts in New Mexico that enjoy greater economies of scale, thanks to a focus on prioritizing the academic needs of their students.

WHERE DO NEW MEXICO'S SCHOOLS GET THEIR FUNDING?

Unlike most states, most of our school funding comes from state taxpayers. After setting aside the restricted monies received



from the federal and local governments (which are limited to specific programs or school construction), more than 90 percent of all operational dollars for New Mexico public schools come from the state.

This high percentage of state funding comes because New Mexico was a pioneer in school funding equalization. Most states fund schools with local property taxes, meaning wealthy communities have much better schools than poor ones. In 1974, the legislature and governor passed a school equalization guarantee to provide equal access to education to all New Mexico students. As a result, New Mexico generally ranks in the top five states for providing equal financial opportunity for every student, according to "Quality Counts," an annual report published by Education Week.

The process begins with the legislature and the governor, who annually agree on a total budget for all 89 school districts and 102 charter schools which, combined, educate about 332,000 public school students. Next, the Public Education Department (PED) applies the funding formula to determine how much money each district will receive. Once those calculations are made, the big pot of money appropriated by the legislature and approved by the governor is essentially divided into block grants to each district and charter school.

YOU SAY THAT NEW MEXICO'S SCHOOL FUNDING POSES A "RIDDLE" BECAUSE OUR STATE IS RANKED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NATION FOR ITS EDUCATION SPENDING PER STUDENT, AND OUR EDUCATION FUNDING HAS ACTUALLY INCREASED IN RECENT DECADES, YET WE STILL RANK TOWARD THE BOTTOM OF THE NATION IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT. WHAT EXPLAINS THIS RIDDLE?

We highlight research in the report that illustrates a counterintuitive truth: there is little to no correlation between student success and the total dollars spent per pupil. However, there was a much stronger correlation between the proportion of a state's education budget that was dedicated to instructional expenses and student success. While allocating more dollars to instruction is only one of many factors that impact student success, we are convinced that spending education dollars effectively is both a critical piece of the puzzle and one that we can impact with public policy.

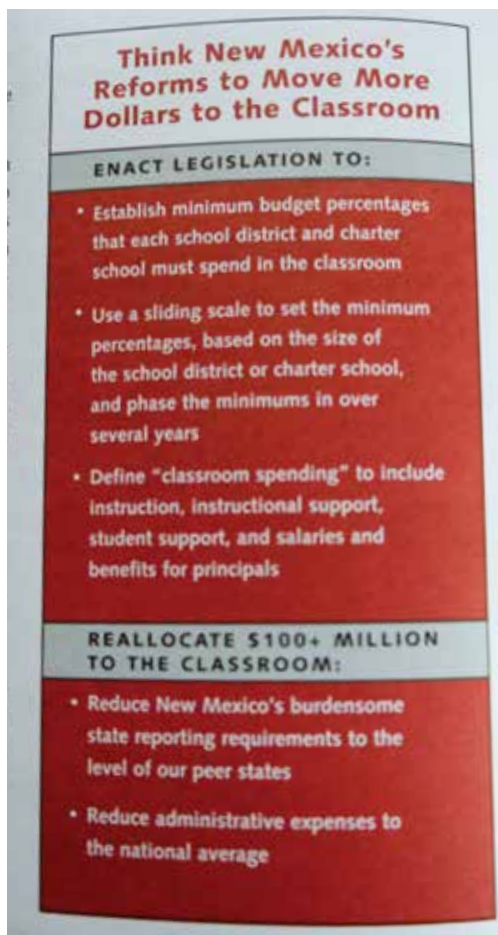
CAN YOU TALK MORE SPECIFICALLY ABOUT WHAT YOU MEAN BY "CLASSROOM SPENDING?"

We drill down on the categories of spending that have a direct impact on student success: instruction (teachers, coaches, books), instructional support (librarians and information technology) and direct student support (school nurses and counselors). We also include salaries and benefits for school principals in our definition because highly qualified and effective principals can improve the educational climate of a school and have a major positive impact on student achievement.

WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS THAT COULD BE RE-DIRECTED TO CLASSROOMS?

We make several specific recommendations in the report. One area that we highlight is all the reports that school districts have to submit to the state Public Education Department. A 2016 study found that districts must submit 140 reports a year, and that they spend up to 15,000 staff hours annually complying with reporting requirements, which is 66 percent more resources than similar states. That study estimated that New Mexico currently spends about \$212 per student per year complying with reporting requirements. That alone equals about 2 percent of the state's total spending per student, and multiplied by the approximately 332,000 students in New Mexico schools, adds up to more than \$70 million a year. Cutting reporting costs by two-thirds, which would bring New Mexico in line with our peer states, would free up more than \$46.5 million that could be better spent in the classroom.

In total, Think New Mexico has identified specific strategies for achieving administrative savings that add up to over \$100 million, including reducing unnecessary reporting burdens, cutting specific administrative costs, eliminating spending on public relations and hired lobbyists, and right-sizing underperforming districts. A shift of just 4 percent of \$2.7 billion from administration to the classroom



Think New Mexico's 2017 Policy Report details the hows and whys of shifting public school dollars.

would mean an increase of over \$100 million for proven education reforms, from K-3 Plus to prekindergarten to better pay for principals and teachers.

SO IT SEEMS THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS INDIVIDUALLY CAN MAKE CHOICES TO SHIFT FUNDING FROM ADMINISTRATIVE TO CLASSROOM SPENDING, AS GADSDEN AND TEXICO HAVE, BUT YOU ARE ALSO PLANNING TO ACHIEVE THAT THROUGH STATE LEGISLATIVE POLICY.

Yes. We are planning to bring a bipartisan bill to the legislature and governor in January's state legislative session that will re-direct more than \$100 million from administration to the classroom, by establishing minimum percentages of each school district's (and charter school's) budget that must be spent in the classroom. The minimum percentages would vary based on district size, as larger districts with better economies of scale should be able to spend a higher proportion of their budgets in the classroom. In addition, "classroom spending" would be broadly defined to include not only instruction, instructional support (e.g., librarians) and student support (e.g., counselors, nurses), but also principals, since the research suggests that principals can have a powerful positive impact on student achievement.

I'M GLAD TO SEE PRINCIPALS CATEGORIZED AS A CLASSROOM EXPENSE, RATHER THAN ADMINISTRATIVE, SINCE I THINK TEACHERS AND PARENTS WOULD ALL AGREE THAT A GOOD PRINCIPAL IS ESSENTIAL TO THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE. FINALLY, HOW CAN OUR READERS

LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR EFFORTS OR GET INVOLVED?

Visit our website at www.thinknewmexico.org, where we have easy ways for people to contact their legislators and the governor and urge them to support these reforms.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 | 10 AM - 3 PM

The poster features a large central geometric pattern (a snowflake-like design) surrounded by smaller similar patterns. The text is arranged as follows: "YOU'RE INVITED!" is at the top right. Below it is a list of activities: Clan Tynker, Craft Projects, Holiday Gift Baskets, Children Games, Artisan Market, Sweets Cafe, Puppet Shows, Candle Dipping, Book Sale, Outdoor Gear Swap, Music, Dance, & MORE!. In the center, it says "Santa Fe Waldorf School's 31st Annual HOLIDAY FAIRE". Below that, it says "Support provided by Pecos Propane". At the bottom, it says "FREE ADMISSION • FREE PARKING".

www.santafewaldorf.org/holiday-faire/

26 Puesta del Sol, Santa Fe | 505.467.6431

Winter Fun Directory

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

AFTERSCHOOL CIRCUS CLASSES

Wise Fool offers a variety of circus classes for ages 4 to 18 in a supportive and noncompetitive environment. Students learn trapeze, unicycle, stilt walking, clowning, juggling, aerial fabric, acrobatics, puppet making and more. Youth practice teamwork and healthy risk-taking, while developing self-confidence, trust and exploring self-expression. We also offer afterschool sessions and winter, spring break and summer camps for youth ages 7 to 12. To learn more call 992-2588 or go to www.wisefoolnewmexico.org/classes/youth-programs.

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.

DRAGONFLY ART STUDIO

Fine art classes for ages 6 to 16 are designed to stimulate kids' imagination and creativity, while they have fun experimenting in 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. Dragonfly also offers art birthday parties, adult and kid sewing and printmaking workshops, and holiday workshops where kids can create handmade gifts. For details, call Oceanna at 670-5019, or visit www.dragonflyartstudioforkids.com.

ETIQUETTE SCHOOL HOLIDAY MANNERS CAMP

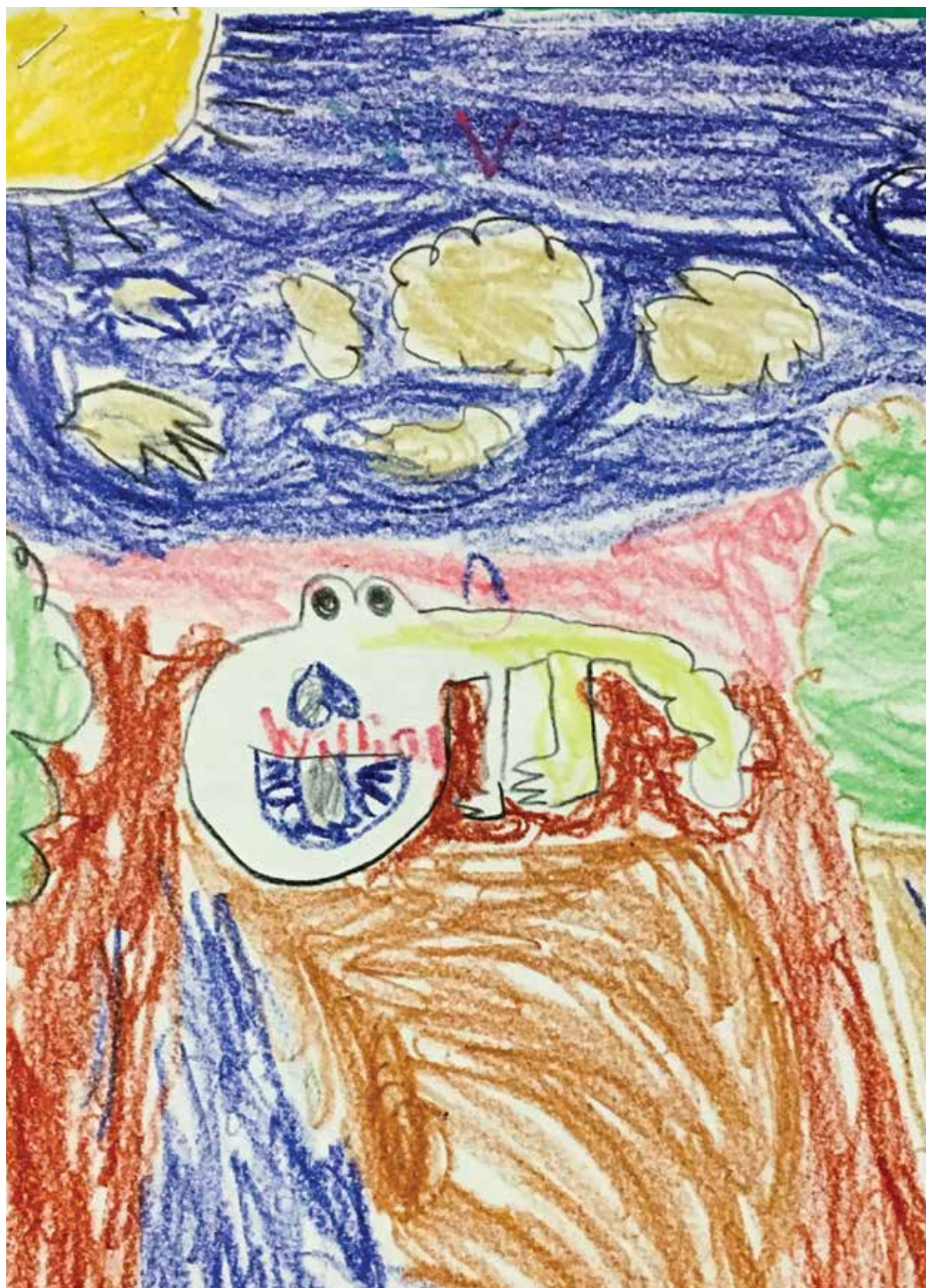
'Tis the season to polish the silver and polish the dining skills. Your young ones will impress with their manners at the table this holiday season. This fun and engaging class includes a three-course luncheon at Rio Chama and discussion about holiday traditions, conversation starters, expressing gratitude and more. Come dressed in your finest party wear. Ages 7 through 17; \$60. November 18 or December 9. Etiquette School of Santa Fe. Please RSVP at 988-2070 or via www.etiquettesantafe.com.

GENOVEVA CHAVEZ COMMUNITY CENTER'S WINTER BREAK CAMPS

Fun, educational and safe winter break camps for ages 6 through 12. Week 1: December, 18-21, \$45 a day or \$135 Monday through Thursday. Week 2: December, 26 to 29, \$45 a day or \$135 Tuesday through Friday. 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Proof of age required for 6 year olds. Activities include social games, sports, swimming, ice-skating, arts and crafts, and game time. Parents must provide daily lunch and snacks. Call Melissa Bustos 955-4005 or Diego Gabaldon 955-4014, or visit www.chavezcenter.com.

GIRLS INC. OF SANTA FE

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, field trips, art and homework help. Pick-up is available from many schools. Sliding scale tuition and scholarships also available. Reserve now for spring break and summer camps! Call 982-2042 or go to www.girlsincosantafe.org.



GUARANTEED READING COURSE

Floy Gregg, 22-year veteran Developmental Reading Specialist helps end reading frustration and struggles for you and your child. Fast track course average reading improvement is three grade levels, with 80 percent or greater comprehension. Reading rate, comprehension, critical and analytical testing skills, vocabulary and self-esteem skyrocket. Soon homework takes less time and other subjects improve. Bob's mom says, "You have nothing to lose, your child has everything to gain." Call 570-1276 for your complimentary consultation regarding your concerns. Learn more at www.floygregg.com.

MARTIAL ARTS TRAINING CENTER

Private and group classes for tots, kids, teens and adults, in a beautiful, cutting-edge facility located in the South Railyard. Enjoy the art and practice of martial arts in an environment that stresses safety, discipline, respect and anti-bullying, with a focus on building self-confidence and learning technique. Receive professional instruction and begin your personal quest today. For more information, call 982-7083, or visit www.martialartstrainingcenter.biz.

MOVEMENT ARTS FOR EVERY BODY

Ongoing movement classes for children and collaborative play workshops for fun-loving adults and kids at the Railyard

Winter Fun Directory

Performance Center. Creative Movement classes for ages 2 to 6: Sundays at 12:15 p.m. and Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. Barefoot Ballet for Beginners for ages 5 to 10: Sundays at 1:15 pm. New: Laboratory of Fun, a multigenerational, playful, collaborative experience for children ages 9 and up, and playful adults; session times are evolving. Please email or call Kathryn Mark for details: katelyn@newmexico.com or (406) 880-3563.

MOUNTAIN KIDS!

Santa Fe camp for outdoor adventure and nature immersion is offering programs to explore, enjoy, and learn during all four seasons. New holiday camps feature nature games, exploration, animal tracking, story-time, natural crafting, art, and hiking. Two holiday camps: Thanksgiving (November 20 to 22) and Winter Break (December 18 to 21). After school, homeschool, and preschool programs begin Spring 2018. Check website for details: www.sfmountainkids.com, or email katie@sfmountainkids.com.

PANDEMONIUM PRODUCTIONS SPRING SPLASH MUSICAL THEATER CLASSES

Musical theatre after school program for student's ages 7 to 17, January 17 through May 20 for the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale, "The Little Mermaid," featuring songs from the Disney movie of the same name. Rehearsals take place at El Museo de Cultural Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 3:45 to 5:45 p.m. Tuition is \$695 in advance, \$710 with a payment plan. \$100 deposit is required with registration. Scholarships available. For more information, visit www.pandemoniumprod.org or call 920-0704.

RIO GRANDE SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES PROGRAM (ASAP)

Rio Grande's After School Activities Program is intended to refine each child's skills as well as enhance self-esteem, self-control, sportsmanship, leadership, and teamwork.

Classes can be 6 to 12 weeks in length and are taught by RGS teachers, parents and community members. The program offers classes in sports, the arts, and academics and is open to the community. Check riograndeschool.org/asap for details.

RIO RAPIDS NORTHERN SOCCER CLUB

Get in the game and play soccer with Santa Fe's largest soccer league! Practices begin March 19; the eight-week season starts March 31. Development and Academy leagues for ages 3 to 14. Practices in El Dorado and Santa Fe and games at The Downs at Santa Fe. For more information visit northernsc.org or call 982-0878.

SANTA FE CLIMBING CENTER

Our instructors introduce climbing in a healthy environment and help experienced climbers advance their skills. Afterschool classes: Mondays, ages 5 to 8; Tuesdays, ages 9 to 12; Wednesdays, ages 5 to 9; Thursdays, ages 7 to 10. Weekend class: Saturday morning, ages 5 to 12. Four-week Friday Classes, December 1 to 22: ages 2 to 5, 9 a.m.; ages 4 to 7, 2 p.m. Climbing Team: Wednesday and Friday, 4 p.m., ages 7 to 12; Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 4:30 p.m., ages 12 to 18. For information: 986-8944, www.climbsantafe.com.

SANTA FE PERFORMING ARTS

Become part of Santa Fe Performing Arts' Youth Theater Programs! From January 22 to April 29, 2018: New, original piece based on "Where The Wild Things Are," ages 6 to 19, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 4 to 6 p.m., with show dates in April. Directed by Tara Khozein. NEW: Creative Movement, ages 4 to 7, eight weeks, January 9 through February 27. Classes Tuesdays 4 to 6 p.m. with Lynn Gravatt. Scholarships available. For more information, call 982-7992, email sperformingarts@gmail.com, or visit www.sperformingarts.org.

SANTA FE YOUTH SYMPHONY

Music instruction and performance opportunities for youth in orchestra, mariachi and jazz. The Elementary Strings program offers afterschool viola, violin and cello instruction at various schools throughout the city. Auditions for Orchestra, Mariachi and Jazz in January, May and August. For details call 672-5565 x101, email andrea@sfsya.org or visit www.sfsya.org.

SKATEBOARD SCHOOL

Indoor ramps for year-round fun! Afterschool and home school programs are now underway. Sessions and lessons for all abilities, ages 3 years old and up. Skateboards and gear provided to get started, with a complete shop specializing in safety gear. Curriculum includes: skateboard homework and exploring the history of skateboarding using our museum and video library. Birthdays, parents' nights out and monthly events. 825 Early Street #H. For more information, call 474-0074, or visit 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 second grade, and third to ninth grade. We teach acting skills by training the voice, body and mind through improvisation, theater games and performance. Young Actors, third to ninth grade, will have starring roles in our spring production. 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 welcome for Saturday Internship Program. Contact 471-3140; tpchildrensprogram@gmail.com; www.tpchildrensprogram.weebly.com.

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to Meet Your Needs!*

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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 26 for our Spring 2018 (March, April, May) issue.

Publication date is February 14.



Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – December



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

DECEMBER

1 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities

An outdoor, hands-on classroom for ages 3 to 5 and caregivers. Listen to a book and participate in interactive nature- and garden-related activities. \$5 suggested donation. Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill, 715 Camino Lejo, 471-9103.

1 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler Story Time

Bring your toddlers and preschoolers for stories, songs and crafts just for them. Free. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-READ (7323).

1 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

All ages and skill levels welcome. Players under

12 need parental permission. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-READ (7323).

1 FRIDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

First Friday Art Activity

Visit the museum galleries to create your own drawings while exploring the use of color in modern artwork. All ages welcome. Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, 217 Johnson Street, 946-1000.

1 FRIDAY, 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. Age 13 and over, \$12; ages 3 to 12, \$6; 3 and under are free. ABQ BioPark Zoo, 903 Tenth Street SW, Albuquerque, (505) 746-6200.

2 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.

Capoeira

Learn Capoeira, the Brazilian martial art that brings together dance, acrobatics and music. Donation-based. Railyard Performance Center, 1611 Paseo de Peralta, 474-3060.

2 SATURDAY, 9-10 A.M.

St. Nicholas Breakfast

Share a pancake breakfast, make Christmas

stockings for local shelters and meet the real St. Nicholas. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

2 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-3 P.M.

Holiday Faire

Crafts projects, artisan market, holiday gift baskets, games, puppet shows, Clan Tynker performances, book sale, outdoor gear swap, music, dance and more. Santa Fe Waldorf School, 26 Puesta del Sol, 467-6431.

2 SATURDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

3 SUNDAY, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free Entry at the Museum of Natural History

On the first Sunday of every month, admission is free to all New Mexico residents. Bring an ID or proof of residence. New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, 1801 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque, (505) 841-2800.

3 SUNDAY, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free First Sundays

Admission is free on the first Sunday of every month to New Mexico residents with ID to the

Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, 476-1269; Museum of International Folk Art, 476-1200; New Mexico History Museum, 476-5200; and the New Mexico Museum of Art, 476-5072.

3 SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M.

Crafting Memory: The Art of Community in Peru

Exhibition opening. Hands-on art activities, music, refreshments and more. New Mexican residents with ID admitted free on first Sunday of the month, children under 16 and MNMF members always free. Museum of International Folk Art, 706 Camino Lejo, 476-1200.

3 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Snake Sunday

Informal meet and greet with Cornelius the Corn Snake. Learn fun facts about snakes and watch weekly feeding. Be aware, Cornelius won't be able to come out when he's shedding or not feeling well. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

3 SUNDAY, 3-5 P.M.

Ralph's World Live!

Creating a one-man musical universe, singer/songwriter Ralph Covert plays rock-n-roll for the grade-school set. Come early at 2 p.m. for an hour of free crafts, games and activities.

Astrology Santa Fe

Presents

Astrology Marathon

15 minute power reading to understand your child's full potential. \$20

Every Thursday from 10 am until 4pm
103 Saint Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87501

Please call Bina for appointments (505) 819-7220

FALL SIGN UP NOW!

SANTA FE CLIMBING CENTER

AFTER SCHOOL CLIMBING PROGRAMS

Our youth climbing classes are taught by experienced climbing instructors that introduce rock climbing in a healthy environment

AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES 3:30 - 5:00pm

Fall Session Oct 23-Dec 22 \$180.00
Mondays- ages 5-8, Tuesdays- ages 9-12,
Wednesdays- ages 5-9, Thursdays- ages 7-10

WEEKEND CLASS

Saturdays 10-11:30am- ages 5-12

4 WEEK CLASSES Oct 6-27; Nov 3-24; Dec 1-22 \$80.00

Ages 2-5 Fridays 9-10am, Ages 4-7 Fridays 2-3pm

SANTA FE SENDERS YOUTH CLIMBING TEAM

Wed & Fri, 4:00-6:00pm - ages 7-12 (\$625/6 months)
Mon, Tues & Thurs, 4:30-6:30pm- ages 12-18 (\$900/6 months)

505-986-8944 • 3008 Cielo Ct. • www.climbsantafe.com

Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – December

Tickets are \$15; kids 12 and under \$12. Lentic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

3 SUNDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

4 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.
Nature Playtimes

Every Monday (except holidays), toddlers, preschoolers and their caregivers are invited to the Pajarito Environmental Education Center to explore the natural world, with crafts, stories and outdoor activities. No registration required. Note: program is cancelled on Mondays when Los Alamos Public Schools have a weather-related delay or cancellation. Los Alamos Nature Center, 2600 Canyon Road, Los Alamos, (505) 662-0460.

4 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Monday Storytimes

Stories, songs and lots of fun. All ages welcome. Bee Hive Books, 328 Montezuma Avenue, 780-8051.

4 MONDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

P 5 TUESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour

For parents of children entering grades one to eight. RSVP for times and parking information. Children may visit at a later date. Fayette Street Academy, 830 Fayette Street, 982-3396.

5 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, 955-6783.

5 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Story Time

Stories, rhymes, songs and crafts for ages 2 to 5. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4863.

5 TUESDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

P 6 WEDNESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

6 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays

Toddler activities, stories and games designed just for them. Free with admission. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

6 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.

6 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Story Time

Stories, rhymes, songs and crafts for ages 2 to 5. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

6 WEDNESDAY, 5:30-8 P.M.
Christmas at the Palace of the Governors

An evening of hot cider, cookies, live music, piñatas, craft-making activities, a chance to operate an antique printing press and a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus. Free. The Palace of the Governors, 105 West Palace Avenue, 476-5100.

6 WEDNESDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

P 7 THURSDAY
Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

7 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.

7 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Story Time

Stories, rhymes, songs and crafts for ages 2 to 5. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6783.

7 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays are Yours

Hours are extended to 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays, with free admission for children under 16. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

7 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
Seeds to Sprouts

Hands-on gardening and nature-themed activities. Themes change every month. Free

with admission. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

7 THURSDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

P 8 FRIDAY
Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.
Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON
Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Friday Afternoon Art

Family program. Adults must be accompanied by a child. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

8 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio

Hands-on art activities sure to bring out your inner creative genius. Check website for special guest artists. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

8 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

9 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.
Capoeira

Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

9 SATURDAY, 2:30-4 P.M.
Family Movie Matinee

Family-oriented movies for all ages. Call for title. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

9 SATURDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

10 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.
Snake Sunday

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 3 listing.

10 SUNDAY, 5-8 P.M.
Las Posadas

A recreation of Joseph and Mary's search for an inn. Cookies, hot cider and carols served afterward in the Palace of the Governor's courtyard. Free. Santa Fe Plaza area.

10 SUNDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

11 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.
Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 4 listing.

11 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 4 listing.

11 MONDAY, 5:30-7 P.M.
¡Santa Fe Convive!

Tammy Thomas from the New Mexico Department of Health will talk about the importance of safe toys and where to purchase toys without lead paint. Includes a hands-on activity to make a toy. Free dinner, free childcare provided by United Way, door prizes and transportation assistance. United Way of Santa Fe County, 3164 Agua Fria Street, 988-9715.

11 MONDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

12 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

12 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Story Time

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

12 TUESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON
Toddler Crafts

Fun crafts for grown-ups and kids. Family Strengths Network, 3340 Orange Street, Los Alamos, (505) 662-4515.

12 TUESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
Science After School

For ages 6 to 12. Learn about our world and have fun with science. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.



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Orchestra • Mariachi • Jazz

www.sfysa.org



Make every day a GREAT DAY!

Pre-K through 6th Grade Starting at 3 years of age

Where Faith and Knowledge Meet

OPEN HOUSE NOVEMBER 30, 2017 • 9AM - 2PM

Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – December

12 TUESDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

13 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

13 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

13 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

13 WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Science After School

Fun with science, for ages 6 to 12. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6783.

13 WEDNESDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 9-10 A.M.

Desert Montessori School Winter Concert

Children from age 2 through sixth grade sing songs of peace and harmony. Free. Desert Montessori School, 316 Camino Delora, 983-8212.

14 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 7 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.

La Leche League

Support and information for all mothers and mothers-to-be who are interested in breastfeeding. Children are always welcome. Indigo Baby, 185 Paseo de Peralta, 466-2738.

14 THURSDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Science After School

For ages 6 to 12. Have fun with science. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4863.

14 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.

Thursdays are Yours

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Seeds to Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

15 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

15 FRIDAY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

Winter Reading Program

Pick up a log from the library and read as many books as possible to win prizes. For ages up to 12. Main Library, 145 Washington

Avenue; Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street; Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive.

15 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 8 listing.

15 FRIDAY, 11 A.M. & NOON

End of Second Quarter / Early Dismissal

Schools close for winter break today at 11 a.m. for district K-6 and K-8 schools, and noon for middle and high schools. Students return to school on January 3.

15 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

15 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

15 FRIDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

16 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.

Capoeira

Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

16 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

Winter Reading Program

Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

16 SATURDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries

GLOW features thousands of lights all aglow throughout the Botanical Garden. Kids 12 and under are free. Includes holiday music, delicious food and drink, and holiday shopping. Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill, 715 Camino Lejo, 471-9103.

16 SATURDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

16 SATURDAY, 2 P.M. & 7:30 P.M.

The Nutcracker

Presented by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet. Adults and children of all ages will marvel at this whimsical interpretation of a seasonal classic. Tickets \$25 to \$94. Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

17 SUNDAY, NOON-4 P.M.

Holiday Open House

A round-robin of puppet plays, art making projects, photos with Santa Claus and other activities. New Mexico Museum of Art, 107 West Palace Avenue, 476-5072.

17 SUNDAY, 1 P.M.-5 P.M.

Winter Reading Program

Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

17 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Snake Sunday

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 3 listing.



17 SUNDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

17 SUNDAY, 5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.

Winter Solstice

Join the Santa Fe Children's Museum for their annual winter celebration to count down the longest night of the year. Walk the farolito labyrinth constructed by Courtenay Mathey, listen to African Drumming with Akeem Ayaninni, roast marshmallows and have hot chocolate around bonfires. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

17 SUNDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

17 SUNDAY, 1 P.M. & 5 P.M.

The Nutcracker

Lensic Performing Arts Center. See December 16 listing.

17 SUNDAY, 8:30 A.M. & 11 A.M.

Even the Fishes Will Dance

Lessons and carols for all ages, presented by the church children and youth choir. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

18 MONDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.

Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break

District-wide winter break.

18 MONDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Winter Break Day Camp

A fun, recreational day camp with games, sports, swimming, ice skating and arts and crafts. For children ages 6 to 12. \$45 a day, or \$145 Monday to Thursday. Genoveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road, 955-4005; 955-4014.

18 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 4 listing.

18 MONDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.

Winter Reading Program

Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

18 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 4 listing.

18 MONDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

18 MONDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.

Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break

See December 18 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Winter Break Day Camp

Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 18 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.

Winter Reading Program

Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights

ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.

Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break

See December 18 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Winter Break Day Camp

Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 18 listing.

Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – December



20 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
 Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.
Winter Reading Program
 Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
 Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.
GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries
 Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights
 ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.
Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break
 See December 18 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
Winter Break Day Camp
 Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 18 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.
Winter Reading Program
 Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
 Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays are Yours
 Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
Seeds to Sprouts
 Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.
GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries
 Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights
 ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.
Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break
 See December 18 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.
Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities
 Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.
Winter Reading Program
 Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.
Holiday Trains
 In collaboration with the Santa Fe Model Railroad Club and the Children's Train Club, the Santa Fe Children's Museum brings back their interactive model train exhibit. Visitors will take the controls, maneuver the trains and build scenery for the exhibit. Be sure to also check out the Thomas the Train display. Free with admission. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

22 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Friday Afternoon Art
 Family program. All adults must be accompanied by a child. Southside Branch Library, 955-2828.

22 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
 Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 5 P.M.-5:50 P.M.
Polar Express Reading
 Enjoy cookies and hot cocoa while Richard and Ursula Moeller will read the Chris Van Allsburg classic "Polar Express." Free. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

22 FRIDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.
GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries
 Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights
 ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

23 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.
Capoeira
 Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

23 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.
Winter Reading Program
 Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

23 SATURDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.
Holiday Trains
 Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 22 listing.

23 SATURDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.
GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries
 Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

23 SATURDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.
River of Lights
 ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

24 SUNDAY, 1 P.M.-5 P.M.
Winter Reading Program
 Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

24 SUNDAY, 1 P.M.-3 P.M.
Holiday Trains
 Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 22 listing.

24 SUNDAY, 5-6 P.M.
Christmas Eve Service
 Christmas Eve family service of carols and candles for all ages. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

24 SUNDAY, 5-10 P.M.
Canyon Road Farolito Walk
 Farolitos line walkways and adobe walls. Luminaria bonfires are lit throughout. Canyon Road area.

25 MONDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.
Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break
 See December 18 listing.

25 MONDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.
Library Closures
 Santa Fe Public Libraries are closed for Christmas Day.

26 TUESDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.
Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break
 See December 18 listing.

ANA JUNE PHOTOGRAPHY

Families
Children
Events

SF &
ABQ

anajune.com

Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – December/January



26 TUESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 18 listing.

26 TUESDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.

Winter Reading Program
Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

26 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

Holiday Trains
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 22 listing.

26 TUESDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries
Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

26 TUESDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights
ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.

Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break
See December 18 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 18 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 13 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.

Winter Reading Program
Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

Holiday Trains
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 22 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries
Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights
ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.

Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break
See December 18 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 18 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.

Winter Reading Program
Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

Holiday Trains
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 22 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.

Thursdays are Yours
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Seeds to Sprouts
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries
Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights
ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

29 FRIDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.

Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break
See December 18 listing.

29 FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Winter Break Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 18 listing.

29 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities
Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

29 FRIDAY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

Winter Reading Program
Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

29 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

Holiday Trains
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 22 listing.

29 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

29 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

29 FRIDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries
Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

29 FRIDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights
ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

30 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.

Capoeira
Rallyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

30 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

Winter Reading Program
Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

30 SATURDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

Holiday Trains
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 22 listing.

30 SATURDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries
Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

30 SATURDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights
ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

31 SUNDAY, 1 A.M.-3 P.M.

Holiday Trains
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 22 listing.

31 SUNDAY, 1 P.M.-5 P.M.

Winter Reading Program
Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

31 SUNDAY, 5 P.M.-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event: Santa Fe Centuries
Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 16 listing.

31 SUNDAY, 6 P.M.-8 P.M.

News Years Eve at the Botanical Gardens
Bring the whole family to a Kids' New Year's Eve Party where the ball drops at 7 p.m. Special activities for children and families. Admission is \$8 for members, \$10 for nonmembers, free for children 12 and under. Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill, 715 Camino Lejo, 471-9103.

31 SUNDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights
ABQ BioPark Zoo. See December 1 listing.

JANUARY

1 MONDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.

Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break
See December 18 listing.

1 MONDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.

Library Closures
Santa Fe Public Libraries are closed for New Year's Day.

2 TUESDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.

Santa Fe Public Schools Winter Break
See December 18 listing.

2 TUESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

School Closure Day Camp
A fun recreational day camp with games, sports, swimming, ice skating and arts and crafts. For children ages 6 to 12. \$45 a day or \$145 Monday to Thursday. Genoveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road, 955-4005 or 955-4014.

2 TUESDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.

Winter Reading Program
Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

3 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

3 WEDNESDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.

Winter Reading Program
Santa Fe Public Libraries. See December 15 listing.

Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – January

4 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.

Thursdays are Yours

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

4 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Seeds to Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

5 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

5 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 8 listing.

5 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

5 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

5 FRIDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

First Friday Art Activity

Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. See December 1 listing.

6 SATURDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Bald Eagle Count

Join the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the New Mexico Wildlife Center at Abiquiu Lake to count bald eagles and learn about these spectacular animals. For additional information, call the Abiquiu Lake Project Office, (505) 685-4371.

6 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.

Capoeira

Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

P 6 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Little Earth Open House

Parents are invited to visit Little Earth's classrooms and meet the teachers. RSVP, Little Earth School, 321 West Zia Road, Santa Fe, 988-1968.

7 SUNDAY, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free Entry at the Museum of Natural History

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 3 listing.

7 SUNDAY, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free First Sundays

Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Museum of International Folk Art, New Mexico History Museum, New Mexico Museum of Art. See December 3 listing.

7 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Snake Sunday

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 3 listing.

8 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 4 listing.

8 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 4 listing.

P 9 TUESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

9 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

9 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

9 TUESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Science After School

Southside Branch Library. See December 12 listing.

P 10 WEDNESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

10 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 13 listing.

10 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

10 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

10 WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Science After School

Main Library. See December 13 listing.

P 11 THURSDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

11 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

11 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 7 listing.

11 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.

La Leche League

Indigo Baby. See December 14 listing.

11 THURSDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Science After School

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 14 listing.

11 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.

Thursdays are Yours

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

11 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Seeds to Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

12 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

12 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 8 listing.

12 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Friday Afternoon Art

Southside Branch Library. See December 8 listing.

12 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

12 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

12 FRIDAY, 7-9 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-READ (7323).

13 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.

Capoeira

Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

13 SATURDAY, 2:30-4 P.M.

Family Movie Matinee

Southside Branch Library. See December 9 listing.

14 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Snake Sunday

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 3 listing.

14 SUNDAY, 8:30 A.M. & 11 A.M.

Sing Freedom, Sing Hope!

A celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

15 MONDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.

Santa Fe Public Schools Closure

District-wide closure in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

15 MONDAY, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.

Library Closures

Santa Fe Public Libraries closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

15 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

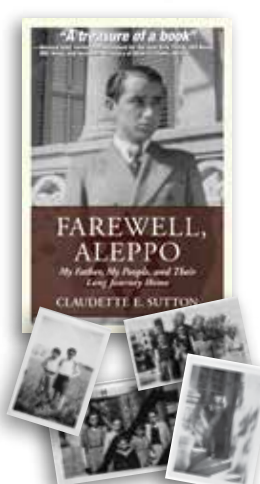
Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 4 listing.

P 16 TUESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.







FAREWELL, ALEPPO

My Father, My People, and
Their Long Journey Home

Tumbleweeds' editor Claudette Sutton's award-winning chronicle of her father's journey from Aleppo's ancient Jewish community, to World War II Shanghai, to a new life in America, puts a human face and family story to today's Syrian crisis.

Available locally and online, in print, e-book and audiobook

An engaging, evocative, deeply touching book that is part memoir, part history, part personal journey...virtually a love-story of a daughter to a father.

– James McGrath Morris, author of Pulitzer and Ambulance Drivers

"A treasure of a book" —Bernard Kalb

Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – January

16 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

16 TUESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

16 TUESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON

Toddler Crafts

Family Strengths Network. See December 12 listing.

16 TUESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.

School Age Craft

For ages 6 to 12. Have fun creating. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

P 17 WEDNESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

17 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

17 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

17 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

17 WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.

School Age Craft

For ages 6 to 12. Have fun creating. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6783.

18 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

18 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 7 listing.

P 18 THURSDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

18 THURSDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.

School Age Craft

For ages 6 to 12. Have fun creating. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4863.

18 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.

Thursdays are Yours

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

18 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Seeds to Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

19 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.



19 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 8 listing.

19 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

19 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

20 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.

Capoeira

Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

21 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Snake Sunday

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 3 listing.

22 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 4 listing.

22 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 4 listing.

P 23 TUESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

23 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

23 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

P 24 WEDNESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

24 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 13 listing.

24 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

24 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

P 25 THURSDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

P 25 THURSDAY, 9-10 A.M.

Donuts With Desert Montessori

Meet executive director Phoebe Walendziak and learn about the award-winning preschool and elementary school. Coffee and Whoo's Donuts provided. RSVP to awise@desertmontessori.com. Free. Desert Montessori School, 316 Camino Delora, 983-8212.

25 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Library Branch. See December 7 listing.

25 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 7 listing.

25 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.

Thursdays are Yours

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

25 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Seeds to Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

26 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

26 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 8 listing.

26 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Friday Afternoon Art

Southside Branch Library. See December 8 listing.

26 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

26 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

27 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.

Capoeira

Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

27 SATURDAY, NOON-2:30 P.M.

Souper Bowl XXIV

Sample unlimited soups from dozens of local chefs in this fundraiser for The Food Depot, northern New Mexico's food bank. Advance tickets: \$30. Santa Fe Community Convention Center, 201 W. Marcy Street, 471-1633.

28 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Snake Sunday

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 3 listing.

29 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 4 listing.

29 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 4 listing.

P 30 TUESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

30 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

30 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

P 31 WEDNESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

31 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – January/February

31 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

31 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

FEBRUARY

1 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

1 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 7 listing.

1 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.

Thursdays are Yours

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

1 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Seeds to Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

2 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

2 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 8 listing.

2 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

2 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

2 FRIDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

First Friday Art Activity

Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. See December 1 listing.

3 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.

Capoeira

Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

3 SATURDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON

Santa Fe Opera

An introduction to opera through music, movement and costumes. For ages 3 to 5. Adults must be present with their children. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2828.

4 SUNDAY, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free Entry at the Museum of Natural History

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 3 listing.

4 SUNDAY, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free First Sundays

Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Museum of International Folk Art, New Mexico History Museum, New Mexico Museum of Art. See December 3 listing.

4 SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M.

Valentine's Day Celebration

Draw inspiration from the art on view and celebrate the beauty and romance of the 100-year-old building. All ages welcome. New Mexico Museum of Art, 107 West Palace Ave, 476-5072.

4 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Snake Sunday

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 3 listing.

5 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 4 listing.

5 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 4 listing.

P 6 TUESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

6 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

6 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

P 7 WEDNESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

7 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 13 listing.

7 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

7 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

P 8 THURSDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

8 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

8 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 7 listing.

8 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.

La Leche League

Indigo Baby. See December 14 listing.

8 THURSDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Science After School

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 14 listing.

8 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.

Thursdays are Yours

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

8 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Seeds to Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities

Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 8 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Friday Afternoon Art

Southside Branch Library. See December 8 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

9 FRIDAY, 7-9 P.M.

Family Movie Night

Vista Grande Public Library. See January 12 listing.

10 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.

Capoeira

Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

10 SATURDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON

Santa Fe Opera

Southside Branch Library. See February 3 listing.

10 SATURDAY, 2:30-4 P.M.

Family Movie Matinee

Southside Branch Library. See December 9 listing.

11 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Snake Sunday

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 3 listing.

12 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 4 listing.

12 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 4 listing.

P 13 TUESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

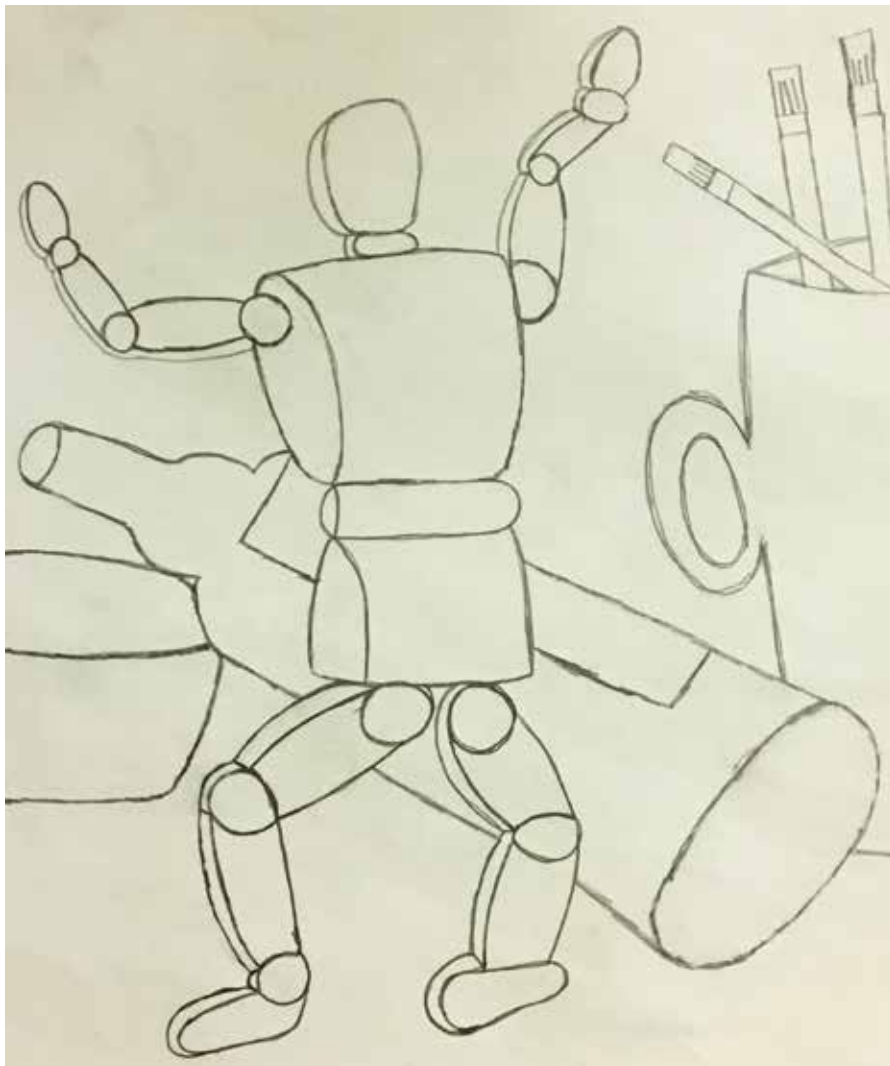
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Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – February



13 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main library. See December 5 listing.

13 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Story Time
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

13 TUESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON
Toddler Crafts
Family Strengths Network. See December 12 listing.

13 TUESDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
Southside Branch Library. See January 16 listing.

P 14 WEDNESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

14 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

14 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

14 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Story Time
Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

14 WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
Main Library. See January 17 listing.

P 15 THURSDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5 P.M.
Santa Fe Public School Parent-Teacher Conferences
Classes for students in all SFPS K-6 and K-8 schools are cancelled today and tomorrow for parent-teacher conferences. Middle and high school students report to school.

15 THURSDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
School Closure Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See January 2 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Story Time
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 18 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays are Yours
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

15 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
Seeds to Sprouts
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

16 FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5 P.M.
Santa Fe Public School Parent-Teacher Conferences
See February 15 listing.

16 FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
School Closure Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See January 2 listing.

16 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.
Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities
Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

16 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 8 listing.

16 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

16 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.
All Ages Chess
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

17 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.
Capoeira
Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

18 SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M.
Lunar New Year Celebration
Hands-on art activities, music, refreshments and more. New Mexican residents with ID are admitted free on first Sunday of the month, children under 16 and MNMF members always free. Museum of International Folk Art, 706 Camino Lejo 476-1200.

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

19 MONDAY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.
Santa Fe Public Schools Closure
District-wide closure in observance of Presidents' Day.

19 MONDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
School Closure Day Camp
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See January 2 listing.

19 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Monday Storytimes
Bee Hive Books. See December 4 listing.

P 20 TUESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

20 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Main Library. See December 5 listing.

20 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.
Preschool Story Time
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

20 TUESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
Southside Branch Library. See January 16 listing.

P 21 WEDNESDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

21 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.
Wee Wednesdays
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 13 listing.

21 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.
Books & Babies
Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

21 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.
Preschool Story Time
Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

21 WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30 P.M.
School Age Craft
Main Library. See January 17 listing.

P 22 THURSDAY
Parent Open House and Tour
Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

22 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.
Books & Babies
Southside Branch Library. See December 7 listing.

22 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.
Preschool Story Time
Main Library. See December 7 listing.

22 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.
Thursdays are Yours
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

22 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
Seeds to Sprouts
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

23 FRIDAY, 10-11 A.M.
Garden Sprouts Pre-K Activities
Santa Fe Botanical Garden. See December 1 listing.

23 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON
Story Time
Vista Grande Public Library. See December 8 listing.

23 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Friday Afternoon Art
Southside Branch Library. See December 8 listing.

23 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
Open Art Studio
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 8 listing.

Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – February/Ongoing Events

23 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

24 SATURDAY, 9-9:45 A.M.

Capoeira

Railyard Performance Center. See December 2 listing.

P 24 SATURDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Little Earth School Open House

Little Earth School. See January 6 listing.

25 SUNDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Snake Sunday

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 3 listing.

26 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 4 listing.

26 MONDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 4 listing.

P 27 TUESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

27 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

27 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

P 28 WEDNESDAY

Parent Open House and Tour

Fayette Street Academy. See December 5 listing.

28 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

28 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

28 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

ONGOING EVENTS

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

ABQ BIOPARK: ZOO, AQUARIUM AND BOTANIC GARDEN

Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission options: Buy a ticket to Zoo only, Aquarium/Botanic

Garden, or "BioPark Combo" for all three. Call for prices. 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 year-round 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 Rail yard. 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. The museum is closed during the winter months but is open by appointment in April, May and October, and open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, June through September, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 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 \$13; New Mexico residents with ID free on the first Friday of the month; seniors and students over 18 with ID \$11; 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. The preserve is closed until spring but will be open May through October, Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. 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 \$20; children

\$14; seniors \$18; free to children under 3. New Mexico residents: Adults \$17; Children \$12; Senior \$15. 1352 Rufina Circle, Santa Fe, 780-4458. www.meowwolf.com

MUSEUM OF INDIAN ARTS AND CULTURE

Stories of peoples indigenous to the Southwest, including displays from prehistory through contemporary art. Open Tuesday 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; New Mexico students with an ID, \$7; 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 era. 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 \$10; 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.

Who's our next COVER KID?

Tumbleweeds is always looking for cover models! If you live in northern New Mexico and want us to consider your kid or kids for a Tumbleweeds cover, email us at info@sftumbleweeds.com.
Natalie Apodaca, Winter 2015 cover model

Winter 2017-2018 Calendar – Ongoing Events

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.

NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY AND SCIENCE

Many exhibits on the history of Earth, Planetarium and movies at the giant-screen Lockheed-Martin DynaTheater. 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.; closed Thursdays. 2600 Canyon Road, Los Alamos. (505) 662-0460, www.peccnature.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. November

through March, the garden is open Thursday through Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., adults \$7; seniors and military \$6; students and youth \$5; children 12 and under free. From April through October, the garden is open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., out-of-state adults \$10; in-state adults \$9; seniors and military \$8; students and youth \$7; children under 12 free. Members always free. Museum Hill, 715 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. www.santafebotanicalgarden.org.

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. 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.santafechildrengmuseum.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.vgilibrary.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 2018 Calendar. Email to calendar@sftumbleweeds.com. Deadline: January 26.

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- Rachel Gantt, Director of Admissions and Marketing, Rio Grande School

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