



FOCAL Points ~ ~



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Spring

2012

FRIENDS OF CHILDREN AND LITERATURE -- CENTRAL LIBRARY

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SCIENCE HAS NEVER SOUNDED SO COOL !

Science Day, Saturday April 7th, was the seventh annual Science Day, the fourth since I became FOCAL Points editor, and the first in which I actually participated. It was exciting, exhilarating, and exhausting, and overall, a grand experience !!!

The theme this year was Sound, and the people who demonstrated various types of sounds were marvelous. The California Science Center, as always, brought a variety of things to demonstrate their hands-on activities. Plastic cups and string made for telephonic-type communication. One-string and four-string guitars showed what imagination could create.

On stage in the Mark Taper Auditorium, the Discovery Science Center provided a spectrum of sound. Children in the audience were called up to help demonstrate the wonderful world of sound.

As always, Debby Pourroy and her volunteers spread an array in the courtyard to engage the tiniest toddlers. Debby always comes through with an amazing variety of activities for the youngest group (and even their elders!)

Lara Clardy and her assistant demonstrated the ways in which the birds of the world get to make those cheerful sounds. Her audience happily fed Cheerios and other goodies into the bird feeder.

Full Spectrum's Wild Things had audiences enthralled with lizards, turtles and a giant boa constrictor.

GAB readers Debra and Susan kept their listeners totally in thrall.

Kudos to all involved, and a special thanks to Helen Muller for her tireless and cheerful work!

Volunteers included Gloria Hernandez and Lourdes Mora, from L.A. Valley College; Teen'scape's volunteers Claudia Flores, Bryan Martinez, Paola Gramajo, Daisy Lara and Kevin Saracini; Stephanie Moore, Lara Clardy, Caroline Gill, Alex Muller and Nancy Reich; GAB readers Debra Rowe and Susan Davis.

Madeline Bryant, Mara Alpert, and the Children's Literature staff, as ever, kept it all together.





Photos by Stephanie Moore and Helene Mochedlover

FUN FOR KIDS

Children's Literature Department
Central Library

MAY - JUNE, 2012

*Programs are subject to change without notice.
All programs are free.*

MAY

Preschool Storytimes

Tuesdays, May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.

Stories, songs, fingerplays and more for ages 0-5. Reservations required for groups of five or more. Call (213) 228-7250. (*Children's Literature Department, 11 a.m.*)

5 Sat Family Storytime

"Library Fiesta!" Cinco de Mayo? Time for a Fiesta! We'll have stories, songs, and a festive puppet show. (*KLOS Theater, 2 p.m.*)

12 Sat Family Storytime

"Mother's Day with Mother Goose" Bring your favorite mother as we showcase our favorite mother with stories, songs, poems, and a puppet show. (*KLOS Theater, 2 p.m.*)

19 Sat Used Book Sale

Find bargain children's books for sale. Sponsored by FOCAL, Friends of Children and Literature. (*Rotunda, 10 a.m. to 12 noon*)

19 Sat Family Storytime

"Fairy Tale Fun" In honor of the 200th anniversary of the original publication of Children's and Household Tales by the Brothers Grimm, we will share stories, poems, songs, and a magical puppet show. (*KLOS Theater, 2 p.m.*)

26 Sat Family Program

"Danza Azteca Xochipilli" Dancers in beautiful, authentic costumes present the proud traditions of the Aztec people through music, stories and dance. (*Mark Taper Auditorium, 2 p.m.*)

JUNE

Preschool Storytimes

Tuesdays, June 5, 12, 19 and 26.

Stories, songs, fingerplays and more for ages 0-5. Reservations required for groups of five or more. Call (213) 228-7250. (*Children's Literature Department, 11 a.m.*)

Dreamcraft Thursdays: Stories and Crafts

Thursdays, June 21 & 28

We'll dream big and create fabulous crafts, plus share stories, songs, and more. For ages 5-12. Reservations required for groups of five or more. Call 213-228-7250. (*Children's Literature Department, 4 p.m.*)

2 Sat Family Storytime

“Cows” In honor of National Dairy Month we present stories, songs, poems, and a moo-ving puppet show. (KLOS Theater, 2 p.m.)

9 Sat Family Storytime

“Happy Father’s Day!” It’s never too early to celebrate our favorite dads with stories, songs, poems, and a puppet show. (KLOS Theater, 2 p.m.)

16 Sat Used Book Sale

Find bargain children’s books for sale. Sponsored by FOCAL, Friends of Children and Literature. (Rotunda, 10 a.m. to 12 noon)

Join Los Angeles Public Library’s 2012 Summer Reading Club

Dream Big – READ!

June 16 – August 11, 2012

16 Sat Family Storytime

“Dream Big – READ! We kick off Summer Reading Club 2012 with stories, songs, and a fabulous puppet show! (KLOS Theater, 2 p.m.)

23 Sat Family Program

“Swazzle Presents DREAM CARVER” A bilingual, musical puppet show based on the children’s book by Diana Cohn, in which a young boy dreams of the colorful, exotic animals he will one day carve in wood. (Mark Taper Auditorium, 2 p.m.)

26 Tue Preschool Program

“LEGO DUPLO Experience” Children ages 0-5 and their caregivers will get to hear a story, then spend time creating with Lego Duplo bricks. (Children’s Literature Department, 11 a.m.)

30 Sat Family Storytime

“Pajama Party” Feel free to wear your jammies as we settle in for some bedtime fun with stories, songs, and a puppet show! (KLOS Theater, 2 p.m.)

SAVE THE DATE !!!!

Jason Chin, author of FOCAL award-winning **Redwoods**, will be doing a program in Children’s Literature on July 5th at 4pm.

During the summer, Children’s Literature will be hosting programs every Thursday afternoon. Jason’s books, **Redwoods** as well as his latest book, **Coral Reefs**, are perfect for the Summer Reading theme “Dream Big”.

Jason’s audience at the FOCAL luncheon honoring his award was very much impressed with his presentation. This should be another wonderful visit with this most personable author.

SPRING BREAK SUCCESS !!!!

By Madeline Bryant

While LAUSD was on Spring Break the week of April 2-6, the Children's Literature Department was busier than ever. In anticipation of the deluge, we had planned a series of programs to creatively and constructively occupy the time of the children and parents who were here.

All programs were at 11am, which proved to be a very popular time. On both Monday and Friday we hosted "Fun and Games" for children of all age levels. The youngest played with soft blocks, while the oldest were challenged with various board games and word games similar to Scrabble. Some children played solo, while others instantly formed friendships through sharing games.

Tuesday was our regular pre-school storytime with Miss Joanna presenting springtime stories to a lively audience of almost 40 people. Miss Mara and Miss Diane did a family storytime and puppet show on Wednesday and had the best turnout of the week with over 75 people- similar to a Saturday afternoon!

Miss Linda hosted a craft hour on Thursday, with children making and decorating musical instruments out of cardboard rolls and beans. Both the patrons and the librarians seemed pleased with the week's offering, so we may just make this a new Spring tradition. Our grand finale to the week was Science Day. But that, as they say, is another story...

EDITORS' NOTES

****CITY LIBRARIAN**** Martin Gomez, City Librarian of Los Angeles Public Library has resigned. Earlier this spring, he announced that he will be going to University of Southern California as Vice-Dean in the USC Libraries. He began on April 2. We thank Martin for his many innovations here at the Library, and wish him well in his new job.

****MEASURE "L"**** Remember how this page urged you to vote for Measure L (for Libraries) last spring? Well, the ballot measure passed with a huge majority, and we continue to see the good results. Last July, Monday hours were restored throughout the city. During the next few months, the library will begin hiring some new staff. Then, evening hours can be restored on Mondays and Wednesdays, as well as Friday mornings. There will also be a small increase in book budgets. Congratulations to you!

****GRIMM CELEBRATION**** Mara Alpert, Subject Specialist in Children's Literature, was a guest on KPCC on April 24. She spoke about the special exhibit to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the publication of the Grimm Fairy Tales, and described the variety of books available for children of all ages. Mara's expertise and enthusiasm had listeners mesmerized.

***** MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION *****

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(Free autographed book) (Seat at Head Table) (Book and Head Table)

DUES FOR 2012 ARE NOW DUE

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Eva Mitnick, Youth Services

Madeline Bryant, Senior Librarian, Children's Literature

Helene Mochedlover, FOCAL Points Editor

FOCAL

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