

COMMUNITY KIOSK

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A PTAC PUBLICATION

Red Panda Acrobats

The Menlo Park Library is pleased to present the renowned Red Panda Acrobats on Thurs., Dec. 17 at 7pm. Marvel at their colorful costumes and feats of balance as these amazing performers execute acts of daring and skill to entertain the whole family. This crowd-pleasing event is free and open to the public. To learn more about the Red Panda Acrobats, go to www.redpanda2000.com. This event is made possible by the Friends of the Menlo Park Library. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma Street, Menlo Park, (650) 330-2530.

Spanish Immersion Information Meeting

Information meeting for PAUSD's Spanish Immersion Program. Thurs., Jan. 14, 7- 8:15pm. Escondido School, 890 Stanford Avenue. There will be a meeting in English in the library and a meeting in Spanish in room 4. The Spanish Immersion Program is open to all families eligible for enrollment in the Palo Alto Unified School District. Participation in the program is decided by lottery. The information meeting is for new families interested in enrolling children in the program in the fall of 2010. Families will receive information about the two-way immersion model followed in the Spanish Immersion Program, how the program is implemented in the district, and the registration and lottery processes. The information will be presented by members of the Escondido community, including the principal, teachers, parents and students. All new families must attend this meeting (or watch a video of the meeting) before enrolling in the Spanish Immersion Program. The Spanish Immersion Program is in its 15th year in the Palo Alto Unified School District. Escondido School houses the program for grades K-5, while classes for grades 6-8 are at Jordan Middle School. Students in the program follow the same curriculum as monolingual PAUSD classes, and learn both Spanish and English through regular PAUSD schoolwork. Students develop bilingualism and biliteracy, and cultivate an appreciation for other cultures. For more information, contact Escondido School at 650-856-1337 or visit www.sipapa.org



2nd Annual Kids' Writing Contest Begins December 14

It's time for the 2nd annual writing contest at the library. Kids in grades 2-5 may enter by writing an essay of no more than 500 words on the topic, "How do you help a friend?" Entries may be turned in to any library branch or emailed to librarychildrensservices@cityofpaloalto.org. Submissions must be received no later than Mon., Jan. 11 at 9pm. The essays will be judged on concept and creativity. The winners will be announced at the reception on Wed., Jan. 27 at 3:30pm. Children's Library, 1276 Harriet St., Palo Alto.

Paly Play in a Day

Sat. Dec. 19, 8pm, Haymarket Theater, Palo Alto High School. Come and see "Play in a Day," Paly Theatre's most popular event. Don't miss this wildly entertaining evening of short one acts, all written, rehearsed and performed within twenty four hours. All tickets are sold at the door for \$5.00



Paly Madrigal Tea and Dinner Concerts

Dec. 11-13, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave, Palo Alto. Palo Alto High School Choral Dept, under the direction of Michael Najjar, perform glorious music mixed with comedic entertainment in not-to-be missed Renaissance-themed afternoon tea and dinner banquets. This year's Choir benefit includes a Silent Auction and Holiday Gift Boutique. Doors open 3:15pm for the Tea Fri. Dec. 11. Doors open 5:45pm for Dinner Sat. Dec. 12 and Sun. Dec. 13. To order tickets: www.palychoir.com

Gunn High School 2009 Winter Choir Concert

Thurs. Dec. 17, 7:30pm, Spangenberg Theatre, Gunn. High School. Featuring the Gunn Concert Choir, Treble Choir, and Chamber Singers, under the direction of William Liberatore. Take some time out of your busy schedules and come enjoy this beautiful choir concert which will include:
*A mass for women's voices by Canadian Latvian composer Imant Ramnisch;
*A Gloria by Emma Lou Diemer
*Schubert's Mass in G with Gunn's amazing orchestra
*Many solos by Gunn's choir performers
Tickets available at the door: \$7 for adults, \$5 for students.

Dylan Donkin, Musician

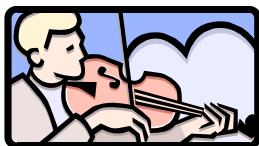
Dec. 16, 3:30pm. Put on your dancing shoes and get ready to rock the library with Dylan and his acoustic guitar. Children's Library, 1276 Harriet St., Palo Alto.

Saturday Showcase: Karen Ehrhardt, Author

Jan. 2, 1pm. Karen Ehrhardt, author of *The Jazz Man*, presents a toe tapping tribute to nine jazz giants! Come hear her swinging rendition! Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto.

Community Events for the PAUSD Area – December 2009

Music and Arts



Like to Sing?

The Ragazzi Boys Chorus, a nationally-recognized performing arts organization based on the Peninsula, invites boys age 7-11 to join them for a free singing and music workshop and optional auditions on Saturday, January 9, 2010 in Redwood City. For more information or to reserve a spot, please contact Ragazzi at 650.342.8785, info@ragazzi or www.ragazzi.org/audition.htm.

Peninsula Youth Orchestra Holiday Concert

Special Alumni Event: Holiday Concert
Featuring PYO & PYO Alumni
Sun., Dec. 20, at 7:30pm
Light Classical, Pops, & Holiday Music
Free! Carlmont High School Theater, Belmont

CSMA Family Concerts: Aux Cajunals, Old-Fashioned Cajun Music

Sun., Dec. 13, 2 & 4 pm. Aux Cajunals Big Band brings the bayou to Tateuchi Hall with a musical gumbo of zydeco, R&B, country-western and hillbilly swing. Suzy and Eric Thompson, along with Agi Ban, will bring you to your feet with their soulful fiddle, accordion and guitar sounds. CSMA Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View.

CSMA Stanford Lively Arts Informances: So Percussion

Wed., Jan. 6, 6pm. Since coming together in 1999, this Brooklyn-based quartet has been creating music that is both raucous and touching, barbarous and refined. With extremes of emotion and musical possibility, they challenge your perception of what percussion can be! CSMA Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View.

Parent Education

Parents Place, located at 200 Channing Avenue in Palo Alto is offering workshops of interest to elementary and middle school parents in their Winter 2010 Quarter. Registration is available online at: www.ParentsPlaceOnline.org. Winter Quarter 2010 workshops include: Empowering Your Daughter to Look Confidently at Herself, Her World, Her Future (for mothers of girls in middle school), Th, 1/21, 28, 2/4, 7 – 9 p.m.; \$90 for 3/sessions, with Sheila Dubin, MA and Nan Dellheim, MBA; Bridging the Digital Divide: A Cyberspace Workshop for Parents and Teens (ages 11 up), M, 2/8/10, 7 – 9 p.m. \$35/person, \$50/family of 2 or more with Erica Pelavin, LCSW, PhD; For Dads Only – The Joys and Challenges of Fatherhood (all ages), T, 2/23, 7 – 9 p.m., \$35, with Karen Friedland-Brown, MA; Bullies, Targets, and Bystanders (all ages), W, 2/24, 7 – 9 p.m., \$35 with Gloria Moskowitz-Sweet, LCSW; Setting Limits- Raising Responsible Children Through Choices and Consequences (grades 2 – 8), M, 3/8, 7 – 9 p.m., \$35, with Susan Stone Belton, BSE.

PAUSD Budget

The overall PAUSD budget for 2009/2010 is \$153 million. 85% of the budget is personnel-related (i.e. salary + benefits). Enrollment is 11,680 students. The projected shortfall or structural deficit is forecast to be \$5.7 million for school year 2201/2011, climbing to \$10.2 million in 2013/2014. PAUSD is collecting input from many stakeholders including site councils, principals, staff, PTA members and others in a transparent, iterative, inclusive process. You have the opportunity to consider some options that are being looked at and give your input, or generate new ideas and submit those.

Please take a few minutes to take this survey www.surveymonkey.com/s/Y6L52QG which is designed to collect information to help inform the process. The survey is open now and closes 1/11/10.

Go to paloaltopta.org/moreinfo/PTAC-PAUSD_Budget_Overview_December_2009.pdf to see an overview of the budget situation. Savings recommendations from all stakeholders can be emailed to Assistant Superintendent Scott Bowers at balancedbudget@pausd.org or, if you prefer that your suggestions be anonymous, to Palo Alto PTA Council Advocacy Chair, Lauren Janov, who will forward them to Mr. Bowers without attribution (janovLL@yahoo.com).

Stanford Email Newsletter, Stanford For You

As a service to the community, Stanford recently launched a free monthly email newsletter, Stanford For You, about upcoming events on campus, including information about concerts, sports, lectures, parenting and health resources, art exhibits and more. All of these events are open to the public, and many of them are free. To subscribe, please visit <http://4you.stanford.edu>.



Community Kiosk

A bi-weekly publication of the Palo Alto Council of PTAs. The mention of any business or service does not imply an endorsement by the Palo Alto Council of PTAs or the Palo Alto Unified School District. Only short announcements of not-for-profit events of interest to PAUSD elementary school families are considered for publication. Submissions may be edited for clarity or space. PTA Council President: Terry Godfrey. Kiosk Editor: Karen Karpen
Deadline for the next issue: January 6, 2010, 5pm. E-mail submissions to: kioskeditor@paloaltopta.org