



NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY CELEBRATES ONE YEAR.

October 1 Sunday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CENTRAL LIBRARY! [FREE]

Help celebrate a fantastic first year of success at the renovated Central Library! Enjoy a classic birthday-themed celebration, complete with a balloon artist, magic shows, face painting and more fun activities for the whole family. See demos of all the amazing services available at Central Library, including the Maker Space and Digital Literacy Lab. Plus, join library staff in the Children's Garden at 2 p.m. for cake and a happy birthday sing-along! Central Library, 400 Civic Dr., 1-5 p.m. www.tulsalibrary.org

TULSA ROOTS ROCKS THE GREEN [FREE]

The Tulsa Roots Rocks the Green September series ends with a fantastic show featuring Joan Soriano and Indigenous, as well as family-friendly activities like Latin dance lessons, bellydance performances and a kids' tent with various art activities. Guthrie Green, 111 E. Brady St., 2:30-6:30 p.m. www.guthriegreen.com

October 2 Monday

CLARK YOUTH THEATRE: PENGUIN PROJECT INFORMATIONAL MEETING [FREE]

The Penguin Project® provides an opportunity for children with disabili-

ties to develop creative skills related to the theatre arts. Clark Youth Theatre seeks young artists ages 8-22 with a disability to participate, and the program includes children with cognitive, learning, motor, hearing and visual impairments; genetic disorders; and neurological conditions. Clark Youth Theatre's 3rd annual The Penguin Project® production will take place February 16-18, 2018. Attend this meeting if you would like to learn more. Clark Youth Theatre, 4825 S. Quaker Ave., 6:30 p.m. www.clarkyouththeatre.com

OSAGE LANGUAGE CLASS [FREE]

This weekly Osage Language Class

is presented by the Osage Nation Language Department. For ages 10-adult. Zarrow Regional Library, 2224 W. 51st St., 7-8 p.m. www.tulsalibrary.org

October 3 Tuesday

OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER VS. HOUSTON ROCKETS

Watch the Oklahoma City Thunder play the Houston Rockets at the BOK Center! BOK Center, 200 S. Denver Ave., 7 p.m. www.bokcenter.com

October 4 Wednesday

MOVIE IN THE GARDEN: "BEST IN SHOW" [FREE]

BY LAURA RAPHAEL, CHILDREN'S SERVICES COORDINATOR, TULSA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY

draw-ing children into reading: art as a doorway to literature

HANNAH E. HARRISON @ HARDESTY LIBRARY ON NOV. 3 FOR "BOOKS TO TREASURE"

It's a truth universally forgotten by adults that learning how to read is exceedingly difficult for most children. Because it's easy for us to do now, we don't remember how very hard it was to learn.

In fact, learning to read is the most difficult cognitive task (or, rather, a complex, interconnected web of many different tasks) we ask kids to do – in a relatively short amount of time. It's a monumental achievement to juggle the various requirements to read successfully, which includes learning the distinct phonemes or sounds of the English language, identifying letters and how they connect to sounds, translating letters into sounds, then translating sounds into words and words into meaning.

No wonder many, if not most, children struggle with the process!

Drawing, on the other hand, is usually much easier. At the very least, the visual task of looking at art and pictures is a far easier and initially more pleasurable task for children's growing brains than the arduous slog of learning



HANNAH E. HARRISON ILLUSTRATION ON BOOKS TO TREASURE LIBRARY CARD.

that sometimes "a" sounds like "apple" and sometimes it sounds like "ape" – and sometimes like nothing at all, as in "reading"!

One of my greatest triumphs as a child was learning how to draw Snoopy. I could draw Snoopy dancing, Snoopy on his doghouse, Snoopy as Joe Cool.

"She's a good draw-er," my classmates would whisper as I drew on their textbook jacket covers, and the awe in their voices was

everything to me. I lived on their praise for my entire second-grade school year.

The thing about drawing Snoopy, however, is that I had to study a lot of Peanuts comics to learn how to do it well. And while I was studying, I was reading.

And the more I read, the more I wanted to read. I graduated from Snoopy and Charlie Brown and all of his pals to, soon enough, *Harriet the Spy* (which also has



charming illustrations) and *Little House on the Prairie*.

But the gateway for me – as it is for many children – was the artwork. The pictures literally drew me in to reading.

That's the idea behind the Books To Treasure program, now in its 15th year, sponsored by the Tulsa Library Trust through a grant by the Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation. We want to use the power of artwork in chil-

dren's literature to draw (pun intended) children into reading. As part of Books To Treasure this year, the award-winning illustrator Hannah E. Harrison will be giving a free public presentation about her art and creative process on Friday, November 3 at 7 p.m. at the Hardesty Regional Library in Connor's Cove.

Additionally, every second-grader in Tulsa County will receive a free copy of the book *Extraordinary Jane*, written and illustrated by Hannah E. Harrison.

This intricately illustrated book follows an everyday dog (Jane) and her life in a family of circus performers. She discovers that being yourself can be "extraordinary" – even if you can't ride a unicycle or walk on a tightrope. Jane is surrounded by her circus animal friends, including elephants, monkeys, ostriches, tigers, bears... and one very supportive ringmaster.

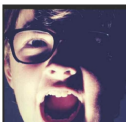
In a starred review of *Extraordinary Jane*, Publishers Weekly concludes: "Harrison's acrylic paintings, which blend realistic animal portraits with a charmingly old-fashioned circus setting to very funny effect, are the star of the show, but her understated storytelling and pacing are equally on the mark. Jane's under-the-radar helpfulness and all-around sweetness confirm the story's closing sentiment that being 'a really good dog' is some-

thing extraordinary in itself."

Children will love the story, but the detailed artwork will captivate them and possibly even inspire their own drawing – and writing.

In fact, Harrison has a great story to tell to further inspire children to draw and write: she won the "Young Author Book Award" at her school in both second and third grades, and when she was a high school senior, was honored with a Boston Globe Scholastic Art Award for her portfolio of artwork.

Today, Harrison calls Oklahoma home and continues to work on new books. In addition to *Extraordinary Jane*, she is the illustrator of *Reeny and Lulu* and the author and illustrator of *Bernice Gets Carried Away*, and *My Friend Maggie*. She has an upcoming book, *Friends Stick Together*, that follows a refined rhinoceros through his tricky school day.



CLARK IN THE DARK

ONE NIGHT ONLY!

October 30th
7:00-10:00 p.m.

Scary Adventures for the whole family!
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CLARK YOUNG THEATRE

clarkyoungtheatre.com
918-746-5065

Books To Treasure 2017

Featuring Hannah E. Harrison
All second-graders in Tulsa County will receive a copy of *Extraordinary Jane* and will have the opportunity to get their own special library card featuring artwork from *Extraordinary Jane*.

Public Presentation: Friday, November 3, 7 p.m.
Hardesty Regional Library Connor's Cove, 8316 E. 93rd St.
Find out more here: <http://kids.tulsalibrary.org/parents/bookstotreasure.php>
Book signing to follow presentation. Books available for sale.

continued next page

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ity up to 90 feet in some dive spots.

7. Beaches, beaches and more beaches. The western shores are home to famous resort-clad Palm Beach and Eagle Beach. Both of which have been included on "best beaches of the world" lists many times over. On the other shores along the island's perimeter, there are less populated beaches, some with rough crashing waves (some too dangerous for swimming) and jagged rocky edges. Sunrises on the rugged east coast and sunsets on the west coast are mesmerizing.

8. Water sports options for all ages and levels are vast. Tubing, paddle boarding, kayaking and kite surfing are popular, and several outfitters, such as Red Sail and De Palm Tours, are located along the beaches for easy sign up and access to the equipment.

9. The capital city, Oranjestad, on the southwest side of the island and adjacent to a lovely

marina, is ideal for walking and shopping among the pastel-painted, Dutch-style facades that are home to quaint shops, boutiques and eateries situated along palm-adorned streets.

10. The diverse people share an easy-going attitude, and the islanders are hospitable and polite. There's a local saying that sums it up nicely: Biba Dushi means "Living the Good Life," and the natives truly emanate this attitude when interacting with visitors and with one another.

Lodging choices range from the attractive seaside Holiday Inn to the high-end, secluded Ritz Carlton as well as smaller boutique hotels. Be sure to keep in mind that some of the resorts have casinos and the drinking age in Aruba is 18 years old.

For more information about lodging and attractions, please visit www.aruba.com; www.redsailsaruba.com; www.depalm-tours.com.



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