

## COMMEMORATION TO ADDRESS "KRISTALLNACHT AFTERMATH: NO PLACE FOR US"

The Tulsa Council for Holocaust Education and the Tulsa City-County Library will present "Kristallnacht Aftermath: No Place for Us," featuring The Rev. Dr. Mouzon Biggs Jr., at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 17 at the Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center, Sylvan Auditorium, 2021 E. 71st St.

The program commemorates the 81st anniversary of Kristallnacht, the event that is widely considered to be the beginning of the Holocaust. Also known as the "Night of Broken Glass," Kristallnacht refers to the wave of violent anti-Jewish pogroms which took place on Nov. 9 and 10, 1938, throughout Germany, annexed Austria and in areas of the Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia that were occupied by German troops. During Kristallnacht, 1,668 synagogues were ransacked and 267 burned; 7,500 Jewish business storefronts were shattered; roughly 30,000 Jewish men were arrested and deported; and 91 Jewish civilians were killed.

The effect of Kristallnacht on Jews in German-occupied territory was far greater than the sum of damage to buildings and assaults on individual victims. According to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., "the violence of Kristallnacht served notice to German Jews that Nazi anti-Semitism was not a temporary predicament and would only intensify." Consequently, many Jews attempted to escape from their native land, only to discover there was no place for them.

At the commemoration, Biggs, former pastor of Tulsa's Boston Avenue United Methodist Church, will address the issues facing the Jews who fled after Kristallnacht. A chance encounter with two Jewish professors whose lives were drastically transformed by Kristallnacht not only altered the trajectory of Biggs' life, but also set him on a lifelong journey.

Also at the commemoration, a student exhibit of Kristallnacht Art Contest entries will be on display. The commemoration is free and suitable for adults and youth in sixth grade and above. Contact the Jewish Federation of Tulsa at 918-495-1100 for more details.



REV. DR. MOUZON BIGGS

## AMERICAN BIOGRAPHER STACY SCHIFF TO RECEIVE DISTINGUISHED AUTHOR AWARD

Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer and journalist Stacy Schiff is coming to Tulsa Dec. 6 and 7 to receive the 2019 Peggy V. Helmerich Distinguished Author Award.

Schiff is the No. 1 bestselling author of five nonfiction works: *The Witches*; *Salem, 1692*; *Cleopatra: A Life*; *A Great Impersonation*; *Franklin, France, and the Birth of America*; *Vera (Mrs. Vladimir Nabokov): Portrait of a Marriage and Saint-Exupéry: A Biography*. She also has written for *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The Los Angeles Times*, among many other publications.

Former Helmerich award-winner David McCullough said about Schiff in Favorite Reads of 2015: "She writes with such spirit and agility that to read her books is something like watching a great dancer."

For her distinguished body of work and major contribution to the field of literature and letters, the Tulsa City-County Library and Tulsa Library Trust will honor Schiff with the 35th annual Peggy V. Helmerich Distinguished Author Award, which consists of a \$40,000 cash prize and engraved crystal globe. She will receive the award at a black-tie gala on Friday, Dec. 6 and will give a free public address on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 10:30 a.m. Both events will take place at Central Library, Fifth Street and Denver Avenue. Copies of her works will be for sale at the public presentation.

To complement Schiff's visit to Tulsa, the Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries will offer "A Stacy Schiff Sampler" as a part of its Books Sandwiched In series on Monday, Nov. 25 at 12:10 p.m. at Central Library in Aaronson Auditorium. Adrian Alexander, dean of The University of Tulsa's McParlin Library and chair of the Distinguished Author Award Selection Committee, will review a selection of Schiff's work, highlighting its significance and impact.

For more information about the Peggy V. Helmerich Distinguished Author Award, visit [www.tulsalibrary.org/helmerichaward](http://www.tulsalibrary.org/helmerichaward) or call 918.549.7323.



PHOTO: ELENA SEIBERT

## TULSAKID THEN AND NOW

We love to have updates on the Tulsa Kids that we have featured in the magazine. Former TulsaKid, Sofia, the young woman pictured here, is a member of the Girl Power Alliance, a group that she created to support and inform girls on a variety of topics, while giving them activities and games to encourage teamwork.

Sofia is now a senior at Jenks High School and is one of the senior editors of the yearbook. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, the mock trial team and DECA.

**100 Years ago today...**

**100 Years ago today...**

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**100 Years ago today...**



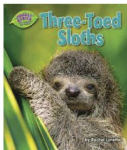
SOFIA IN TULSAKIDS MAGAZINE

...AND TODAY

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

# sloths, poison frogs and football physics

CULTIVATING CURIOUS MINDS  
AT THE LIBRARY  
WITH YOUTUBE... AND BOOKS



When Oscar-winning filmmaker Guillermo del Toro was a child, he loved movie monsters so much that he taught himself English to learn more about them.

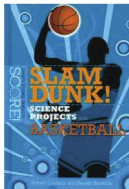
He didn't do it for a class. He didn't do it for his parents. He didn't do it because it would improve his test scores. He did it because he was curious, and he wanted to read the *Famous Monsters of Filmland* magazine and



understand what the words said. The children's librarians and staff at the Tulsa City-County Library like to take a page out of del Toro's monster magazine and build on children's curiosity while encouraging a love for reading.

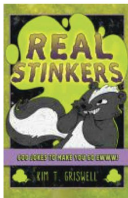
And sometimes that means we start with a YouTube video. YouTube? For real?

The 21st century has given us technology that can be a burden and a chore (says anyone forced to answer work email dur-



ing vacation). But for children, it's also a great opportunity to stoke curiosity and build a sophisticated level of background knowledge about a wide variety of topics.

Background knowledge is a reading teacher's best friend. The more a child knows about a topic,



the easier it is to read and understand text about that topic.

And one of the best new modern ways to develop background knowledge?

You guessed it: YouTube.

What's more, your child has probably already discovered it and is just waiting for you to help

*continue next page*

cultivate their curiosity with even richer sources of knowledge: books!

**Learn like a sloth, and other animal adventures**

The chain of learning might go something like this:

You're noodling around on Facebook when you see a friend's posting of a funny video of a sloth. You show it to your child, who wants to know more about this strange, slow and fascinating creature.

Or you watched an animated movie with a sloth character. Or you jokingly called the slow driver in front of you a sloth. Sloths are everywhere these days!

Together, you find a series of sloth videos perfect to watch with your child, from *Animal Planet* and *National Geographic*, that give more information about sloths but also show what they

look like, how they move and what they eat.

And then you say the magic words: "Let's go see what the library has about sloths!"

Books, glorious books, so many books, at the library! Books upon books about sloths, all ready for your child to check out and pore over, learning more and becoming experts.

But that's not all! Once in the juvenile nonfiction section where the animal books are (the Dewey Decimal number of 599s to be exact), other books may capture your child's curiosity.

Poison dart frogs? Hmm, that looks interesting! Camels, what are their humps for, anyway? And this big book of tigers and lions? Oh, my!

**Riddle me this**

Another YouTube entry point into library books is the

humble riddle and joke. Search for "Clean kid jokes" online (preview the results first, of course) and share with your child.

Then walk them to the 818s section of the children's nonfiction shelves of your library. You'll find a plethora of excellent joke books and books with brain-twisting riddles.

Who knows? Just as Guillermo del Toro became one of the most famous monster moviemakers in the world, your kid could become a renowned comedian.

And it all started in the library.

**TED-Ed, Kids Learning Tube, and more**

Excellent sources of curiosity-building videos can be found on the educational channels of TED-Ed (an offshoot from the popular adult channel of TED

Talks) and Kids Learning Tube, both of which offer playlists related to different topics.

From learning the geography of different countries to "the physics of basketball," these short videos can act as introductions for a variety of mind-blowing (and mind-building) subject areas, causing your child to want to learn more. And more. And more.

And do you know the best answer to their questions? "Let's go to the library!"

