

CULTURALLY SPEAKING

The monthly newsletter of the Earth Cultures Project of Educational Communications

Culturally Speaking's 2nd Year Anniversary Zdition

October 2012

MESSAGE FROM NANCY PEARLMAN, Executive Director of Educational Communications



ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The variety of activities in southern

California are great.

Here are some programs, events, and exhibits to keep an eye out for.

EXHIBITS—"The Henkel Physicians: A Family's Life in Letters" is a travelling exhibition produced by the National Library of Medicine and National Institutes of Health with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, www.nlm.nih.gov/ hmd/digicolls/henkel/index.html. discovered this display one day when I went to the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, West Los Angeles, for a doctor's appointment. A sign indicated that in the medical library, (6041 Cadillac Ave., Los Angeles 90034) which is open to the public, there was this exhibit that was travelling around the country. Old photographs, copies of letters, and a family genealogical tree describe the work of fathers and sons from the Shenandoah Valley who ministered to their community, tended to their countrymen at Confederate quarters in Virginia during the Civil War, and testified in the courts. It is a fascinating documentation of the difficulties of being physicians especially in treating outbreaks of smallpox, healing broken bones, and preventing the spread of infectious disease.

DRAMA—"Going Green The Wong Way" is a funny one-person show written and performed by Kristina Wong, http://kristinawong.com. Rarely are environmental concerns funny but her mix of multi-media, comedy, and drama makes one laugh as she

describes her veggie fuel car and then carless lifestyle, her growing up and trying to convince her fellow students to recycle and be more ecological, and her other endeavors into having a greener lifestyle. She evens talks to Mother Earth who, ironically, has a male voice.

"As You Like It" by the Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles, www. ShakespeareCenter.org, was performed in the outdoors Japanese Garden on the grounds of the VA West Los Angeles complex. Even while it rained in the first half of the show, the performers were true troopers and gave a marvelous adaptation of this classic play. Rather than period costumes, they wore more modern attire and yet the interactions still seemed real and relevant. Since the play has scenes that are supposed to be outdoors, it was a very relevant setting with real trees.

FILMS—Be ready next year in September for the 3rd "Short Films Long Night" of Swiss films presented by the Cultural Foreign Policy Centre of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the Consulate General of Switzerland at the Lycee Français de Los Angeles Theatre Raymond Kabbaz in West Los Angeles. At the 2nd Annual event over 17 short films were shown in one night with some Swiss refreshments during the break. The audience gets to vote on their favorite and the producers, directors, and actors pick up various awards. Free of charge. For Swiss tourism information go to: www.MySwitzerland.com

EIN PROSIT DER GEMUETLICHKEIT! Oans, Zwoa, Drei, G'suffa!

Preston Ashbourne

It's Oktoberfest time (well, actually it's already ending in



Bavaria) and - wait, some of you say you can't read German? I've got news for you, you are reading it now, sort of. English and German both derive from a common ancestor going back about 1500 years. Other sisters in this family are Dutch, Flemish, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish and Icelandic - All Germanic languages. Of course they have gone their separate ways for so long that if you hear them you usually can't understand them.

However, there are still plenty of points of commonality. Let's take a look at the title of this essay. It means "A Toast to Good Fellowship - 1,2,3, Drink Up". "Ein" is standard German for "one". "Prosit' German college students got from Latin for "may it be to your advantage". "Gemuetlichkeit" means something like "moody" (see the second syllable) which has negative connotations for us, but why not be moody in a good way? The countout is in Bayarian German where the numbers one and two are more similar to our English numbers: "oans=one" (ohahns vs wun) and "zwoa=two" (tsvoh-ah vs the old pronunciation of "twoh" for what we now call "too") and "drei" (dry) is "three". So what's a G'suffa? I'm glad you asked! It seems to me to be our word "sip", hence, "drink up".

Speaking of drinking, you might be invited "zu trinken" (to drink) things like: Bier, Wein, Wasser, Milch, Kaffee, Tee (tay). Obvious, aren't they? While



KHOSH GALDI! WELCOME!

by Assieh "La Mora"

There I was, at LAX Airport, trying to overcome my anxiety and get excited for my 16 hours flight.

Knowing that for 13 hours I will be seated in a direct flight over the Atlantic Ocean, only to have to change to a second flight, I kept walking around the terminal until boarding time. "Dancers can not sit still specially flamenco dancers." We never stop our footwork...at home, in the elevators, waiting-lines; bank, super market, coffee shops...

Fortunately everything went well. The flight was very smooth. I watched all the movies and ate all the meals. Since the seat next to me was empty - yooohooo - I could take naps too!

A very kind flight attendant woke me up to prepare for landing... there I was; in Istanbul /Turkey.

How exciting! But first I had to go through the airport immigration, change to domestic terminal, and catch my next flight to Ankara.

Three hours later I found myself in Ankara....it was around 10 PM, hopped in a taxi, getting on my way to my hotel; where I was meeting with some family members. They were all patiently waiting for me at the lobby of the hotel, but very hungry since I was somewhat delayed...nothing unusual about it all.

After I checked in to one of the beautiful rooms at Hotel Dedemon, we immediately took another taxi to a restaurant that locals dined. I like places that are not mentioned in a tourists guide...especially for food and shopping. So our driver took us to one of the best restaurants in town. Food and ambiance was great!

It was late at night but the city was still lively. We began our very first night with a great meal and lots of laughter.

Ankara, the capital of Turkey is a very calm and quiet city. People are very relaxed ... Amazing places to see in Ankara Citadel: Ataturk, Kocatepe Mosque, Haci Bayram Mosque, Museum of the War of Independence, Sengul Hamam, Ethnographic Museum, Genclik Park, Roman Baths, Temple of Augustus, Column of Julian, Anatolian Civilizations Museum and many more.

Rich in culture, arts, music and dance, and many more...and very fast paced! Packed with European tourists. This is another city that never sleeps...Great places to visit like Kariye Museum, Historic Areas of Istanbul, Hagia Sophia Museum, Sultanahmet District. Sulevmanive Mosque, Bosphorus Strait, Topkapi Palace, Istiklal Street, Beyoglu, Ortakov, bagdat Street, Rumeli Fotress, Galata Tower, Miniaturk, The Bosphorus Bridge, Walls of Constantinople, Haydarpasa Terminal, Yildiz Park, St Anthony of Padua, and many more.

I had a wonderful time in Turkey. I was amazed at how so many Farsi and Turkish words are similar in both languages.

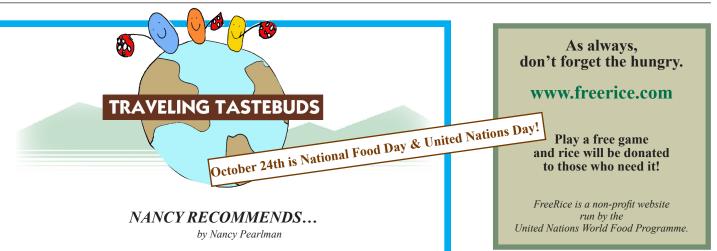
I met great Turkish people...had great food and delicious Turkish sweets...visited beautiful historic places, not to

forget to mention the authentic Turkish Bath...Halleluiah!!!!

I will definitely go back and explore other cities and the country's Mediterranean seaside. The nostalgic piece of my trip was that my Hometown, Tehran, IRAN was only 2 hours away and I had an strong urge to go there...Maybe next time!

My mother used to say: "Traveling to great places is an added bonus to your lifetime." Indeed visit to Turkey was one of those added bonuses for me...





Recently I have had the pleasure to visit and enjoy tasty food at a variety of restaurants.

Brooklyn Pizza & Pasta, 9228 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035, (310) 550-9992, has tasty appetizers, sandwiches, salads, and homestyle baked specialities (eggplant, lasagna, penne, etc.), pasta (spaghetti, linguini, etc.) along with their award-winning pizzas. The International Pizza Expo made them the 2012 Winner in the Best Traditional Pizza category, Southwest Region. They have delivery, take out or dine In. Info: BrooklynPizzaAndPasta.net.

Chalet Edelweiss Restaurant & Bar, 8740 Sepvulveda Blvd, Westchester, CA 90045,. (310) 645-8740, near LAX, has real Swiss chefs cook in front of your eyes and they insist on excellence and freshness. If you can't get to Switzerland to taste cheese fondue, you can try it here. Many months they have a special dinner and Swiss movie special as well.

Swiss Chef Restaurant at San Remo, 13727 Victory Blvd., Valley Glen, CA 91401, (818) 904-1500, is another true Swiss food restaurant. Just west of Woodman in the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles, their chefs provide real dishes from Switzerland.

The Stinking Rose: A Garlic Restaurant, 55 N. La Cienega, Beverly Hills, 90211, (310) 652-7673, has unusual indoor decor. As they state "We season our garlic with food!" so it is fun to try their fish, meat, and pasta dishes, and even deserts all flavored with garlic.

Tart Restaurant, 115 Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90036, gives you the chance for a free meal if you jump in their pool with your clothes on and your cell phone. Or get 5\$ off the bill if you wear a cowboy hat. Their "Meat n' Three" combos for \$15.99 feature meats and fish as well as vegetarian choices plus a choice of three sides of salads and/or vegetables.

Zuby's Cafe, 3131 N. Garey Ave., Pomona, CA 91767 (909) 596-6666, combines Italian and Persian cuisine for unique flavors. They have vegi dinners and pizzas as well as meat kabobs, wraps, and sandwiches. They have a card to stamp so that if you eat there four times, the fifth one is for free.

El Coyote Mexican Cafe, 7312 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, (323) 939-2255, has beautiful walls decorated with creative mosaics of mirrors and shells and servers in traditional Mexican dress. This historic 1931 restaurant continues to provide its enchiladas, tacos, burritos, tamales, and chile rellanos with the usual rice and beans.

Have a good (or bad) food memory, recipe or restaurant? Write to us at: culturallyspeaking@earthculturesproject.org and you may see it published.

EIN PROSIT DER GEMUETLICHKEIT!

by Preston Ashbourne

continued from page 1, column 3

you might not follow a conversation on nuclear physics, some subject areas show the old kinship. Body parts make a good example. "Haar" "Ohr" "Augen" "Nase" "Lippen" "Mund" "Zaehne" "Zunge" "Kinn" "Schulter" "Arm" "Ellenbogen" "Hand" "Finger" "Fingernagel". you recognize them? A few might take some thought, but three of them are even spelled the same as in English, although they sound a little different. Foreign languages aren't so alien when you recognize the kinship and look for the similarities. Understanding one another is what makes a social occasion - ready for it? - GEMUETLICH!



ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

by Nancy Pearlman continued from page 1, column 2

EXPOS—Save time next July to go the preeminent gift show on the West Coast. The California Gift Show at the Los Angeles Convention Center, with permanent showrooms at the LA Mart, has over 200,000 square feet, 10,000 product lines, and 1,200 exhibitors. I especially liked the ethnic clothes, jewelry, and other items. Many companies were also promoting new green products, many from recycled materials. Info: www. californiagiftshow.com.

CONCERTS AND PLAYS—Each summer California Plaza in downtown Los Angeles provides free programs. Info: www.grandperformances.org, (213) 687-2159. They had a riveting one-man play by Ian Ruskin about the longshoreman-turned-Union leader Harry Bridges; Ethan Lipton's "No Place to Go" musical ode; a theatrical work, "The Agony and Ecstasy of Steve Jobs," and an all Gershwin songfest. There was also the world premiere of a philanthropic orchestral opus, "A Symphony of Hope" featuring a 70-piece orchestra and a 40-voice choir with a score created by a collective of Hollywood composers, all to raise funds for the thousands of lives affected by the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. The composition opens with a traditional Haitian melody and each following movement is the result of the participating artists' contributions of 8-32 bars of music in collaborative succession. The five movements take the listener on an impressive aural journey of Haitian life before, during, and after the earthquake. An incredible collaboration by 25 Oscar, Tony, Grammy, and Emmy award-winning composers. To help the Haitian cause contact: www.haitisymphony.com; www.artistsforhumanrights.org;or www.handstogether.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

JOHN BILEZIKJIAN

John Bilezikjian is "America's Oud Virtuoso." Mr. Bilezikjian may be the most prominent Oudist of his generation. He is a master Oudist who has elevated this instrument to the concert stage as well as continues to perform as a folk musician. He has performed for some 51 years on this ancient eleven stringed Persian fretless instrument dating back some 2,000 years. The Oud is performed with an eagle's quill. See below for John's performance schedule.



Sunday, Oct. 14, 2012 **Bedouin Bazaar** Al Bahr Shrine Center 5440 Kearney Mesa Rd. San Diego 92111 5:30 - 6:30 pm Belly Dancing Show

JOHN AND HELEN BILEZIKJIAN IN CONCERT

Saturday, November 10, 2012 at 7:30 pm
Doors open at 7pm • \$12 per person
Folk Music Center
220 Yale, Claremont, CA 91711
(909) 624-2928
CDs available for purchase at concert

http://dantzrecords.com



Anita and the Yanks broke into the Celtic rock music scene in 2008 and have built an impressive fan base in and around the Los Angeles area. Lead singer, guitarist Anita Mansfield and Bryan Dobbs mandolin player started out as a duo and they picked up Ryan Dean (drums) Damon Stout (bass) and Pat D'Arcy (uilleann pipes) along the way, featuring special guests Rachel Grace and Chris Loken on violin.

FINN MC COOL'S IRISH PUB (duo) Tue, Oct 2 9 PM 2702 Main St, Santa Monica, CA 90405 GALLAGHER'S PUB & GRILL (trio) Sun Oct 14, Sun, Nov 11, Sun, Dec 9 3 - 6 PM 300 Pacific Coast Hwy Huntington Beach, CA 92648

www.anitaandtheyanks.com



GYPSY FOLK ENSEMBLE

The Gypsy Folk Ensemble is a world dance performing company based in Los Angeles, California which was formed in 1978 to preserve, perform and teach traditional folk dances from countries around the world. See website for workshops and assemblies available.

www.gypsyfolkensemble.com

THE 5TH ANNUAL ANGEL CITY JAZZ FESTIVAL—ARTISTS & LEGENDS Angel City Arts and the Jazz Bakery present the fifth annual Angel City Jazz Festival October 5 -14, with concerts at LACMA, REDCAT, the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, and UCLA's Royce Hall in association with CAP UCLA. The theme for this year's festival is "Artists & Legends," a vehicle for forward-looking artists to pay tribute to the legendary mentors who played significant roles in their musical lives.

www.angelcityjazz.com

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



Assieh was born and raised in Iran. She started her Flamenco dance training at early age in Los Angeles and later in Spain at Amor de Dios Flamenco Dance Academy in Madrid with master teachers like; La Tati, Ciro, Carmela Greco, La Truco, Manolete and in Sevilla at Manolo Marin Dance Academy. She has also studied under private training of Angelita Vargas and Pepa Montes. She teaches at Gypsy Camp near Motor and ASSIEH "LA MORA" National in Los Angeles. Call for class schedule: (310) 558-0746.

Vineyard Touring Opera Company

A Regional Opera for Southern California

presents

IMPOSTERS OF OPERA



DR. VIOREL GHEORGHE

and singers from the Company present a humorous introduction to famous opera characters who are not what they seem!!

A FAMOUS 13TH-CENTURY IMPOSTER

A complete performance of the one-act comic opera

GIANNI SCHICCHI

by Giacomo Puccini

Sung in English Fully Staged with Orchestra Conducted by Frank Basile Directed by Derry Kalve



OCTOBER 27 – WOMAN'S CLUB OF CLAREMONT NOVEMBER 3 – SANTA MONICA BAY WOMAN'S CLUB **General Admission \$10 Preferred Seating \$20**

Student/Senior \$5 TICKETS AND INFORMATION: (855) 575-0005

www.vtopera.org

FOLK FESTIVAL

Macedonian Festival – Sun, Oct 21 St Mary's Church 10550 Whittier Blvd. Whittier FREE!

NEVENKA IN CONCERT

Sat/, October 6, 2012 8pm

Santa Monica History Museum 1350 7th Street, Santa Monica, Ca

FolkWorks is pleased to announce a new concert series at the Santa Monica History Museum.

The opening concert on Saturday, October 6, will feature Nevenka, a popular Los Angeles-based women's chorus that brings to life vocal folk/roots traditions from around the world. Their songs range from Bulgaria, Georgia, Russia, Bosnia to Rom and Sephardic songs - as well as recently added American and Irish music. Their spellbinding harmonies are at the core of their eclectic repertoire.

Whether a simple American song or the complex harmonies of Bulgaria the voices of Nevenka's women are sure to move you. While mostly singing a cappella, they are occasionally accompanied by percussion, mandolin, guitar, citern or panduri.

> General Admission: \$15 FolkWorks Members (\$65 level and above): \$13

For more info: 818-785-3839 concert@folkworks.org

FolkWorks is a nonprofit dedicated to preserving and promoting the folk/ traditional arts. They have published an e-zine and presented concerts since 2001. The next concert at the Museum will be a Holiday event on December 15.

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Yiddish Dance class at Workmen's Circle! Thursdays 7-9:30pm· Oct 18th—Dec 6th, (no class Nov 22) Cost: \$180

renowned Yiddish dance master

Bruce Bierman

Discover the nearly forgotten folk dance that is currently making a miraculous comeback. The last class, December 6th, will be a special Chanukah Freylekh with latkes, vodka and klezmer dance. All levels welcome.

> www.circlesocal.org 1525 S. Robertson Blvd. LA

Puppet State Theater Company The Man Who Planted Trees Théâtre Raymond Kabbaz 10361 W. Pico Blvd., LA Tuesday, October 23 7:30 PM

Tickets are \$20 or \$15 for students. Tickets are available at http://bit.ly/ cMAzTT. A multi-sensory theatrical adaptation of French author Jean Giono's environmental classic that tells the inspiring story of a shepherd who plants a forest, acorn by acorn, Encouraged for children over seven.

www.theatreraymondkabbaz.com

L.A. Festival of Neighborhoods Sunday, Oct. 21st

Citywide Event Shows Off Culturally Dynamic Neighborhoods Through Local Guides

The non-profit L.A. Commons—with the mission to connect people across LAs' vast metropolis through the artistic, social and cultural projects that celebrate the unique stories of L.A.'s neighborhoods—will host the 2nd annual Found L.A: Festival of Neighborhoods. Found L.A. is a FREE, citywide event that will showcase culturally dynamic neighborhoods through the FREE tours (varying times between 9:00am and 5:00pm) provided by residents, public figures and renowned artists, who volunteer to share their unique perspective and passion for their neighborhood. Tours are neighborhood specific. The tours are free of cost, but RSVP is required for the tours http://www.lacommons.org/2012/09/26/found-la-festival-of-neighborhoods/

For additional info, please visit www.lacommons.org (click on Found LA) or contact Karen Mack at karen@lacommons.org or Maya Thomas at maya@ lacommons.org. LA Commons general info: 213-705-4457

GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT: THE FUSION OF FOOD AND CRAFT

An Exhibition in Three Servings

The Craft in America Study Center at **8415 West Third Street** proudly inaugurates a three-part series of exhibitions focusing on the intersection of contemporary craft and food.

Food as impetus for craft: November 17, 2012- January 19, 2013 Food as subject for craft: February 2, 2013 - April 6, 2013 Food as medium for craft: April 20, 2013 - June 22, 2013

Food was a motivational font for craft from its earliest origins. Objects have facilitated and elevated the act of cooking and consumption throughout history, from woven baskets to clay storage jars, blown glass vessels and metal utensils. A lecture and workshop schedule is forthcoming: Laura Wood, "Love-Hunger," Katherine Gray, "Decanter Tower," Kristin duCharme, "Figure" in chocolate

Craft in America is a Los Angeles-based non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and advancing original handcrafted work, through educational programs in all media, accessible to all.

The Study Center is open Thursday - Saturday from 12:00 - 6:00 pm. For more information: info@craftinamerica.org or (323) 951-0610. Contact: Emily Zaidenm (323) 951-0610m emilyzaiden@craftinamerica.org

Aquarium of the Pacific

100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802 Info/Tickets: 562-590-3100 or www.aquariumofpacific.org

General Admission--\$24.95 adult (12+), \$21.95, senior (62+), \$13.95 child (3-11), free for children under age 3 and Aquarium members.

Saturday, October 6, 2012 **Southeast Asia Day**

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The Aquarium of the Pacific will celebrate its eighth annual Southeast Asia Day. The festival's program will highlight the beauty and diversity of the cultures of Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia. Myanmar, Laos, and Indonesia. Guests will enjoy live performances, including music, dance, and cultural craft demonstrations. Ethnic dishes will be available for purchase, and children will have the opportunity to partake in arts and crafts.

> Saturday & Sunday November 3-4, 2012 **Autumn Festival** 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Delve into the arts, cuisines, cultures, and marine environments of Asia during the Aquarium of the Pacific's eleventh annual Autumn Festival. The Autumn Festival highlights the traditions and cultures of Japan, China, Korea, and the Philippines through a weekend of learning opportunities and family entertainment celebrating rich diversity of Asian and Asian American cultures. The festival will feature traditional crafts, music, dance, demonstrations, cultural arts exhibits, ethnic cuisine, storytelling, and much more. Move to the sounds of taiko drumming, watch dancers, acrobats, and martial arts demonstrations. Try your hand at origami, and purchase hand-made crafts.

MUSIC NEWS

The very first performances anywhere in the world of **S. POLONSKI'S COMPLETE SET OF SONGS** by forces organized by the Arbeter Ring (Workmen's Circle) in Los Angeles (2008) and Tucson (2009), drew a wildly enthusiastic and appreciative response, given that only one song in this collection, "A krenetse/A Well," ever became widely known in the West. The Songbook we uncovered for these performances is a rare item few scholars even knew about. Yiddish culture enjoyed a spotty and often tragic career in the USSR, but we offered these songs as a record of a fleeting, uplifting moment, and as a legacy to the future for us to discover and cherish. The CD will render all 19 songs faithfully, creatively, and professionally, with "name" vocal talent and fresh instrumental arrangements by one of our favorite Yiddish musicians, our friend (and AR member) Yale Strom.

Your contribution to The Sholem Educational Institute, Inc., a nonprofit 501c3 corporation (Federal Tax ID Number 95-2112000), is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Donations of any size are welcome. The faster we raise our production budget, the sooner we can get on to producing the CD. All contributions of \$54 or more (Triple Khay) will be acknowledged in print in the accompanying CD booklet (unless you wish to remain anonymous). Please make checks payable to (and be sure to mention "Polonski Project"): Sholem Educational Institute, Inc., P. O. Box 4508, Culver City, CA 90231

Robby Romero's 'Who's Gonna Save You' Music Single Debuts In Southwest

Addresses Impacts Of Climate Change On Indigenous Peoples

"It's about respect – respect for earth, respect for water, respect for all life." Chief Oren Lyons (Faithkeeper, Onondaga Nation)

Taos, New Mexico—Native Children's Survival's (NCS) Groundbreaking music single "Who's Gonna Save You" has been released to Triple A radio stations in the Southwest, specifically Santa Fe, Taos and Durango while the global release drop date is set for the fall.

"Who's Gonna Save You," had its world broadcast premiere during the United Nations Annual Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP17), which was held Nov. 28 to Dec. 9, 2011 in Durban, South Africa. It premiered on South African Broadcasting Company's (SABC 1) Yo TV on Friday, Dec. 2. Yo TV reaches millions of young people daily. In conjunction with the music picture premiere on Dec. 2, Romero made a live appearance on e.TV's "Sunrise" show in Johannesburg with an Indigenous African youth choir.

"Who's Gonna Save" will be released in a DVD/CD eco package this November during Native American Heritage Month. The two-disc set is available now and for a limited time exclusively at the Project Protect website (http://projectprotectawarenesscampaign.com.)

WORTH WATCHING ON YOUTUBE

FLASH MOBS

Amsterdam

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XAXAs03xsI8&feature=related

Madrid

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iop2b3oq1O0

Russia

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gc4xbmFpDRA

POETRY NEWS

FIFTH ANNUAL PETS ADD LIFE CHILDREN'S POETRY CONTEST RETURNS SEPT. 1 - JAN. 31

American Pet Products Association (APPA) encourages students in grades 3rd-8th to submit creative poems for a shot at scholarship dollars and other pet prizes.

(Greenwich, CT) – Calling all creative students! Bob Vetere, APPA President, is pleased to announce that beginning Sat., September 1, 2012 the organization will be accepting submissions for its 5th Annual Pets Add Life Children's Poetry Contest. Students are encouraged to write unique poems about the joys and benefits of owning pets for a chance at top prizes.

"It's so fun to read all the poems every year and really see how much of an impact pets have on these young kids," Vetere said. "With more than 1,000 poems submitted for the last contest, we look forward to continuing the momentum in our fifth year and encourage even more students to participate. It truly is a great opportunity for kids to creatively express their love of hermit crabs, fish, rabbits, dogs, cats, horses, and everything in between, while competing for some really great prizes."

Students in grades 3rd-8th are invited to write a unique poem about their pets, what they love about them and the joys they bring, and then post it online at www.PetsAddLife.org or mail their final poem and submission form to: Pets Add Life, 661 Sierra Rose Dr., Reno, NV 89511. Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2013 at 5:00pm EST.

In addition, teachers within the contest grade levels are welcome to incorporate this national contest into their lesson plans, and submit poems in one entry, on behalf of his/her classroom.

One student from each grade level (6 total) nationwide will win a \$250 gift certificate for pet products, and a "by-line" in a nationally circulated publication. In addition, the six winning students' classrooms will each win a \$1,000 scholarship to spend on pet-related education or to support a pet in their classroom.

To learn more about the Pets Add Life Children's Poetry Contest, read previous winning poems, upload your submission, or download a printed submission form, please visit www. petsaddlife.org or contact Brooke Gersich at The Impetus Agency, 775.322.4022 or Brooke@theimpetusagency.com

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES OF INTEREST

MUSEUMS

The Autry National Center www.theautry.org

Bowers Museum

www.bowers.org

Craft & Folk Art Museum www.cafam.org

The Getty www.getty.edu

Metropolitan Museum of Art

(search the database for works of art, costumes & more) www.metmuseum.org/works of art/

Museum of Latin American Art www.molaa.org

Museum of Making Music www.museumofmakingmusic.org

Museum of Tolerance ww.museumoftolerance.com

Pacific Asia Museum www.pacificasiamuseum.org

ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA

Current Cultural Happenings Around Los Angeles by Fran P. groups.yahoo.com/group/caltechfolkdance

Olvera Street in Los Angeles http://olvera-street.com

Folkworks (click on "calendar") www.folkworks.org/

FOLK DANCE & FOLK MUSIC **INFORMATION**

Dick Oakes' Folk Dance Pages www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/folkdanc.

Folkways (ethnic music) www.folkways.si.edu/index.aspx

ARC Music (ethnic music CDs) www aremusic co uk

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

BYKI

Free language software downloads www.byki.com/

FREELANG

Free bilingual dictionary downloads www.freelang.net/

ARTS AND CULTURES

Smithsonian Magazine Arts & Cultures

www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture

Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage

www.folklife.si.edu/

BBC - Holidays Around the World and so much more!

www.bbc.co.uknaturehumanplanetexplorer/ events and festivals

Pulse of the Planet

www.pulseplanetcom

SOME CULTURAL CENTERS

Acadian Cultural Center

www.nps.gov/jela/new-acadian-culturalcenter.htm

Croatian Cultural Center

www.croatianamericanweb.org/index.php

Hibulb Cultural Center

http://www.hibulbculturalcenter.org/

Ilanka Cultural Center

www.ilankacenter.org/

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center www.indianpueblo.org/

Levantine Cultural Center www.levantinecenter.org

Polynesian Cultural Center http://www.polynesia.com/

Skirball Cultural Center http://www.skirball.org/

West Virginia Division of Culture and History

www.wvculture.org/

-FOR KIDS

Yahoo's site for kids to learn about the world's countries

www.kids.yahoo.com/reference/worldfactbook

CHILDREN'S BOOKS BY **DK PUBLISHING**

www.us.dk.com

Complete Flags of the World My World, My Story: Life Stories from Teens from Around the World Homes Around the World Children Just Like Me A Life Like Mine

CHILDREN'S MUSEUMS

http://kidspacemuseum.org http://www.bowers.org/kidseum.php/

(These links are for reference only and are not necessarily endorsed by Educational Communications)

Deport the Arts & Education



DONATION & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Your donation will help bring the arts back to education under the Earth Cultures Project, or help fund other projects of Educational Communications. Volunteers are always needed in the office. If you are interested in volunteering please call (310) 559-9160.

This is Culturally Speaking, the monthly electronic newsletter of the Earth Cultures Project, one of Educational Communucations' many projects which focuses on cultures of our planet and "Education through the Arts." Educational Communications is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 1958, dedicated to improving the quality of life on this planet.. Volunteers and donations are always appreciated.

EARTH CULTURES PROJECT

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