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VOLUME 32 | NUMBER 3

MAGAZINE

Meet

Clara Ann Gollihar

ON THE COVER:

Clara Ann Gollihar (8). Photo by Kitty Leaken

What is your name and how old are you?

Clara Ann Gollihar and I am 8 years old.

What school do you go to and what grade are you in?

I go to El Camino Real Academy and will be in the 3rd grade next year.

What do you love most about New Mexico?

I love the outdoors and outdoor activities, such as hiking, mountain biking, tubing and climbing. I love to climb anything and everything.

What do you love to do with your family?

We love outdoor activities that involve

camping, boating, biking, tubing, swimming, and skiing. Our favorite lake is Lake Powell.

What are your favorite winter activities?

I love the snow and I am an excellent skier. I really want to learn how to snowboard, so that I can be like my mother, who spent 12 years on the US-Snowboard team, competing on the Snowboard World Cup circuit.

I also love karate/kenpo and currently hold an Advanced Blue belt at Jeff Speakman Kenpo 5.0 in Santa Fe. I will be testing next for my Beginner Green belt.

What is something that always makes you smile?

Doing Kenpo! The teacher always says to put on your mean face, but I can't because I smile too much.

What are your favorite holiday traditions?

I enjoy traveling and spending time with my family during the holidays, especially Grandma, Grandpa and Uncle Gary. For Christmas, I am always excited to visit the forest service office in Santa Fe and get Christmas Tree tags. It is our tradition to hike the mountains and find the perfect Christmas Tree.



Photo by Kitty Leaken.

What is your favorite thing about being a green belt in Kenpo?

Passing Off. Passing off is where I can show the instructors what I have learned in order to get my next stripe. After you get all your stripes, then you can test for the next belt.

What is something you're excited to learn or try this year?

I really want to learn how to rock climb and how to snowboard.

What do you like most about Tumbleweeds Magazine?

Tumbleweeds Magazine is awesome because of the pictures and the Things to Do section always has great ideas on things to do.

Tumbleweeds

MAGAZINE

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Contents

04

Notes from Jen

The Gift Of Not Getting What You Want

Education

Unified Foundation Strengthens
Support for SFPS Students, Educators,
and Classrooms

06

08

Educación

Una fundación unificada fortalece el apoyo a
las escuelas públicas de Santa Fe (SFPS)

School

My Neighborhood School

10

12

Kids Activities

Learning Through Summer Programs

14

Community

Helping Kids Learn That “No” Matters

Nature

Youth, Nature, and Biodiversity:
Healing Land and Community

16

18

Sports

More Than a Belt

2026 Family-Friendly
Restaurant Guide

22

26

July/August
Calendar of Events

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Connect with us on social media or write to us at

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Letters, artwork, and articles from our readers on personal and professional experiences with children are welcome. Tumbleweeds Magazine strives to connect families to resources and to each other.

Next Issue: 2026 Fall Issue Deadlines

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING AN ARTICLE?
OR DO YOU HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Jen@TumbleweedsMag.com

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ARTWORK IN THIS ISSUE:

Tumbleweeds Magazine partnered with Art School Santa Fe, Dragonfly Art Studio and JF Mazur Studio to share student artwork created by children and teens. Art School Santa Fe offers courses in numerous genres including illustration, creature design, fantasy art, comic book drawing, animals, landscapes and cartooning. Dragonfly Art Studio is a place where kids and adults develop their creative talent in a fun and stimulating environment. JF Mazur Studio offers children's art workshops and private painting classes. See more artwork on our website, TumbleweedsMag.com

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Ryker, receiving another stripe on his way to earning his yellow belt.

The Gift of **Not** Getting What You Want

JEN PAUL SCHROER

There are few things more painful than watching your child struggle. Or at least, that’s what I thought was happening.

My 8-year-old son, Ryker, attends karate classes here in Santa Fe, and recently we signed him up for a special class. I assumed this would be the day he tested for his next belt. As the class progressed, instructors began calling students forward and presenting them with their new colored belts.

One after another. Until it became painfully obvious that Ryker wasn’t one of them. Almost every child in the room at his level was given a new belt. Only three were not.

I sat there feeling my stomach sink. The parent next to me noticed what was happening and quietly said, “They should at least get something.”

I nodded, even as another voice inside my head challenged me. I have always claimed to believe that participation trophies aren’t helpful. I’ve said that awards should be earned through performance and achievement. I believe that struggle builds character and that resilience comes from overcoming disappointment.

Yet in that moment, my emotions betrayed my principles. I wanted him to get something. Anything.

I silently battled with myself while watching the class continue. Then, near the end, the instructor awarded Ryker a stripe on his belt for participating in the special class.

The relief I felt was immediate.

Followed quickly by guilt.

Wasn’t I the one who believed kids needed to earn recognition? Why was I suddenly grateful for what could easily be dismissed as a participation award?

But underneath all of that was a deeper fear: I knew Ryker had to be disappointed. Or at least, I thought I knew. As the class ended, Ryker bounded over to me with excitement.

“Mom! I’m so close to my next belt!” he said. “I just need to practice two more karate moves.”

He wasn’t devastated. He wasn’t embarrassed. He wasn’t questioning his worth. He was motivated.

He understood exactly what he needed to do to earn the next belt, and he was excited to get back to work. Meanwhile, I had spent the entire class spiraling. It made me realize something uncomfortable: The emotional roller coaster I had put myself through wasn’t about Ryker at all. It was about me. I was projecting my own childhood disappointments onto my son.

When I was in seventh grade, I didn’t make the dance team. I had been on the team for three years. All of my friends made it. I didn’t. I remember the embarrassment. The anger. The overwhelming feeling that life as I knew it was over. Yes, slightly dramatic; I was 13, after all.

I missed an entire year of competitive dance. But something unexpected happened. It lit a fire in me.

I increased the number of dance classes I took each week. I practiced endlessly at home. I stretched, trained and worked harder than I ever had before. I did everything possible to prepare for



Kenpo in the mountains.

the next year’s auditions. And it paid off. In eighth grade, I made the team.

And along the way, one of my dance instructors, Soraya, saw my determination. She saw how hard I was working and poured her support into me. She encouraged me when I doubted myself and reminded me that setbacks didn’t define my potential.

Her belief in me mattered. The grit had to come from within, but her encouragement helped sustain it.

The confidence that came from earning my way back wasn’t rooted in talent.

It was built through effort. Through persistence. Through proving to myself that setbacks weren’t permanent. That drive and grit have continued to shape my life decades later.

Believing that you are capable of improving and achieving your goals through hard work is an incredible gift. As parents, we desperately want to shield our children from pain and disappointment. We remember our own heartbreaks so vividly that we instinctively try to soften every blow.

But maybe our job isn’t to prevent disappointment. Maybe our job is

to help our children move through it. To remind them that not getting something today doesn’t mean they won’t earn it tomorrow. To teach them that setbacks are information, not identity. To show them that disappointment can coexist with determination.

As I reflected on that karate class, I realized the lesson wasn’t that participation awards are always wrong or that recognition should be given without merit. Maybe the answer is that both things can be true. Achievement matters. Earning the belt matters. Making the team matters. Accomplishments built through discipline, effort and perseverance create confidence that cannot be manufactured.

But progress matters, too.

Jen Paul Schroer is a dedicated community leader with a proven track record of driving positive change. As a three-time Senate-confirmed cabinet secretary, trade association CEO, and chamber of commerce executive director, Jen has extensive experience in both the public and private sectors. As a wife and mother of two, Jen is deeply committed to improving the local community and supporting the economic well-being of families as the editor and owner of Tumbleweeds Magazine and other ventures.



Courtesy photo.: JF Mazur Studio

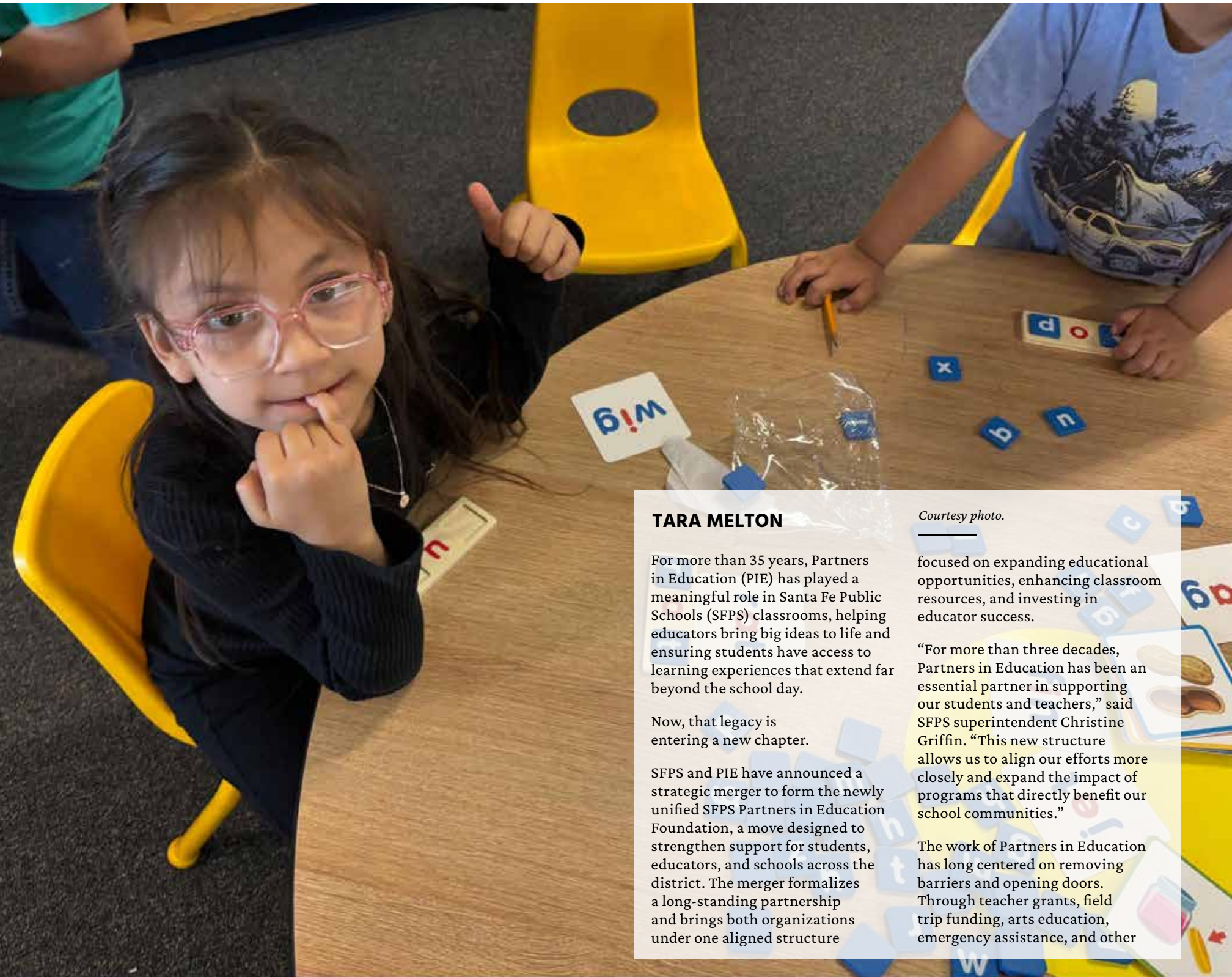
EDUCATION

Unified Foundation Strengthens Support for SFPS Students, Educators, and Classrooms

New SFPS Partners in Education Foundation will expand support for teacher grants, field trips, arts education, emergency assistance, and programs that help students thrive.



Courtesy photo. Zelda Sanchez, Digital Learning Coach at Amy Biehl Community School (ABCS); Nancy Ramirez, ABCS Community Schools Coordinator; and ABCS Principal Jessica Garcia celebrate Ramirez's award during the Teacher Who Inspires Celebration.



TARA MELTON

For more than 35 years, Partners in Education (PIE) has played a meaningful role in Santa Fe Public Schools (SFPS) classrooms, helping educators bring big ideas to life and ensuring students have access to learning experiences that extend far beyond the school day.

Now, that legacy is entering a new chapter.

SFPS and PIE have announced a strategic merger to form the newly unified SFPS Partners in Education Foundation, a move designed to strengthen support for students, educators, and schools across the district. The merger formalizes a long-standing partnership and brings both organizations under one aligned structure

Courtesy photo.

focused on expanding educational opportunities, enhancing classroom resources, and investing in educator success.

“For more than three decades, Partners in Education has been an essential partner in supporting our students and teachers,” said SFPS superintendent Christine Griffin. “This new structure allows us to align our efforts more closely and expand the impact of programs that directly benefit our school communities.”

The work of Partners in Education has long centered on removing barriers and opening doors. Through teacher grants, field trip funding, arts education, emergency assistance, and other

programs, PIE has supported both immediate needs and transformational learning experiences.

Recent investments show the scope of that impact: \$42,365.73 in emergency assistance, 10,809 students served with bus transportation for field trips, and \$33,033.11 awarded in teacher grants. These funds have helped families and staff during times of need, connected students to real-world learning, and empowered teachers to try new approaches that deepen student engagement.

Under the newly unified SFPS Partners in Education Foundation, these efforts will continue and grow through key initiatives, including teacher grants, field trip funding, ArtWorks, teacher opportunity scholarships, emergency funding, and Hands-on Heritage, a free summer enrichment program for students.

At Sweeney Elementary School, teacher Faviola Rosales saw firsthand how a Partners in Education grant could transform classroom learning.

Rosales used a \$1,000 grant to purchase bilingual materials that support hands-on interactive instruction. The resources are now used in classroom centers where students build phonemic awareness, math skills, critical thinking, and confidence through board games, manipulatives, and books in both English and Spanish.

The materials have helped create a more welcoming, inclusive, and culturally responsive learning environment, giving students new ways to explore language, numbers, and problem-solving.

Students quickly noticed the difference. Some shared that the books were easy to read, while others said the activities helped them form words, recognize letter sounds, practice measurement, build number sequences, and sort the alphabet from A to Z. One student was so excited by the new materials that they asked Rosales where she bought them so they could tell their mom.

Moments like these reflect the heart of the SFPS Partners in Education Foundation’s mission: Supporting educators, enriching classrooms, and helping students see themselves as capable, curious, and confident learners.

The foundation’s work also includes celebrating the educators who make a lasting difference in the lives of students.

On May 12, the Partners in Education Foundation honored six SFPS educators through its annual Teachers Who Inspire awards, recognizing their



Courtesy photo. A woman pauses to view and appreciate student artwork on display.

dedication, leadership, and service to students and school communities.

This year’s honorees were Kelly Phillips, a Capital High School teacher; Reid Burgess, Capital High School Medical Pathway lead teacher, mentorship coordinator, and HOSA advisor; Sophia Hegmann, third-grade teacher at Chaparral Elementary; Elizabeth Knowlton, an interventionist at Kearny Elementary; Megan Auer, a 7th and 8th grade teacher at Mandela International Magnet School; and Nancy Ramirez, Community School coordinator at Amy Biehl Community School.

The Teachers Who Inspire awards began in 1992 through the generosity of an anonymous donor who wanted to honor outstanding educators in Santa Fe’s schools. In 1999, another anonymous donor established the Noah C. Rodriguez Award for Excellence in Teaching, considered the premier honor among the awards, and named in memory of longtime SFPS teacher and administrator Noah Rodriguez.

In 2026, Nancy Ramirez was honored as the recipient of the Noah C. Rodriguez Award for Excellence in Teaching.

“Nancy Ramirez is such a gift to Amy Biehl Community School,” said Jessica Garcia, Principal of Amy Biehl Community School. “This award is so well deserved, as Nancy truly inspires all of us every single day through her dedication, kindness, and unwavering support for our students, staff, and families.”

SFPS teachers and educational assistants may be nominated as

a Teacher Who Inspires by peers, students, principals, or community members. Honorees are announced during a special gala dinner and receive plaques and a monetary gift intended to support teacher wellness or personal needs, rather than classroom expenses.

As PIE has grown, so has the award amount. The award increased from \$1,200 in 2013 to \$1,500 in 2018. In 2024, the longtime anonymous donor contributed more than \$500,000 to establish a Teachers Who Inspire Endowment, helping ensure the program continues for years to come. This year, the award amount increased to \$2,500 per recipient.

Another cornerstone of the foundation’s impact is ArtWorks, a program designed to make the arts personally meaningful for children and teachers through art-making, live or virtual performances, exhibits, inquiry, and reflection.

ArtWorks helps students build critical thinking skills, curiosity, and imagination through deep engagement with the arts. Through inquiry, reflection, and collaboration, students strengthen cognitive and interpersonal skills while developing a stronger sense of connection and belonging in their local community.

By working with local arts organizations, museums, and artists, students gain a deeper appreciation for culture, history, and community. Artists and educators guide the experience through carefully developed lines of inquiry that help students make meaning from what they see, hear, create, and discuss.

Each year, teachers and artists are compensated for professional development and training, ensuring the ArtWorks pedagogy continues to be implemented throughout the SFPS educational curriculum.

Every year, ArtWorks brings dance, poetry, visual arts, and music to SFPS K-8 students. During the 2025-26 school year, the program served more than 2,000 SFPS students.

“ArtWorks is about celebrating Santa Fe’s vibrant arts community while creating opportunities for students to see themselves as artists and envision their own creative futures,” said Maria D. Griego, an ArtWorks teaching artist. “The program helps students understand that artists are their neighbors and that a future in the arts is possible for them.”

Griego said the opportunity for students to showcase their artwork locally was a formative experience, one that could influence how they see themselves as artists and how they pursue the arts in the future.

As the SFPS Partners in Education Foundation moves forward, its unified structure represents a continued commitment to partnership, opportunity, and community support. The foundation’s work reflects a shared belief that when schools, educators, and the community work together, students thrive.

“I’m truly looking forward to seeing the Partners in Education Foundation continue to grow and impact the lives of SFPS students and educators alike,” said Sarah Amador-Guzmán, executive director of SFPS Partners in Education Foundation.

Tara Melton is a native northern New Mexican and serves as the public information officer for Santa Fe Public Schools (SFPS). After earning her degree from New Mexico State University, Tara worked as an award-winning journalist in southern New Mexico, covering education and city government. She later returned home to work in nonprofit communications serving northern New Mexico’s children before joining SFPS in 2023.

SFPS serves approximately 10,000 students across Santa Fe, El Dorado, and Tesuque. The district is committed to providing every student with a safe, high-quality, and engaging education that embraces diversity, promotes equity, and advances social justice. Learn more at sfps.info.

EDUCACIÓN

Una fundación unificada fortalece el apoyo a las escuelas públicas de Santa Fe (SFPS)

La fundación Partners in Education de SFPS aumentará apoyo para subsidios a maestros, viajes de aprendizaje, educación artística, ayuda de emergencia y programas para ayudar a los estudiantes a prosperar.



Courtesy photo. Zelda Sanchez, instructora de aprendizaje digital en la escuela Amy Biehl (ABCS, por sus siglas en inglés); Nancy Ramirez, coordinadora de escuelas comunitarias de ABCS; y Jessica Garcia directora de ABCS, festejan el reconocimiento a Ramirez en la celebración para los maestros que inspiran.



TARA MELTON

Por más de 35 años, Partners in Education (PIE, por sus siglas en inglés) ha jugado un papel significativo en las aulas de las escuelas públicas de Santa Fe al asistir a los educadores a hacer realidad grandes ideas y asegurar que los estudiantes tengan acceso a experiencias de aprendizaje que van más allá del día escolar.

Ese legado inicia ahora un nuevo capítulo.

SFPS y PIE han anunciado una fusión estratégica para formar la nueva unificada fundación Partners in Educación de las escuelas públicas de Santa Fe, un paso concebido para fortalecer el apoyo a los estudiantes, educadores y escuelas por todo el distrito. Esta unión formaliza

Courtesy photo.

una larga asociación y ubica a ambas organizaciones bajo una estructura alineada que se enfoca en ampliar oportunidades educativas, servicios para los salones de clases e inversiones en el éxito de los educadores.

“Por más de tres décadas, PIE ha sido socio esencial en apoyar a nuestros estudiantes y maestros”, dijo la superintendente de SFPS, Christine Griffin. “Esta nueva estructura nos permite alinear nuestros esfuerzos más estrechamente y aumentar el impacto de programas que benefician directamente a nuestras comunidades escolares.”

El trabajo de PIE se ha centrado por un largo tiempo en remover barreras y abrir puertas. Por medio

de subsidios a maestros, financiación de viajes de estudio, educación artística, asistencia de emergencia y otros programas, PIE ha apoyado tanto necesidades inmediatas como experiencias de aprendizaje transformadoras.

Inversiones recientes muestran el alcance de ese impacto: \$42.365,73 en asistencia de emergencia, 10.809 estudiantes a quienes se les ha ofrecido transporte por autobús para viajes de aprendizaje y \$33.033,11 otorgados en subsidios a maestros. Estos fondos han ayudado a familias y personal en tiempos de necesidad, han conectado a estudiantes con el aprendizaje sobre el mundo real y han permitido que los maestros traten nuevos enfoques que profundizan la participación del estudiante.

Bajo la nueva unificada fundación PIE de SFPS, estos esfuerzos continuarán y crecerán por medio de iniciativas clave que incluyen subsidios a maestros, fondos para viajes de aprendizaje, obras de arte, becas para maestros, fondos de emergencia y Hands-on Heritage, un programa práctico de enriquecimiento para estudiantes, gratuito, en el verano.

En la escuela primaria Sweeney, la maestra Faviola Rosales vio claramente cómo una beca de PIE pudo transformar el aprendizaje en el salón de clases. Rosales usó un subsidio de \$1.000 para comprar materiales bilingües que apoyan la instrucción interactiva práctica. Estos materiales se usan ahora en salones de clases donde los estudiantes desarrollan conciencia fonémica, habilidades matemáticas, pensamiento crítico y confianza por medio de juegos de mesa, objetos didácticos y libros en inglés y español.

Los materiales han ayudado a crear un ambiente de aprendizaje más acogedor, incluyente, que responde a las diferencias culturales y ofrece a los estudiantes nuevas formas para explorar el lenguaje, los números y la solución de problemas.

Los estudiantes notaron la diferencia rápidamente. Algunos dijeron que los libros eran fáciles de leer y otros que las actividades les ayudaron a formar palabras, reconocer el sonido de las letras, practicar medidas, armar secuencias de números y ordenar el alfabeto de la A a la Z. Un estudiante estaba tan entusiasmado con los materiales que le preguntó a Rosales dónde los había comprado para poder decirle a su mamá.

Momentos como estos reflejan la esencia de la misión de la fundación PIE de SFPS: apoyo a los educadores, enriquecimiento de los salones de clase, ayuda a los estudiantes a verse capaces, curiosos y seguros de sí mismos.



Courtesy photo. Una mujer se detiene a apreciar las obras de arte de los estudiantes en la muestra.

El trabajo de la fundación también incluye celebrar a los educadores que hacen una diferencia perdurable en la vida de los estudiantes.

El 12 de mayo, la fundación PIE honró a seis educadores de SFPS por medio de los premios anuales a los Maestros que inspiran, reconociéndoles por su dedicación, liderazgo y servicio a los estudiantes y comunidades escolares.

Este año los galardonados fueron Kelly Phillips, maestra de Capital High School; Reid Burgess, maestro líder del programa Medical Pathway, coordinador de tutorías y asesor de HOSA (programa de clases en ocupaciones en el campo médico) de Capital High School; Sophia Hegmann, maestra de tercer grado en la primaria Chaparral; Elizabeth Knowlton, intervencionista en la primaria Kearny; Megan Auer, maestra de los grados 7 y 8 en la escuela internacional Mandela; y Nancy Ramirez, coordinadora de la comunidad escolar en la escuela comunitaria Amy Biehl.

Los premios a los Maestros que inspiran empezaron en 1992 gracias a la generosidad de un donante anónimo que quiso honrar a los educadores sobresalientes en las escuelas de Santa Fe. En 1999, otro donante anónimo estableció el premio excelencia en educar Noah C, Rodríguez, considerado como el mayor honor entre los premios y nombrado en memoria de Noah Rodríguez, maestro y administrador de SFPS por muchos años. En el 2026, Nancy Ramirez recibió el premio Noah C. Rodriguez por excelencia en enseñar.

“Nancy Ramirez es un regalo para la escuela comunitaria Amy Biehl”, dijo Jessica Garcia, directora del establecimiento. “Este premio es tan merecido, pues Nancy verdaderamente nos inspira a todos cada día con su dedicación, bondad e inquebrantable apoyo para nuestros estudiantes, personal y familias.”

Compañeros, estudiantes, directores y miembros de la comunidad pueden nominar a maestros y asistentes educativos de SFPS como Maestro que inspira. A los elegidos se les anuncia durante una cena de gala especial y reciben placas y un aporte monetario para apoyar su bienestar o necesidades personales y no gastos relacionados con el salón de clases.

Conforme PIE ha crecido, así también la cantidad del premio. Aumentó de \$1.200 en el 2013 a \$1.500 en el 2018. En el 2024, el donante anónimo contribuyó más de \$500.000 para establecer una Dotación para maestros que inspiran, y así asegurar que el programa continúe en el futuro. Este año, el premio subió a \$2.500 por ganador. Otra base del impacto de la fundación es ArtWorks, un programa diseñado para hacer que las artes sean personalmente significativas para los niños y maestros por medio de la creación de arte, representaciones en vivo o virtuales, exposiciones, investigación y reflexión.

ArtWorks estimula a los estudiantes a formar habilidades de pensamiento crítico, curiosidad e imaginación a través de una dedicación a las artes a fondo. Por medio de la investigación, reflexión y colaboración los estudiantes fortalecen habilidades interpersonales y cognitivas mientras desarrollan un mayor sentido de conexión y pertenencia en su comunidad local.

Al trabajar con organizaciones de arte, museos y artistas locales, los estudiantes adquieren un aprecio más profundo por la cultura, historia y comunidad. Los artistas y educadores orientan la experiencia por medio de líneas de investigación cuidadosamente desarrolladas para ayudar a los estudiantes a entender lo que ven, oyen, crean y discuten.

Anualmente, maestros y artistas reciben compensación para el desarrollo profesional y capacitación,

lo que asegura que la pedagogía de ArtWorks siga a implementarse en todo el programa de estudios educativos de SFPS.

Igualmente, cada año, ArtWorks lleva danza, poesía, artes visuales y música a los estudiantes de kinder a octavo grados de SFPS. En el año escolar 2025-26, el programa sirvió a más de 2,000 estudiantes.

“ArtWorks es para celebrar a la pujante comunidad artística de Santa Fe al mismo tiempo que crea oportunidades para que los estudiantes se vean como artistas ellos mismos y puedan imaginar su propio futuro creativo”, dijo Maria D. Griego, una artista instructora de ArtWorks. “El programa ayuda a los estudiantes a entender que los artists son sus vecinos y que un futuro en las artes es posible para ellos.”

Griego agregó que la oportunidad para que los estudiantes exhiban sus obras localmente es una experiencia formativa, que podría influir en la forma en que ellos mismos se ven como artistas y siguen ese camino en el futuro.

Mientras la fundación PIE de SFPS sigue adelante, su estructura unificada representa un continuo compromiso a la colaboración, oportunidad y apoyo comunitario. El trabajo de la fundación refleja la creencia compartida de que cuando las escuelas, los educadores y la comunidad trabajan en conjunto, los estudiantes progresan.

“Verdaderamente espero que la fundación PIE siga a crecer e influir en la vida de los estudiantes y educadores de SFPS por igual”, dijo Sarah Amador-Guzmán, directora ejecutiva de la fundación.

Tara Melton, nuevomexicana, es oficial de información pública de SFPS. Después de graduarse de la Universidad estatal de Nuevo México, trabajó como periodista en el sur del estado, sobre temas de educación y gobierno municipal. Luego trabajó en el área de comunicaciones de entidades no lucrativas al servicio de los niños de Nuevo México antes de unirse a SFPS en el 2023.

Hay unos 10.000 estudiantes en las escuelas públicas Santa Fe, El Dorado y Tesuque. El distrito está comprometido a darle a cada estudiante una educación segura y de alta calidad que acepta la diversidad, promueve la igualdad y fomenta la justicia social. Obtenga más información en: sfps.info.

My Neighborhood School



Courtesy photo: Kindergarteners and 1st graders read with community reading buddies while parents/guardians share strategies for encouraging their young readers.

ERICA MARTINEZ-MAESTAS

Where Friendships Begin, Families Connect, and Communities Grow

There is something special about childhood friendships, both those in our neighborhoods and our schools. But when they cross from our neighborhood into the school down the street, those relationships often last a lifetime. As a child, most of the kids in my neighborhood attended Piñon. Each morning, we gathered on the sidewalk with backpacks slung over our shoulders, making our way to school together. Not only did we walk to and from school as a group, but our neighborhood friendships extended into our classrooms, sports teams, and special activities like Girl Scouts. The same friends who sat next to me at lunch were the same ones who knocked on my door after dinner asking if I could come outside and play. We enjoyed bike riding and roller skating, sleep overs and family barbecues. Those friendships became more than memories. They became lifelong connections and relationships.

Take a look over your back wall, across your street, or on your drive to work. There is likely a sweet school that embraces kids, has high expectations, and works tirelessly to meet the needs of every student. For me, that was Piñon. Maybe for you it's a school like Chaparral. It might look a little old, with faded brick walls that have watched generations of students grow up. There might be a long pick-up line winding through the parking lot each afternoon. You might see walking paths that lead right to the front door or a beautiful playground where laughter echoes across the neighborhood.

After school, a group of grandparents may gather near the gate, chatting and waiting for their grandchildren. A couple of dads might share bike riding and hiking stories during morning drop-off. Kids who sat next to each other in class ride their bikes together down the block once homework is done. Informal playdates, family



Courtesy photo: Students learn about a variety of career pathways at a recent career fair.

walks after dinner and impromptu games of tag in the yard become part of everyday life. There is something special about sitting in the lunchroom and realizing the student across the table is also your neighbor. During recess you yell across the playground, “Hey! Let’s play after school!” For parents, these moments often become a built-in support system that makes daily life a little easier.

Without hesitation, I can confirm that there are incredible teachers across our city and in every classroom. There are passionate, well-trained educators at every school who arrive early, stay late and dedicate their energy to helping students succeed. At Chaparral, I typically arrive by 7:15 a.m., and on any given day several teachers have already beaten me to work. Their classroom lights glow early in the morning as they prepare lessons, organize materials and think about how to best reach each student.

Twenty-five years ago, when I began my career as a new teacher, my heart was committed to student growth and learning. I spent hours planning lessons, celebrating small victories with students and constantly asking myself how I could do better the next day. Fast forward to today, and my experience has shown me something powerful: nearly every teacher shares that same commitment. In every school I have served, teachers set their sights on creating the best learning environment possible so students can become confident readers, writers and mathematicians.

As an elementary school principal in the heart of Santa Fe, I often think about those connections between neighborhood and school, between families and between kids. It seems common for many midtown families to completely overlook their neighborhood school. Without stepping foot into the closest school, many request a transfer to a different school. Perhaps due to work or childcare situations or pressure from family and friends, this becomes a glaring missed opportunity. A missed opportunity to pour into the school down the street, a missed opportunity to bridge families, friends and neighborhoods and ultimately a missed opportunity to truly build community. Take for example, a parent trying to juggle multiple morning drop offs. We used to call on our neighbors for help. It was a quick, safe, built in support system. It’s cliché to say that it takes a village, but it really does take a village, and you and I are part of that village. Together, we can ensure that every child, every school and every neighborhood thrives. We can pour into friendships, relationships and school communities.

Santa Fe is a community rooted in strong family ties and connections. Schools have always been the center of our neighborhoods. Our annual and beloved pet parade exemplifies this. Alumni of elementary schools cheer loudly for their former school. Parents and grandparents instantly go back to being a Chaparral Firebird or a Kearny Raider. With a smile that says, ‘that’s my school’, your heart instantly grows a bit and the nostalgia hits. You become a third grader swinging on the playground with your friends or shooting hoops with your neighbors. It’s that connection that has the opportunity to build a great community. For Chaparral, we recognize that organic relationships take time and need fertile ground. We also recognize that getting to know neighbors takes time, but it can be done. Through family events such as our annual community clean up, Scholar Saturday or our quarterly family lunches; and the engagement of community partners, a community within a community is fostered. A strong surrounding neighborhood has the potential to truly support a strong neighborhood school.

Santa Fe has many fantastic school options, and parents are every child’s biggest advocate. Choosing a school is an important decision, and families naturally want the best for their children. But sometimes the best opportunity might already be right around the corner.

Your neighborhood school is more than just a building where students learn reading and math. It is a place where friendships form, where families connect and where a sense of community grows stronger each year. It may not be perfect — no school is — but it holds the potential to become something truly meaningful when families invest their time, trust and energy into it. You just might be the missing piece, completing the perfect school puzzle.

Take a step through the front door of your neighborhood school. Introduce yourself. Ask for a tour. Meet the teachers and see the classrooms where learning happens every day. You may just discover that the school down the street is exactly the place where your child will thrive. And before you know it, you might find yourself walking in next year’s pet parade beside your neighbor, cheering alongside families who have become lifelong friends.

Erica Martinez-Maestas has served in public education for 25 years. She is currently the proud principal of Chaparral Elementary. Born and raised in Santa Fe, she attended Piñon, De Vargas, and Santa Fe High School.



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DARYA GLASS

Learning through sunny-season programs

It started as a need for summer childcare in a household of two working parents, a scramble for programs my daughter would enjoy (important), and ones that we could afford (even more important).

School had been a grind that year. As educators and parents, we spend much of the academic year focused on achievement and academic growth, maximizing what can be taught and learned in the limited time we have. To this end, students spend enormous amounts of energy each year meeting benchmarks and expectations, and by May, we all feel burnt out and ready for something different. Having grown up attending summer camps of all kinds, I knew that camps offer the chance for children to experience freedom,



creativity, and friendship, but also the opportunity to rediscover learning as something joyful. It creates space for children to become curious again.

And, it creates a space for teachers (me) to get re-inspired by teaching things

I love doing in the sun, without time contrasts or content standards.

As my daughter began to explore different camps that summer, I was reminded of how immersive and powerful camp can be. A day at

(Above) Courtesy photo: Field trip adventures allow campers to appreciate parts of their own city and wilderness areas.

(Left) Courtesy photo: Campers use pipettes to pick up and study macroinvertebrates from Santa Fe River water.

camp can feel like squeezing a week of adventure into a jar; like time is somehow compressed. I was also reminded of how much learning can take place when a group of kids become fully absorbed in an activity—not because they are trying to earn a grade or impress someone, but because they are genuinely engaged. Those moments matter because they reconnect children with intrinsic motivation. They remind children that their ideas, perspectives, and creativity have value independent of external validation.

At camp, this kind of learning may happen during an art project, while

experimenting with new creative skills, or while navigating a group challenge together. It may happen on a hiking trail, beside a lake, during a spontaneous conversation at lunch, or while figuring out how to solve a problem as a team.

Creativity flourishes in this kind of environment as well. In daily life, children are often overscheduled and overstimulated. Camp introduces a different daily rhythm—one that allows for imagination, experimentation, and presence.

Sometimes creativity emerges through traditional activities like music, theater, visual arts, or storytelling. Other times it appears in less obvious ways: inventing games with friends, solving challenges collaboratively, or simply learning how to entertain oneself without constant digital input or adult interference.

Nature also plays a powerful role in the summer camp experience. There is something profoundly settling about climbing rocks, walking trails, sitting beneath trees, or simply being away from screens long enough to notice the world again. Children often become more present outdoors: More imaginative, more connected to themselves and to one another. Being outside, exploring new places, and experiencing the world physically, rather than digitally, is a kind of grounding that many children deeply need. Even a simple change of environment can shift a child's nervous system, their world view.

And then there are the friendships. Ask me about my memories of summer camp, and I won't begin by describing the schedule. I'll talk about the people I met, our silly conversations, the adventures we shared, the connection I felt to my counselors, and most powerful of all, my feeling of belonging.

Camp friendships often develop differently from friendships formed during the school year because of that compression of time. Children spend entire days together navigating experiences, solving problems, laughing, collaborating, and creating memories. They learn communication because they are immersed in community all day long. There is less emphasis on status and more emphasis on connection. These friendships may be ephemeral, but the memories of them live on.

In addition to experiencing all this learning and connection myself over many summers, and watching my own daughter explore local camps, I now witness it as a Program Director at my own camp, Girls Explore! At our summer camp, we bring in experts who are delighted to share their joy in

areas such as nature journaling, New Mexico history, hydrology, memoir writing, cooking, geology, gardening, and on and on! In sparkling bursts of instruction, instructors easily make lessons fun and engaging. After all, during the summer months teachers get to share what delights them; they get to focus on campers' excitement and inspiration, not whether they are reaching mastery. During summer camp, the variety, self-expression and interesting choices each camper brings are welcome and wonderful. And when being led by inspired teachers, children develop an optimistic and expansive view of the life they want to lead. They can imagine a life with from-scratch meals and gardening and painting: a quality of life that feels so different from a school year grind.

Girls Explore! summer camp is especially rewarding for me because all our camp counselors are graduates of our school (Santa Fe Girls' School) and I know that working at a camp provides young adults with job skills and a path for exploring their own identities and values. Witnessing these young people return to us with their wisdom and their energy is a chance for me to reflect on what I, as their teacher, offered them during their middle school years, which they now offer to the younger generation. As an added bonus, I know that the relationships the campers forge with these counselors will be some of the most significant ones they form this summer!

Choosing a summer camp can be tricky and may come with questions or concerns. Families want to know their children will be safe, included, supported, and genuinely cared for. They want to know the experience will be meaningful, not simply busy.

The best camps prioritize not only physical safety, which matters a great deal, but emotional safety too. Children thrive when they feel welcomed, respected, encouraged, and known. They flourish when adults create environments where mistakes are allowed, individuality is celebrated, and kindness is actively modeled.

When choosing a camp, parents are not simply choosing childcare, they are choosing a community. When a camp environment is aligned with the values a parent hopes to cultivate—confidence, curiosity, leadership, empathy, resilience, and joy—it can truly be a summer of significance.

Darya Glass is a co-director, teacher, and summer camp instructor at the Santa Fe Girls' School and a mother of two. She grew up loving adventure- and farm-based summer camps.



Courtesy photo: Hands-on science at summer camp engages through open-ended exploration.

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ALENA SCHAIM

A simple word that means everything

Keeping kids safe is one of our deepest instincts as adults. And some of our most powerful opportunities to support that safety show up in small, everyday moments—often without realizing it.

It happens when we are trying to get out the door in the morning and our child refuses to wear a coat. When they resist taking medicine. When they have a big reaction to noise at a family gathering. We are not usually thinking about safety. We are thinking about timelines, our child's health, social expectations, and whether we are handling the situation the "right" way. And yet it is often in those ordinary and sometimes frustrating exchanges, that something much bigger is being learned.

We tend to picture safety in terms of the big, visible risks—the kinds of situations that feel clear and easy to recognize. But much of the foundational ways to increase safety in life develops in more mundane ways. It develops through everyday experiences that teach children whether they can trust their own internal signals and whether those signals matter.

Most parents are trying to navigate a complicated balance. We want children who can advocate for themselves and speak up when something doesn't feel right. At the same time, we do not want to raise children who refuse every request, struggle with flexibility, or cannot move through everyday expectations. Worries about social repercussions for our kids and us as parents can sometimes drive us to focus on how our children are expressing boundaries rather than what their expressions are communicating.

One challenge is that before children can learn how to express boundaries effectively, they first have to learn that their internal experience matters. Their discomfort matters. Their hesitation matters. Their preferences matter. Their "no," in whatever form it appears, is something worth paying attention to.

Children communicate boundaries long before they can say the word "no." Turning away. Going still. Reaching toward or away from something. Crying. Freezing. Escalating. Even children who communicate well with words often continue to use behavior to communicate discomfort,

HELPING KIDS LEARN THAT NO MATTERS



Adobe Stock Photo.

especially when they are overwhelmed. They may pull away from touch, leave a room, cover their ears, shut down, or melt down. These responses are not separate from communication. They *are* communication.

When adults respond to these signals with curiosity instead of override, the child learns that their internal experience is readable. That it affects what happens next. That it matters to someone else.

When a child communicates a boundary—whether verbally or through behavior—we aren’t just responding to the content of what they are saying. We are also teaching them what happens when they express it.

If my child moves away when I go to touch their cheek, I have a few options. I could chalk it up to being overtired and move on, or I could simply note it and not do it again. Or, if I want to reinforce that their boundaries matter to me however they are communicated, I could say aloud, “Oh, it seems like you don’t like it when I touch your cheek.” Depending on development, they can clarify if that’s true or not, and either way, I can appreciate the information and say I’ll work to change it in the future—which may take practice if it’s new.

In moments like this, I am showing my child that their signal was received, that it changed my behavior, and that they did not need to escalate to be heard. Over time, this supports a child’s ability to express discomfort earlier and more clearly rather than through shutdown or escalation. It teaches: I can signal something small, and it will matter.

There are also moments when a child’s “no” cannot be the final answer. Times when something is necessary for their health or safety—taking medicine, getting into a car seat, bathing, etc.

In those moments, a child’s resistance is still meaningful communication. It tells us something about what they’re experiencing: Fear, discomfort, sensory overload, uncertainty, or overwhelm. We can hold the limit and still respond to the message:

“I see you don’t want to take your medicine. We do need to do this. Would you like to take it sitting up or lying down? With a cup or a syringe?”

The outcome is not optional, but the child is still given voice within it.

We can continue to name what we see:

“I hear you. This is hard.”

“I know you don’t want this.”

“You’re letting me know—you really don’t like it.”

We can acknowledge the reality of their experience and problem-solve for how to lessen the load together. This combination matters more than

it may seem. It tells a child that their communication matters because it helps shape how we approach the situation, even when the larger goal still needs to be met.

Over time, this builds something foundational. A child learns: My signals are noticed. My experience is real. I can stay connected to myself—and others—even when something is difficult or cannot be changed.

This creates the foundation for strong and confident boundary-setting as they grow up.

Children do not learn strong boundaries by being corrected into perfect expression. They learn them by experiencing that their needs are taken seriously, even when those needs are messy, inconsistent, or imperfectly expressed. When children trust that we will listen, they are less likely to rely on getting bigger, louder, or more shut down in order to communicate.

This perspective also asks something of us as adults. There are moments when a child’s “no” feels inconvenient or hurtful. There are moments when we ourselves are worried, rushed, embarrassed, or overwhelmed. We may find it tempting to focus on stopping the behavior rather than understanding the message underneath it.

But when we can stay connected to the communication beneath the expression, something important happens. We become better able to respond before a child needs to escalate. We begin to treat imperfect communication as meaningful communication. And paradoxically, children often become more capable of expressing themselves calmly and clearly over time—because they learn that smaller signals are enough.

A child whose “no” is acknowledged—not always agreed with, but consistently taken seriously—is learning to notice and take their own signals seriously.



Courtesy photo: Art School Santa Fe

That skill does not stay contained to childhood. It shows up in friendships, peer pressure, and dating. It shows up in moments when something feels off but is difficult to explain. It shows up in whether a child speaks up or overrides their own instincts.

We often think about safety as something we build through supervision, rules, or warnings about risks. Those things matter. But some of the most important safety work happens in the space between a child’s signals and an adult’s response.

Not because every “no” should determine the outcome. But because

every “no”—spoken or unspoken—is information. And children are always learning whether that information matters. What we are building in those moments is something that extends far beyond childhood: A child’s ability to trust themselves. Because children are always learning whether their internal signals are worth listening to. And one day, when no trusted adult is standing beside them, that lesson may matter more than we can possibly know.

Alena Schaim, Executive Director, Resolve



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Youth, Nature, and Biodiversity

JAVIER VIGIL

Healing land and community

In the mountains and valleys of Northern New Mexico, the relationship between people and the land has always been deeply connected. Our forests, rivers, and acequia systems are not just landscapes, they are living systems that sustain biodiversity, culture, and community. Today, one of the most important opportunities we have is reconnecting young people with these natural systems.

When children spend time in nature, something remarkable happens. They begin to notice the small details many adults overlook: The insects moving through the grass, the birds nesting along riverbanks, the wildflowers blooming along the acequia banks in spring. These observations are not just moments of curiosity—they are the beginning of ecological awareness.

Biodiversity refers to the variety of life in an ecosystem: plants, animals, insects, fungi, and microorganisms all working together to create balance. Healthy biodiversity strengthens ecosystems, making them more resilient to drought, disease, and



(Above) Courtesy photo: The author showing Billy and Gabby all the silt and organic matter that they are cleaning from the acequia.

Javier Vigil is president of Northern New Mexico Recreation & Outdoor Conservation Foundation.

Backyard Biodiversity articles are brought to you in partnership with local conservationists, farmers, scientists, and biologists, thanks to Chama Peak Land Alliance. The articles highlight the unique and special nature of our area, in the hope that each of us can and will improve our backyards and communities by ensuring biodiversity.



(Left) Courtesy photo: Young rancher irrigating pasture in Northern New Mexico (Keelin Faulkner)

environmental change. But biodiversity is not protected by science alone—it is protected by people who care about the land.

This is where youth play a vital role.

When young people are given the chance to plant native species, restore riverbanks, maintain acequias, or participate in watershed stewardship, they begin to see themselves as caretakers rather than observers. They understand that their actions—no matter how small—contribute to the health of the ecosystem around them.

In Northern New Mexico, these connections are also deeply cultural. For generations, families have worked the land, tended water systems and passed down knowledge about the seasons, soil, and wildlife. When youth reconnect with these traditions, they are not only learning about biodiversity, they are rediscovering a sense of belonging.

Scientific research increasingly confirms what many communities have long understood: Spending time in nature has powerful effects on human well-being. Exposure to natural environments reduces stress, improves mental health, and strengthens emotional resilience. For young people especially, nature provides a sense of calm and grounding that is difficult to find in today’s fast-paced, technology-driven world.

In many ways, biodiversity heals people just as much as people help protect biodiversity.

When a child spends time along a river, they learn that clean water matters. When they see pollinators moving



Courtesy photo: JF Mazur Studio

through flowers, they understand the importance of protecting habitat. When they help plant trees or remove

trash from a watershed, they feel the satisfaction of contributing to something larger than themselves.

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MORE THAN A BELT

TUMBLEWEEDS MAGAZINE STAFF WRITER

How martial arts helped Clara build confidence, friendship, and leadership

Like many working parents, John and Stacia Gollihar were looking for a safe, structured place for their daughter Clara to spend her afternoons after school. What they didn't expect was to discover an activity that would become one of her greatest passions.

Today, eight-year-old Clara Ann Gollihar proudly wears a green belt at Jeff Speakman's Kenpo 5.0 in Santa Fe. Along the way, she has gained far

more than martial arts skills. She has developed confidence, leadership abilities, and friendships that extend far beyond the training floor.

John and Stacia first discovered Kenpo 5.0 through its after-school program. Like many families, they needed a solution that would fit their busy work schedules while providing Clara with a positive environment after the school day ended. The program transports students from school to the training

facility, provides homework support, and then transitions into martial arts instruction. "We both work," John explains. "We needed a safe environment after school for our girls to do something productive, but we found more than just a program."

For John, there was another reason the opportunity felt special. "I wanted to give my kids something I didn't have the chance to do when I was growing up," he says. "We're a physically active family, and I thought it would help give her confidence in trying new sports and activities."

Courtesy phot: Clara in Kenpo in the moutnains.

At first, Clara was simply looking for something new. Before martial arts, she had participated in ballet. When her parents suggested trying karate, she was willing to give it a chance. "My parents wanted me to try karate," Clara says. "It looked fun, so I tried it and now I think it's a lot of fun." What started as an after-school activity quickly became something she genuinely loved.

One of Clara's favorite parts of training is preparing for belt tests. Students spend weeks learning new techniques, practicing forms, and demonstrating

their skills before advancing to the next level. “I like learning new things I need to learn for my next belt,” she says. “I like testing. We get about a month to prepare, and then I get a chance to show the teachers what we’ve learned.” That preparation teaches an important lesson for children: Success doesn’t happen overnight. Progress comes through practice, patience, and perseverance.

Like many students, Clara experiences nervous moments along the way. She remembers feeling especially anxious before her most recent belt test. “I was nervous getting my new green belt,” she says. The test took place during one of the most memorable events on the Kenpo calendar: Kenpo in the Mountains. Held each summer in the New Mexico wilderness, the three-day camping event combines martial arts training, outdoor adventure, and the organization’s largest belt testing opportunity of the year. Students from various levels gather to train, test, and build friendships in a setting far different from a traditional dojo. Participants spend time outdoors, meet new friends, and strengthen their connections within the martial arts community. For Clara, the experience was unforgettable.

Despite her nerves, she successfully completed the test and earned her green belt in early June. Now she has her sights set on an even bigger challenge: earning her Third Degree Brown Belt. The journey will require patience, dedication, and continued growth, as reaching that level may take a year or longer of consistent training.

Fortunately, Clara enjoys the process. When asked what she likes most about karate, she immediately talks about learning. The challenge of mastering new skills motivates her, and she enjoys working toward each new milestone. The instructors have also played an important role in her experience. “The instructors are really nice,” Clara says. “They teach you in a nice way, and they really like me.”

That supportive environment has helped her develop confidence both on and off the training floor. After class, Clara says she often feels excited about what she’s learned and motivated to continue improving. “I feel excited to learn and confident about getting the next belt,” she says.

Her parents have noticed those changes as well. “She’s more confident and outgoing,” John says. “Friends are always surrounding her. She makes friends easily.” One friendship in particular stands out. Through martial arts, Clara connected with another student from California. Despite the distance, the two have remained friends through their shared interest in Kenpo. “It’s amazing to see the connections she’s made,” John says.

“They bonded through a shared skill and a friendship that seems like it will last a long time.”

Perhaps even more rewarding for John and Stacia is watching Clara begin to take on leadership roles within the program. As she progressed through the ranks, one of her biggest goals was earning her green belt so she could stand at the front of her Level 3 class and demonstrate techniques for younger students to follow.

According to Stacia, that opportunity meant a great deal to Clara. “Clara was really excited to earn her beginning green belt so that she could stand at the front of her Level 3 class and demonstrate techniques to the kids behind her,” Stacia says. “She feels a lot of responsibility. She says she needs to demonstrate perfection now that she is there.”

While Clara still enjoys the spotlight, Stacia says the experience has helped her understand an important lesson about leadership. “She is still excited to do it, but now she also sees that the leadership role has a lot of responsibility.”

For John and Stacia, moments like these reveal how much Clara has grown since joining the program. What began as an after-school activity has become an opportunity to develop skills that extend well beyond martial arts. By helping younger students, Clara is learning that leadership isn’t just about being first; it’s about setting a positive example for others. Clara recognizes some of those benefits herself. “It helps me defend myself if I’m ever in trouble,” she says. “It also helps me become better at sports I’ve done in the past.”

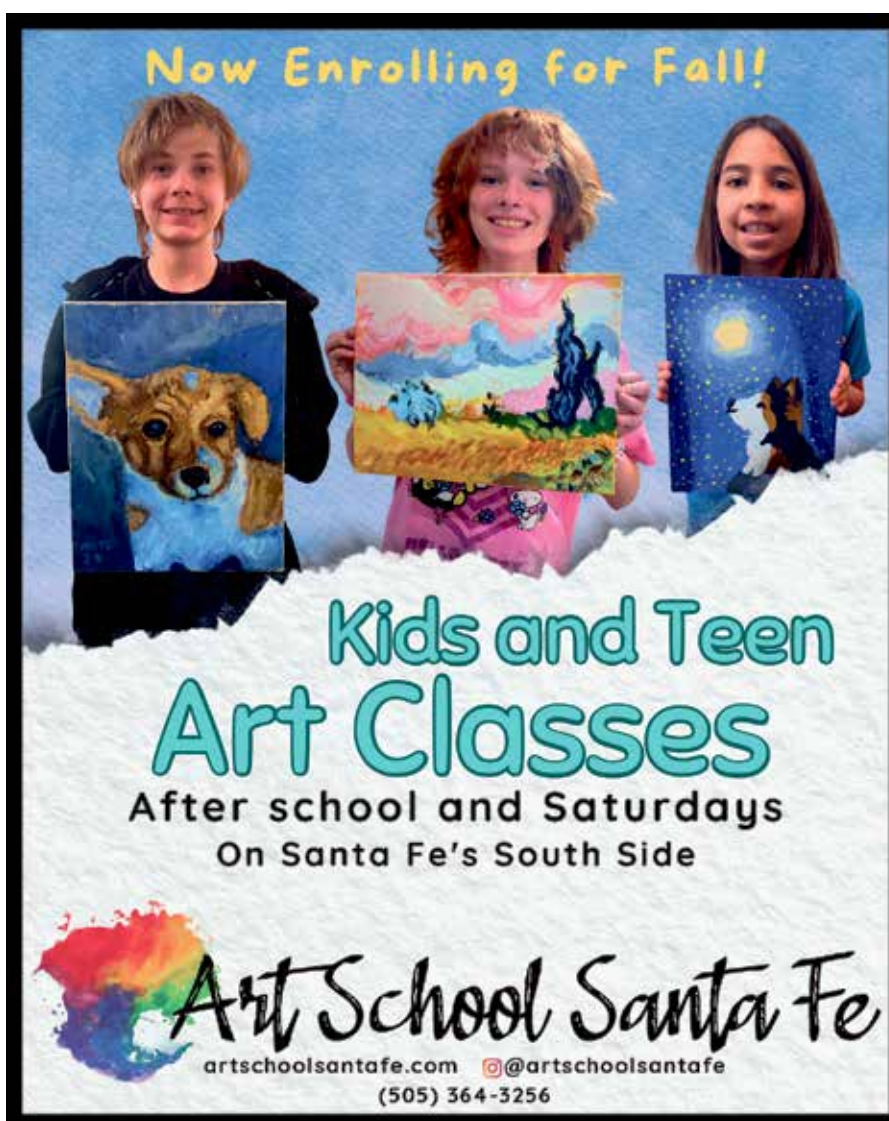
As families prepare for another school year, many parents are searching for activities that help children build confidence and resilience while having fun. For the Gollihar family, martial arts has done exactly that. What began as a practical after-school solution became an opportunity for growth, friendship, and personal achievement. And while earning belts remains exciting, the lessons Clara is learning along the way may prove even more valuable.

When asked what she would tell a friend who is nervous about trying karate, her answer is simple and encouraging. “The teachers are nice, and they help you learn the stuff for your first belt,” she says. “At the first level you don’t have to fight people.”

It’s the kind of advice that reflects the confidence she has gained throughout her journey. With a new school year ahead and her sights set on earning her Third Degree Brown Belt, Clara is already looking toward her next challenge. If her journey so far is any indication, she’s ready for it.



Courtesy photo.





Courtesy photo: Art School Santa Fe.



Courtesy photo: Dragonfly Art Studio



Courtesy photo: JF Mazur Studio.



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info@climbsantafe.com | climbsantafe.com

DEVELOPMENT SOCCER LEAGUE

Our development program is the foundation for all activities conducted by the Northern Soccer Club. The program emphasizes fun and learning in an environment where boys and girls can practice the teamwork and skills necessary for playing soccer. Our goals are to improve and maintain physical fitness, to promote emotional health and growth, and to foster the spirit of doing one's best for oneself and the team. Included in this eight-week program: Soccer balls and all equipment for practices and games, volunteer coaches, coach education and practice curriculum, one practice a week, one weekly game on Saturday.

205 Caja Del Rio Rd, Santa Fe, NM 87505 | 505-982-0878

info@northernsoccerclub.com | northernsoccerclub.com

SKATEBOARD LESSONS

After-school and home school programs are now underway. Sessions and lessons for all abilities, ages 3 and up. Use our school boards and gear to get started, we also have a complete shop to help students properly gear up. Curriculum includes skateboard homework and exploring the history of skateboarding.

1219 Camino Carlos Rey, Santa Fe NM, 87507 | 505-920-5448

skateschoolsantafe@gmail.com | skateboardsafety.com

DANCE, MUSIC & VISUAL ARTS

AFTER-SCHOOL ART AT DRAGONFLY ART STUDIO

Every two weeks, the group will study basic art concepts and techniques and learn about various artists throughout history, and then the students create their own art using the same techniques as the artist that we are studying. Students in our after-school classes are exposed to a wide variety mediums such as: printmaking, sewing, carving, textiles, sculpture, drawing, weaving, figure drawing, folk art, photography, painting, book making, pastels/charcoal, clay, and papermaking.

1513 3rd Street, Santa Fe NM, 87505 | 505-670-5019

dragonflyartsf@gmail.com | dragonflyartsf.com

NO SCHOOL DAYS AT DRAGONFLY ART STUDIO

SCHOOL'S OUT SO ART DAY IS IN "No School" Art Days: On the days that your child has a day off of school for conferences or holidays, Dragonfly Art Studio offers an open studio where your child can spend the full day (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) exploring different mediums and creating various art projects.

1513 3rd Street, Santa Fe NM, 87505 | 505-670-5019

dragonflyartsf@gmail.com | dragonflyartsf.com

ART AFTER SCHOOL AT JF MAZUR STUDIO

We offer fine art classes designed for creative kids ages 3 and up. Our students will enjoy engaging projects that incorporate art history and appreciation, all while working with quality art materials. For teens interested in more focused studies, we provide foundational instruction in oil painting and portrait drawing. Our enthusiastic teachers lead small classes in a light and inspiring working artist's studio. Join us for a high-quality learning experience filled with enriching and fun activities!

1807 2nd Street #58, Santa Fe NM, 87505 | 240-321-9212

jillian@jfmazurstudio.com | jfmazurstudio.com



Courtesy photo: Art School Santa Fe

It's Time to Jam!

Fall Session Begins September 14

Guitar · Ukulele · Singing · Percussion · Songwriting · Production



queenbeemusicassociation.org

ART SCHOOL SANTA FE

Art School Santa Fe offers after-school art classes for ages 6+, including regular art classes, open studio, teen classes, and master classes by portfolio review. Fall classes meet Tuesday through Friday, with bi-weekly Saturday options available. Classes support creative confidence and foundational art skills through drawing, painting, sketching, perspective, comics, manga, and more.

3600 Cerrillos Rd unit 717, Santa Fe NM 87507 | (505) 364-3256

Ronny@artschoolsantafe.com | artschoolsantafe.com

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET SCHOOL

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet School offers dance training for young students in a professional and encouraging studio environment. Classes help children build strong technique, musicality, discipline, coordination, and confidence while developing an appreciation for ballet and movement. Students learn from experienced instructors and are supported as they grow artistically, physically, and creatively.

550B St. Michael's Drive | 970-925-7175

karen@aspensantafeballet.com | aspensantafeballet.com

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET FOLKLÓRICO

Classes in Mexican Folk Dance for students aged five and up. Beginning and Intermediate classes are held at select Santa Fe Public Schools and classes for Advanced students are held at the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet Studio.

550B St. Michael's Drive | 970-925-7175

jesus@aspensantafeballet.com | aspensantafeballet.com

BELISAMA IRISH DANCE & RHYTHM SOL

Now introducing the Rhythm Sol classroom. Camps during school closure days, aftercare, date nights. Ages 2+, discounts for siblings. Belisama dance classes include Irish stepdance, Discover Dance (early childhood) Jazz and hip-hop ages 6+ and adult classes with childcare included on site. Our dance classes are thoughtfully crafted to create a special environment where all ages can find challenging, fun and functional instruction. Opportunities to perform and compete.

1225 Parkway Dr, Santa Fe NM, 87507 | 3205 Mercantile Ct, Santa Fe NM, 87507 | 505-795-5424

Belisamadance.com

EMIARTEFLAMENCO ACADEMY

The Academy's vision is to design all classes and instruction to give students the life skills that will enrich and empower them in the future through the art of Flamenco. Come join our Academy and get immersed in Flamenco culture and dance. We have classes for all



Courtesy photo: Art School Santa Fe

ages and levels.

3022 Cielo Court Suite C, Santa Fe, NM 87507 | 505-660-9950

EmiArteFlamencoAcademy@yahoo.com | emiarteflamencoacademy.com

MOVING ARTS

Moving Arts provides access to creative and experiential learning in a holistic environment. A place where children and youth can safely explore their interests, expand their knowledge, and grow into confident contributors within their community.

368 Eagle Drive, Ohkay Owingeh, NM 87566 | 844-623-2787

info@movingartsespanola.org | movingartsespanola.org

MUSIC CLASSES FOR KIDS AGES 5+ AT QMBA

Queen Bee Music Association offers music classes for children and youth in a supportive, community-centered environment. Students can explore instruments, rhythm, voice, songwriting, and creative musical expression while building confidence and foundational music skills. QMBA's programs encourage young musicians to learn, collaborate, and discover the joy of making music.

1596 Pacheco Street, Santa Fe, NM 87505 | 505-278-0012

hello@queenbeemusicassociation.org | queenbeemusicassociation.org

YOUTH PROGRAMS

@ClimbSantaFe

SUMMER CAMPS

- Full or Half Day
- Till August 14

AFTER SCHOOL CLIMB

- Monday - Saturday
- Starts August 17th



WWW.CLIMBSANTAFE.COM
505.986.8944

2026 AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS DIRECTORY

NDI NEW MEXICO AT THE DANCE BARNs

The Dance Barns in Santa Fe and The Hiland Theater in Albuquerque provide children ages 3 to 18 high-quality dance and performance training in Creative Movement, Ballet, Modern, Jazz, Hip-Hop, and more. Classes range from beginner to pre-professional levels and are taught by inspiring instructors using their technical dance expertise along with the NDI New Mexico philosophy and teaching methods. These classes are open to all children in the community. Tuition is on a sliding scale, ensuring that every child has the opportunity for an enriching after-school experience.

1140 Alto St, Santa Fe, NM 87501 | 505-983-7646

4800 Central Ave SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108 | 505-872-1800

PASEO POTTERY KIDS CLASSES

Our after-school program usually meets twice per week for 6 sessions (on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m.). We focus on hand-building and slab building techniques. Kids can even take a spin on the wheel if interested. With 6 sessions, we have ample time to fire, paint and glaze pieces to perfection. Parents: Feel free to drop in for a single class, or take the whole class alongside your child.

1273 Calle de Comercio, Santa Fe, NM 87507 | 505-988-7687

info@paseopottery.com | paseopottery.com/kids-classes-and-camps

AFTERSCHOOL FOOLS - FALL 2026

Embark on an unforgettable journey with Wise Fool's 14-week After School Fools programs, where your child will immerse themselves in the enchanting world of the circus. Our comprehensive programs offers expert instruction in a variety of circus arts, including aerial fabric, trapeze, stilt-walking, clowning, unicycling, juggling, acrobatics, and more. Students will develop new skills, build confidence, and express their creativity in a supportive and dynamic environment. The program culminates in an exhilarating performance and "Show & Try" event, where families can witness and celebrate their children's incredible progress. Enroll your child today and let them discover the thrill and wonder of circus arts with Wise Fool.

supreet@wisefoolnm.org | 505-992-2588

wisefoolnewmexico.org/youthprograms/Afterschool-fools/



Courtesy photo: Art School Santa Fe

TUTORING & LEARNING

GIRL'S INC. AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

We empower youth to resist societal pressure to conform to gender stereotypes. We celebrate diversity, advocate for girls in our community, and provide opportunities for all girls, regardless of culture, race, disability, or socioeconomic status. Girls Incorporated encourages young people to: take risks, be curious and inquisitive, make mistakes and learn from them, maintain physical, mental, and emotional health. Registration opens June 30, 9am. Financial aid available.

301 Hillside Ave, Santa Fe, NM 87501 | 505-982-2042
program@girlsincofsantafe.org | girlsincofsantafe.org

HOCHBERG JEWISH KIDS CLUB

Hochberg Jewish Kids Club offers a welcoming weekly program where children can explore Jewish learning, culture, holidays, Hebrew, and traditions through hands-on activities. Kids participate in creative projects, baking, building, storytelling, and community



Nature Based Sand Play

FREE & OPEN TO ALL

Nature based sand play for children and families

Join us Saturday Mornings

10:00am - 12:00pm

June 6 through August 8



Scan here for all sand play locations across Santa Fe



TIERRA NUEVA
COUNSELING CENTER

tierranuevacounseling.org | (505) 471-8575 | 3952 San Filipe Dr, Santa Fe, NM 87507

2026 AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS DIRECTORY

experiences while making friends and strengthening their connection to Jewish identity. The program is designed to be engaging, warm, and meaningful for young learners.

230 West Manhattan Ave,
Santa Fe, NM 87501 | 505-983-2000
esther@santafejcc.com |
santafejcc.com/kidsclub

OUTDOORS & NATURE

CHILDREN’S ADVENTURE COMPANY

Our after-school provides activities in science and nature study, cooking, art, sports, crafts, interactive group projects, gardening, indoor and outdoor play. Friday field trips include hiking, ice-skating, roller-skating, themed weeks with an end of the week party, water play, bingo, hot dog roasts, bowling,

shelter building, plant study and more!

935 Alto St, Santa Fe, NM 87501 |
505-988-7201
childrensadventurecompany
@gmail.com |
santafechildrensadventure.org

MOUNTAIN KIDS! SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAMS

Mountain Kids! offers school-year programs that help children stay active, curious, and connected to the outdoors. Through nature-based play, outdoor exploration, skill-building, and group activities, students develop confidence, independence, and a deeper appreciation for the natural world. Programs are designed to encourage adventure, creativity, and community in a supportive environment.

Financial aid available.
Santa Fe NM | 505-886-1207
hello@sfmountainkids.com |
sfmountainkids.com



Courtesy photo: Dragonfly Art Studio



La Familia

HEALTH

Serving Santa Fe since 1972, La Familia delivers **high-quality** medical, dental, and behavioral health care for patients of all ages. **Trusted by generations of families.**

HELPING YOUR FAMILY GET BACK-TO-SCHOOL READY

- **WELL-CHILD CHECKUPS AND IMMUNIZATIONS**
Keep your child healthy with regular checkups and preventive care.
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Protect your child's smile with preventive dental care.
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Ensure your athlete is ready with a comprehensive sports physical.

CALL TODAY: 505-982-4425

Most insurance plans accepted (including Medicaid).
Affordable plans for uninsured patients and families.

Calendar of Events

July



SPECIAL EVENTS

SUPPORT & COMMUNITY

SPORTS & ACTIVITY

VISUAL ARTS



PERFORMING ARTS

EDUCATION/ENRICHMENT

NATURE

ENTERTAINMENT

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			1 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Arts Alive! at SF Botanical Garden 10AM - 1PM Storytime and Craft at La Farge Library 10:30-11:30 AM Toddler Tunes at LAFSN 10:30-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music - Railyard Park 10:30-11:15 AM Storytime at White Rock Library 10:15-10:45 AM Wee Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 AM What's Up Wednesday at Mesa Public Library 1:30-3 PM Youth Chess at the Main Library 5:45-7:45 PM Bilingual Books and Babies at Main Library 10-11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Teen Lounge at La Farge Library 2-4 PM Teen Lounge at Southside Library 3 - 5 PM
5 4th of July Parade & Celebration in Red River Dawn to Dusk at Coronado Historic Site Sunrise to Sunset Dawn 'til Dusk Day at Los Luceros Historic Site Sunrise to Sunset United Church Kids Music and Care for Creation 10-11 AM Family Art Making at New Mexico Museum of Art - Vladem Contemporary 10 AM-12 PM Arts Alive! at Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian 10AM - 1PM Free First Sundays at New Mexico Museums 10 AM-5 PM Railyards Artisan Market 10 AM - 3 PM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM	6 Nature Playtime 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Children's Hour/Hora De Los Ninos at La Cienega Valley Library 10-11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Monday Funday: NM Appreciation Discount at Meow Wolf 3-8 PM Paws and Pages at La Farge 4:30-5:30 PM	7 Tuesday Farmer's Market - Railyard 8 AM-1 PM Music and Movement Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Arte para Chiquitos 10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Babytime In Los Alamos 10:15-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Southside Library 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Special Needs/Autism Support Group 6-7 PM Paws and Pages at Main Library 6-7 PM	8 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Bilingual Books and Babies at Main Library 10-11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music - Railyard Park 10:30-11:15 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Teen Lounge at La Farge Library 2-4 PM Teen Lounge at Southside Library 3 - 5 PM
12 22nd Annual International Folk Art Market Santa Fe United Church Kids Music and Care for Creation 10-11 AM Arts Alive! At the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture 10AM - 2PM Free Family Fun at Georgia O'Keeffe Museum 10:30 AM-2:30 PM Railyards Artisan Market 10 AM - 3 PM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM	13 Nature Playtime 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Monday Funday: NM Appreciation Discount at Meow Wolf 3-8 PM Paws and Pages at La Farge 4:30-5:30 PM	14 Tuesday Farmer's Market - Railyard 8 AM-1 PM Music and Movement Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Babytime In Los Alamos 10:15-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Southside Library 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Special Needs/Autism Support Group 6-7 PM Paws and Pages at Main Library 6-7 PM	15 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Bilingual Books and Babies at Main Library 10-11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music - Railyard Park 10:30-11:15 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Teen Lounge at La Farge Library 2-4 PM Teen Lounge at Southside Library 3 - 5 PM
19 United Church Kids Music and Care for Creation 10-11 AM Arts Alive! At the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture 10AM - 2PM Railyards Artisan Market 10 AM - 3 PM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM	20 Nature Playtime 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Children's Hour/Hora De Los Ninos at La Cienega Valley Library 10-11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Monday Funday: NM Appreciation Discount at Meow Wolf 3-8 PM Paws and Pages at La Farge 4:30-5:30 PM	21 Tuesday Farmer's Market - Railyard 8 AM-1 PM Music and Movement Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Babytime In Los Alamos 10:15-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Southside Library 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Special Needs/Autism Support Group 6-7 PM Paws and Pages at Main Library 6-7 PM	22 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Bilingual Books and Babies at Main Library 10-11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music - Railyard Park 10:30-11:15 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Teen Lounge at La Farge Library 2-4 PM Teen Lounge at Southside Library 3 - 5 PM
26 ★ Traditional Spanish Market 8 AM-5 PM United Church Kids Music and Care for Creation 10-11 AM Arts Alive! At the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture 10AM - 2PM Railyards Artisan Market 10 AM - 3 PM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM	27 Nature Playtime 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Monday Funday: NM Appreciation Discount at Meow Wolf 3-8 PM Paws and Pages at La Farge 4:30-5:30 PM	28 Tuesday Farmer's Market - Railyard 8 AM-1 PM Music and Movement Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Babytime In Los Alamos 10:15-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Southside Library 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Special Needs/Autism Support Group 6-7 PM Paws and Pages at Main Library 6-7 PM	29 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Bilingual Books and Babies at Main Library 10-11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music - Railyard Park 10:30-11:15 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Teen Lounge at La Farge Library 2-4 PM Teen Lounge at Southside Library 3 - 5 PM



IF YOU WANT YOUR EVENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT ISSUE, VISIT
[TUMBLEWEEDSMAG.COM/THINGS-TO-DO](https://tumbleweedsmag.com/things-to-do)

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Main Library — 10:30-11:30 AM Seeds and Sprouts Backyard Program 10:30-11:30 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Many Mothers’ Play Area 12-2 PM Fun with Firefighters at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 1-2 PM Meet Cornelius the Snake 1-2 PM Crafty Kids at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM Walk-In Planetarium Show 3:45-4:30 PM Thursdays are Yours at Santa Fe Children’s Musuem 4 - 7 PM Pajama Storytime/Hora del Cuento en Pijama at Southside Library 6:30-7:30 PM	3 4th of July Parade & Celebration in Red River Bilingual Books and Babies at La Farge Library 10-10:30 AM Make and Believe Time @ Meow Wolf 10 - 11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Fine Art Fridays at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 2-4 PM Kids Homework Help at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM Paseo Pottery Throw Down 5-8 PM	4 4th of July Celebration Train - Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad 4th of July Parade & Celebration in Red River Pancakes on the Plaza Santa Fe Saturday Farmers’ Market 8 AM - 1 PM Bilingual Books and Babies at Southside Library 10-10:30 AM Caregiver and Tot Creative Movement at the Main Library 10:15-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Meet the Miniature Horses of My Little Horse Listener 11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Paws and Pages at Southside Library 11:30 AM-12:30 PM Science Saturdays 2-4 PM 4th of July Spectacular in Los Alamos 4-10 PM Fireworks Show at Elephant Butte Lake 9 - 10 PM
9 22nd Annual International Folk Art Market Santa Fe Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Main Library — 10:30-11:30 AM Seeds and Sprouts Backyard Program 10:30-11:30 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Many Mothers’ Play Area 12-2 PM Meet Cornelius the Snake 1-2 PM Little Ones Storytime at La Cienega Valley Library 3 - 4 PM Create with O’Keeffe at La Farge Library 3:30-4:30 PM Crafty Kids at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM Walk-In Planetarium Show 3:45-4:30 PM Thursdays are Yours at Santa Fe Children’s Musuem 4 - 7 PM Anime Club 5:30-7:30 PM Pajama Storytime/Hora del Cuento en Pijama at Southside Library 6:30-7:30 PM	10 22nd Annual International Folk Art Market Santa Fe Bilingual Books and Babies at La Farge Library 10-10:30 AM Make and Believe Time @ Meow Wolf 10 - 11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Fine Art Fridays at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 2-4 PM Kids Homework Help at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM	11 22nd Annual International Folk Art Market Santa Fe Santa Fe Saturday Farmers’ Market 8 AM - 1 PM Bilingual Books and Babies at Southside Library 10-10:30 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Kids Sing Along with QBMA - Reunity Resources Farm 10:30 AM-11:15 AM Baby and Toddler Play Hour at Main Library 10:30 - 11:30 AM Meet the Miniature Horses of My Little Horse Listener 11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Kids Karaoke at Cake’s Cafe 2-4 PM Science Saturdays 2-4 PM
16 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Main Library — 10:30-11:30 AM Seeds and Sprouts Backyard Program 10:30-11:30 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Many Mothers’ Play Area 12-2 PM Meet Cornelius the Snake 1-2 PM Create with O’Keeffe at Southside Library 3:30-4:30 PM Crafty Kids at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM Walk-In Planetarium Show 3:45-4:30 PM Thursdays are Yours at Santa Fe Children’s Musuem 4 - 7 PM Pajama Storytime/Hora del Cuento en Pijama at Southside Library 6:30-7:30 PM	17 Bilingual Books and Babies at La Farge Library 10-10:30 AM Make and Believe Time @ Meow Wolf 10 - 11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Fine Art Fridays at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 2-4 PM Kids Homework Help at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM	18 Santa Fe Striders Running Festival with Free Kids Races Santa Fe Saturday Farmers’ Market 8 AM - 1 PM Bilingual Books and Babies at Southside Library 10-10:30 AM Caregiver and Tot Creative Movement at the Main Library 10:15-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Kids Sing Along with QBMA - Randall Davey Audubon Center 10:30 AM-11:15 AM Meet the Miniature Horses of My Little Horse Listener 11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Paws and Pages at Southside Library 11:30 AM-12:30 PM Science Saturdays 2-4 PM Route 66 Summerfest 5-10PM
23 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Main Library — 10:30-11:30 AM Seeds and Sprouts Backyard Program 10:30-11:30 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Many Mothers’ Play Area 12-2 PM Meet Cornelius the Snake 1-2 PM Create with O’Keeffe at Main Library 3:30-4:30 PM Crafty Kids at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM Walk-In Planetarium Show 3:45-4:30 PM Thursdays are Yours at Santa Fe Children’s Musuem 4 - 7 PM Random Fandom 6-7 PM Pajama Storytime/Hora del Cuento en Pijama at Southside Library 6:30-7:30 PM	24 Bilingual Books and Babies at La Farge Library 10-10:30 AM Make and Believe Time @ Meow Wolf 10 - 11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Fine Art Fridays at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 2-4 PM Kids Homework Help at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM	25 Santa Fe Saturday Farmers’ Market 8 AM - 1 PM Traditional Spanish Market 8 AM-5 PM Bilingual Books and Babies at Southside Library 10-10:30 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Meet the Miniature Horses of My Little Horse Listener 11 AM Summer Spray Down at Swan Park 11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Come Build with Us at Main Library 2-4 PM Science Saturdays 2-4 PM
30 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Seeds and Sprouts Backyard Program 10:30-11:30 AM Storytime and Craft at Main Library — 10:30-11:30 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Many Mothers’ Play Area 12-2 PM Meet Cornelius the Snake 1-2 PM Crafty Kids at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM Walk-In Planetarium Show 3:45-4:30 PM Thursdays are Yours at Santa Fe Children’s Musuem 4 - 7 PM Pajama Storytime/Hora del Cuento en Pijama at Southside Library 6:30-7:30 PM	31 Bilingual Books and Babies at La Farge Library 10-10:30 AM Make and Believe Time @ Meow Wolf 10 - 11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Fine Art Fridays at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 2-4 PM Kids Homework Help at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM	

Calendar of Events

August



SPECIAL EVENTS
SUPPORT & COMMUNITY
SPORTS & ACTIVITY
VISUAL ARTS



PERFORMING ARTS
EDUCATION/ENRICHMENT
NATURE
ENTERTAINMENT

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
2 Dawn to Dusk at Coronado Historic Site Sunrise to Sunset Dawn 'til Dusk Day at Los Luceros Historic Site Sunrise to Sunset United Church Kids Music and Care for Creation 10-11 AM Family Art Making at New Mexico Museum of Art - Vldem Contemporary 10 AM-12 PM Arts Alive! at SF Botanical Garden 10AM - 1PM Arts Alive! at Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian 10AM - 1PM Free First Sundays at New Mexico Museums 10 AM-5 PM Railyards Artisan Market 10 AM - 3 PM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM	3 Nature Playtime 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Children's Hour/Hora De Los Ninos at La Cienega Valley Library 10-11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Toddler Time at Many Mothers' 11:30 AM-12 PM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Monday Funday at Meow Wolf 3-8 PM Paws and Pages at La Farge 4:30-5:30 PM Birth Talk Los Alamos 6:30 - 8:30 PM	4 Tuesday Farmer's Market - Railyard 8 AM-1 PM Music and Movement Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Arte para Chiquitos 10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Babytime In Los Alamos 10:15-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Southside Library 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Special Needs/Autism Support Group 6-7 PM Paws and Pages at Main Library 6-7 PM	5 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Bilingual Books and Babies at Main Library 10-11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Storytime at White Rock Library 10:15-10:45 AM Toddler Tunes at LAFSN 10:30-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music - Railyard Park 10:30-11:15 AM Storytime and Craft at La Farge Library 10:30-11:30 AM Wee Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM What's Up Wednesday at Mesa Public Library 1:30-3 PM Teen Lounge at La Farge Library 2-4 PM Teen Lounge at Southside Library 3 - 5 PM Youth Chess at the Main Library 5:45-7:45 PM
9 United Church Kids Music and Care for Creation 10-11 AM Free Family Fun at Georgia O'Keeffe Museum 10:30 AM-2:30 PM Railyards Artisan Market 10 AM - 3 PM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM	10 Nature Playtime 10-11 AM Children's Hour/Hora De Los Ninos at La Cienega Valley Library 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Monday Funday at Meow Wolf 3-8 PM Paws and Pages at La Farge 4:30-5:30 PM	11 Tuesday Farmer's Market - Railyard 8 AM-1 PM Music and Movement Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Babytime In Los Alamos 10:15-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Southside Library 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Special Needs/Autism Support Group 6-7 PM Paws and Pages at Main Library 6-7 PM	12 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Bilingual Books and Babies at Main Library 10-11 AM Storytime at White Rock Library 10:15-10:45 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music - Railyard Park 10:30-11:15 AM Storytime and Craft at La Farge Library 10:30-11:30 AM Wee Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM What's Up Wednesday at Mesa Public Library 1:30-3 PM Teen Lounge at La Farge Library 2-4 PM Teen Lounge at Southside Library 3 - 5 PM Youth Chess at the Main Library 5:45-7:45 PM
16 Santa Fe Indian Market United Church Kids Music and Care for Creation 10-11 AM Railyards Artisan Market 10 AM - 3 PM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM	17 Nature Playtime 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Monday Funday nt at Meow Wolf 3-8 PM Paws and Pages at La Farge 4:30-5:30 PM	18 Tuesday Farmer's Market - Railyard 8 AM-1 PM Music and Movement Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Babytime In Los Alamos 10:15-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Southside Library 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Special Needs/Autism Support Group 6-7 PM Paws and Pages at Main Library 6-7 PM	19 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Bilingual Books and Babies at Main Library 10-11 AM Toddler Craft at LAFSN 10-11 AM Storytime at White Rock Library 10:15-10:45 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music - Railyard Park 10:30-11:15 AM Storytime and Craft at La Farge Library 10:30-11:30 AM Wee Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM What's Up Wednesday at Mesa Public Library 1:30-3 PM Teen Lounge at La Farge Library 2-4 PM Teen Lounge at Southside Library 3 - 5 PM Youth Chess at the Main Library 5:45-7:45 PM
23	24	25 Tuesday Farmer's Market - Railyard 8 AM-1 PM Music and Movement Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Babytime In Los Alamos 10:15-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Southside Library 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Special Needs/Autism Support Group 6-7 PM Paws and Pages at Main Library 6-7 PM	26 Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Bilingual Books and Babies at Main Library 10-11 AM Storytime at White Rock Library 10:15-10:45 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music - Railyard Park 10:30-11:15 AM Storytime and Craft at La Farge Library 10:30-11:30 AM Wee Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM What's Up Wednesday at Mesa Public Library 1:30-3 PM Teen Lounge at La Farge Library 2-4 PM Teen Lounge at Southside Library 3 - 5 PM Youth Chess at the Main Library 5:45-7:45 PM
30 United Church Kids Music and Care for Creation 10-11 AM Railyards Artisan Market 10 AM - 3 PM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM	31 Nature Playtime 10-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Many Mothers' Play Area 12-2 PM Monday Funday : NM Appreciation Discount at Meow Wolf 3-8 PM Paws and Pages at La Farge 4:30-5:30 PM		

**FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS CALENDAR IS
BROUGHT TO NORTHERN NEW MEXICO BY:**



IF YOU WANT YOUR EVENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT ISSUE, VISIT
TUMBLEWEEDSMAG.COM/THINGS-TO-DO

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Santa Fe Saturday Farmers’ Market 8 AM - 1 PM Bilingual Books and Babies at Southside Library 10-10:30 AM Caregiver and Tot Creative Movement at the Main Library 10:15-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Meet the Miniature Horses of My Little Horse Listener 11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Paws and Pages at Southside Library 11:30 AM-12:30 PM Science Saturdays 2-4 PM ★ Westside Summerfest 5-10PM
6	Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Storytime and Craft at Main Library — 10:30-11:30 AM Seeds and Sprouts Backyard Program 10:30-11:30 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Many Mothers’ Play Area 12-2 PM Fun with Firefighters at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 1-2 PM Meet Cornelius the Snake 1-2 PM Crafty Kids at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM Walk-In Planetarium Show 3:45-4:30 PM Thursdays are Yours at Santa Fe Children’s Musuem 4 - 7 PM Pajama Storytime/Hora del Cuento en Pijama at Southside Library 6:30-7:30 PM	7 Bilingual Books and Babies at La Farge Library 10-10:30 AM Make and Believe Time @ Meow Wolf 10 - 11 AM My Mini Mentor with My Little Horse Listener 10-11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Fine Art Fridays at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 2-4 PM Kids Homework Help at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM Paseo Pottery Throw Down 5-8 PM	8 Santa Fe Saturday Farmers’ Market 8 AM - 1 PM Bilingual Books and Babies at Southside Library 10-10:30 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Kids Sing Along with QBMA - Reunity Resources Farm 10:30 AM-11:15 AM Baby and Toddler Play Hour at Main Library 10:30 - 11:30 AM Meet the Miniature Horses of My Little Horse Listener 11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Kids Karaoke at Cake’s Cafe 2-4 PM Science Saturdays 2-4 PM
13	Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Storytime and Craft at Main Library — 10:30-11:30 AM Seeds and Sprouts Backyard Program 10:30-11:30 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Many Mothers’ Play Area 12-2 PM Fun with Firefighters at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 1-2 PM Meet Cornelius the Snake 1-2 PM Little Ones Storytime at La Cienega Valley Library 3-4PM Create with O’Keeffe at La Farge Library 3:30-4:30 PM Crafty Kids at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM Walk-In Planetarium Show 3:45-4:30 PM Thursdays are Yours at Santa Fe Children’s Musuem 4 - 7 PM Anime Club 5:30-7:30 PM Pajama Storytime/Hora del Cuento en Pijama at Southside Library 6:30-7:30 PM	14 Bilingual Books and Babies at La Farge Library 10-10:30 AM Make and Believe Time @ Meow Wolf 10 - 11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Fine Art Fridays at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 2-4 PM Kids Homework Help at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM	15 ★ Santa Fe Indian Market Santa Fe Saturday Farmers’ Market 8 AM - 1 PM Bilingual Books and Babies at Southside Library 10-10:30 AM Caregiver and Tot Creative Movement at the Main Library 10:15-11 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Kids Sing Along with QBMA - Randall Davey Audubon Center 10:30 AM-11:15 AM Meet the Miniature Horses of My Little Horse Listener 11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Paws and Pages at Southside Library 11:30 AM-12:30 PM Science Saturdays 2-4 PM
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27	Music and Movement in Los Alamos 9:30-10 AM Storytime and Craft at Main Library — 10:30-11:30 AM Seeds and Sprouts Backyard Program 10:30-11:30 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Many Mothers’ Play Area 12-2 PM Meet Cornelius the Snake 1-2 PM Create with O’Keeffe at Main Library 3:30-4:30 PM Crafty Kids at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM Walk-In Planetarium Show 3:45-4:30 PM Thursdays are Yours at Santa Fe Children’s Musuem 4 - 7 PM Random Fandom 6-7 PM Pajama Storytime/Hora del Cuento en Pijama at Southside Library 6:30-7:30 PM	28 Bilingual Books and Babies at La Farge Library 10-10:30 AM Make and Believe Time @ Meow Wolf 10 - 11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Fine Art Fridays at Santa Fe Children’s Museum 2-4 PM Kids Homework Help at La Cienega Valley Library 3:30 - 5:30 PM	29 Santa Fe Saturday Farmers’ Market 8 AM - 1 PM Bilingual Books and Babies at Southside Library 10-10:30 AM Kids Sing-Along with Queen Bee Music 10:30-11:15 AM Meet the Miniature Horses of My Little Horse Listener 11 AM Tours and Animal Encounters at the New Mexico Wildlife Center 11:30 AM Science Saturdays 2-4 PM

Calendar of Events

LEGEND



CELEBRATIONS & HOLIDAYS



SUPPORT & COMMUNITY



SPORTS & MOVEMENT



VISUAL ARTS



PERFORMING ARTS



EDUCATION/ENRICHMENT



NATURE



ENTERTAINMENT

SPOTLIGHT EVENTS



CELEBRATIONS & HOLIDAYS

★ **4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION TRAIN - CUMBRES & TOLTEC SCENIC RAILROAD**

JULY 4

Celebrate the 4th of July with a scenic evening train ride to Cumbres Pass, featuring a mountaintop BBQ picnic and onboard fireworks viewing in Chama. Bookings and more information available through Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad.

★ **4TH OF JULY SPECTACULAR IN LOS ALAMOS**

JULY 4 | 4-10 PM

Come out and celebrate the 4th of July at Overlook Park in White Rock. The event begins at 4 PM with music, activities, vendors, and more.

★ **PANCAKES ON THE PLAZA**

JULY 4

Pancakes on the Plaza returns to downtown Santa Fe with breakfast, live music, vintage cars, arts, and community activities on the Fourth of July. Tickets and more information available through Pancakes on the Plaza.

★ **4TH OF JULY PARADE & CELEBRATION IN RED RIVER**

JULY 3 - 5

Red River hosts one of northern New Mexico's largest Fourth of July parades, followed by family-friendly activities throughout town and in Brandenburg Park. The 2026 celebration is scheduled across the holiday weekend.

★ **FIREWORKS SHOW AT ELEPHANT BUTTE LAKE**

JULY 4

To celebrate the 4th of July, fireworks are launched from Rattlesnake Island and reflected over Elephant Butte Lake. The show is visible from around the lake, with park fees typically waived for the fireworks display only.

★ **ROUTE 66 SUMMERFEST**

JULY 18 | 5-10 PM

This free Albuquerque Summerfest event takes over a mile-long stretch of Nob Hill along Central Avenue. The 2026 edition celebrates 100 years of Route 66 with live music, local food, shopping, family activities, show cars, and more.

★ **WESTSIDE SUMMERFEST**

AUGUST 1 | 5-10 PM

This free family-friendly Albuquerque Summerfest event celebrates local makers, food



Courtesy photo: JF Mazur Studio

trucks, breweries, wineries, distilleries, kids activities, and live entertainment at Ventana Ranch Community Park.



NATURE

★ **22ND ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FOLK ART MARKET | SANTA FE**

JULY 9 - 12

The International Folk Art Market returns to Santa Fe Railyard Park, bringing together

folk artists and heritage art from around the globe. The 2026 market is listed as the 22nd annual event.

★ **SANTA FE STRIDERS RUNNING FESTIVAL WITH FREE KIDS RACES**

JULY 18

The Santa Fe Striders Running Festival returns to the Municipal Recreation Sports Complex with 5K and 10K cross-country courses and youth races with distances varying by age group. Free races are available for younger runners.



Courtesy photo: JF Mazur Studio

★ **SANTA FE INDIAN MARKET**

AUGUST 15 - 16

Presented by the Southwestern Association for Indian Arts, the 104th Santa Fe Indian Market brings more than 1,000 Native artists representing over 200 Tribal Nations to downtown Santa Fe for a weekend of fine art, fashion, film, performances, and community celebration.

★ **SUMMER SPRAY DOWN AT SWAN PARK**

JULY 25; AUGUST 22 | 11 AM

Community Engagement and the Santa Fe Fire Department are

bringing back Summer Spray Downs. Spray downs at SWAN Park give families a chance to cool off, meet firefighters, and check out the fire trucks.

★ **TRADITIONAL SPANISH MARKET**

JULY 25 - 26 | 8 AM-5 PM

Held on the historic Santa Fe Plaza, the Traditional Spanish Market celebrates traditional Hispanic art, music, and culture. The 2026 market features juried artists, demonstrations, local food, and cultural performances.

WE'VE GOT FAITH IN KIDS! **The United Church of Santa Fe**

Join our children and youth programs this year!

Sunday Mornings:

- Kids United with stories, art, music, and service projects—10:00
- Childcare for infants & toddlers—10:00
- 'Initiation to Adulthood' – youth group meetings
- Family Fun Nights, Youth Retreats, Service Trips



Rev. Talitha Arnold, Sr. Minister • Dana Bender, Family Ministry



"Love God. Love Neighbor. Love Creation."

The United Church of Santa Fe

1804 Arroyo Chamiso (at St. Michael's Drive, near the hospital)

505-988-3295 | www.UnitedChurchofSantaFe.org



SANTA FE Girls' SCHOOL
Dedicated to Middle School Girls

**Admissions
Open House
October 25th
3 PM**

RSVP:
www.santafegirlsschool.org

**4th through 6th grade
families welcome!**

310 West Zia Road • 505.820.3188

Tuition assistance available

RECURRING EVENTS

SUPPORT & COMMUNITY

BIRTH TALK LOS ALAMOS

6:30 - 8:30 PM

A free community talk circle for pregnant women and mothers. Birth Talk Los Alamos is a safe place to learn about options in pregnancy and childbirth. Hosted virtually.

DATES: First Monday

TODDLER TIME AT MANY MOTHERS

11:30 AM-12 PM

Toddlers and caregivers, join Santa Fe Public Library at Many Mothers of Santa Fe on the first Monday of every month for a special storytime.

Enjoy rhymes, songs, movement, and stories in a lively atmosphere. This program builds on familiar experiences to introduce new vocabulary and sounds, fostering early literacy and joyful learning together. Ages 1-3.

DATES: First Monday

CHILDREN'S HOUR / HORA DE LOS NIÑOS AT LA CIENEGA VALLEY LIBRARY

10-11 AM

Every second and fourth Monday from 10 to 11, enjoy sweet stories and songs for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and their grown-ups, in English and Spanish. Cada segundo y cuarto lunes, de 10 a 11, dulces cuentos y canciones para bebés, niños pequeños, preescolares y sus adultos, en inglés y español.

DATES: Every second and fourth Monday

BABYTIME IN LOS ALAMOS

10:15-11 AM

Babytime is best for ages 0 to 2 and their caregivers at Mesa Public Library. Library staff share songs, bounces, and rhymes to help babies develop early literacy skills. The program might include scarves, bells, or rattles. It

includes focused play and free play. Free admission.

DATES: Every Tuesday

SPECIAL NEEDS/AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP

6-7 PM

All parents and caregivers raising children with an autism diagnosis are welcome. This is an in-person meeting at Las Cumbres - Los Alamos Center. Email Abbie. Nelson@lccs-nm.org with any questions about this group.

DATES: Every Tuesday

TUESDAY FARMERS' MARKET - RAILYARD

8 AM-1 PM

Beat the crowds, load up on farm-fresh goodies, enjoy the music, and treat yourself to one of our delicious burritos in Cafe Fresh. The Tuesday market has it all. Meet us at the Santa Fe Farmers' Market Pavilion.

DATES: Every Tuesday

TEEN LOUNGE AT LA FARGE LIBRARY

2-4 PM

A safe space for teens to decompress after school. La Farge Library has art supplies, homework tables, laptops and Wi-Fi, board games, tea, and snacks.

DATES: Every Wednesday

TEEN LOUNGE AT SOUTHSIDE LIBRARY

3-5 PM

Hang out space for teens to relax with games, crafts, snacks, study rooms, and wi-fi.

DATES: Every Wednesday

LITTLE ONES STORYTIME AT LA CIENEGA VALLEY LIBRARY

3-4PM

Every second Thursday at 3, join us for picture books in the library. Ages 2 to 7 welcome.

DATES: Every second Thursday

CRAFTY KIDS AT LA CIENEGA VALLEY LIBRARY

3:30-5:30 PM

Every Thursday from 3:30 to 5:30, the library hosts fun and silly crafts for kiddos, designed by a local artist and teacher. Drop in after school and make something fun to take home.

DATES: Every Thursday

THURSDAYS ARE YOURS AT SANTA FE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

4-7 PM

Extended hours and free admission for children under 17 at the Santa Fe Children's Museum.

DATES: Every Thursday

KIDS HOMEWORK HELP AT LA CIENEGA VALLEY LIBRARY

3:30-5:30 PM

Every Friday from 3:30 to 5:30, come get that homework done before the weekend starts. All ages welcome.

DATES: Every Friday

MAKE AND BELIEVE TIME @ MEOW WOLF

10 AM-11 AM

An art and reading-based hour for kids to explore a world of story and imagination. Parents and their littles can join us every Friday from 10 to 11 AM in the Rainbow Rainbow room at Meow Wolf Santa Fe's House of Eternal Return. It is ideal for toddlers and preschoolers.

DATES: Every Friday

BABY AND TODDLER PLAY HOUR AT MAIN LIBRARY

10:30-11:30 AM

Free, unstructured play where children can explore and interact with other children and new educational toys. Learn and make social connections together with your toddler.

DATES: Every second Saturday

MEET THE MINIATURE HORSES OF MY LITTLE HORSE LISTENER

11 AM

Meet and play with the miniature therapy equines of My

Little Horse Listener. Guided tours of our accessible Equine Learning Park, available every Saturday during the fall. Healthy snacks available. Free; reservations required.

DATES: Every Saturday

SANTA FE SATURDAY FARMERS' MARKET

8 AM-1 PM

Shop a great selection of fresh produce, eggs, meat, honey, bread, chile, apothecary items, and much more. At our market, 100% of the vegetables, fruits, and nursery plants available are grown right here in northern New Mexico. Arrive hungry and stop BY Cafe Fresh for hot coffee and a selection of ready-to-eat treats. Check out our Santa Fe Farmers' Market Gift Shop and its ever-changing selection of fair trade and local items. Your purchases directly support our farmers.

DATES: Every Saturday

DAWN 'TIL DUSK DAY AT LOS LUCEROS HISTORIC SITE

SUNRISE TO SUNSET

Los Luceros Historic Site will extend its hours on the first Sunday of each month. During this time, entrance into Los Luceros is free for New Mexico residents and includes access to the site's visitor center, historic buildings, trails, and picnic areas.

DATES: First Sunday

DAWN TO DUSK AT CORONADO HISTORIC SITE

SUNRISE TO SUNSET

Coronado Historic Site offers extended hours from dawn until dusk on the First Sunday of each month to allow visitors an opportunity to see the site at these beautiful times of day. The early mornings are a great time to see a multitude of different birds, while the evenings offer unparalleled views of the Sandia Mountains glowing pink at sunset. Activities for people of all ages are available throughout the day. First Sundays are free to all New Mexico residents with ID. Regular admission is \$7 for nonresident adults, children 16 and younger are free.

DATES: First Sunday

RAILYARD ARTISAN MARKET

10 AM-3 PM

The Sunday Market is dedicated to local artisans and small creative businesses, and it's one of New Mexico's oldest and best-loved art markets. This is the perfect place to purchase fine art and crafts directly from the artists, a gift for a special occasion, and souvenirs and mementos.

DATES: Every Sunday

VISUAL ARTS

MONDAY FUNDAY: NM APPRECIATION DISCOUNT AT MEOW WOLF

3 - 8 PM

Make the first day of the work-week a little less Monday and a lot more Funday with Meow Wolf's weekly New Mexico 50% off appreciation discount.

DATES: Every Monday

ARTE PARA CHIQUITOS AT THE NATIONAL HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER

10 AM

Arte para chiquitos is a free, monthly, 45-minute program for babies and toddlers ages 0 months to 4 years and their caregivers that cultivates creativity and self-expression through the exploration of Hispanic/Latine arts and culture. Participants explore the NHCC Museum, Performing Arts Center, and engage in art making, music, movement, dance, drama, and bilingual story time. NHCC instructors model age-appropriate arts techniques that celebrate self-expression, build vocabulary, and strengthen both fine-motor and gross-motor skills in a fun environment. Free Community Event. Please register here: my.nmculture.org/30048/42138, or call the NHCC Welcome Center at 505-724-4771 for assistance.

DATES: Second Tuesdays

TODDLER CRAFT AT LAFSN

10-11 AM

FSN's monthly crafts are a pleasure for grown-ups and kids. Free; drop in.

DATES: Third Wednesday & following Saturday

CREATE WITH O'KEEFFE AT LA FARGE LIBRARY

3:30-4:30 PM

The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum and the Santa Fe Public Library are proud to offer free drop-in artmaking. Perfect for kids of all ages, expand your creativity and explore your imagination with new art activities every month. All supplies provided.

DATES: Second Thursday

CREATE WITH O'KEEFFE AT SOUTHSIDE LIBRARY

3:30-4:30 PM

The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum and the Santa Fe Public Library are proud to offer free drop-in artmaking. Perfect for kids of all ages, expand your creativity and explore your imagination with new art activities every month. All supplies provided.

DATES: Third Thursday

CREATE WITH O'KEEFFE AT MAIN LIBRARY

3:30-4:30 PM

The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum and the Santa Fe Public Library are proud to offer free drop-in artmaking. Perfect for kids of all ages, expand your creativity and explore your imagination with new art activities every month. All supplies provided.

DATES: Fourth Thursday

FINE ART FRIDAYS AT SANTA FE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

2-4 PM

A weekly exploration into the arts with special guests and hands-on activities.

DATES: Every Friday

FAMILY ART MAKING AT NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF ART - VLADEM CONTEMPORARY

10 AM-12 PM

The first Sunday of each month we invite families to join us in a fun art-making session at the new Vladem Contemporary. Explore the galleries to find in-

spiration and enjoy the power of creating with your loved ones and friends. Light snacks will be available. These events are free for all New Mexico residents.

Dates: First Sunday

FREE FIRST SUNDAYS AT NEW MEXICO MUSEUMS

10 AM-5 PM

Admission is free on the first Sunday of every month to New Mexico residents with ID to the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, the Museum of International Folk Art, the New Mexico History Museum, and the New Mexico Museum of Art.

DATES: First Sundays

FREE FAMILY FUN AT GEORGIA O'KEEFE MUSEUM

10:30 AM-2:30 PM

Bring the whole family to the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum for fun activities happening throughout the day including hands-on art-making, storytime, and other surprises. Families can also enjoy free access to the Museum Galleries.

DATES: Second Sunday

ARTS ALIVE! AT THE MUSEUM OF INDIAN ARTS AND CULTURE

10 AM-2 PM

Join us for FREE Hands-on Workshops for Ages 3 to 103. Art making activities are from 10 AM to 2 PM Children must be accompanied by an adult. Museum and Garden entrance free for Arts Alive. participants during workshop hours. 7/12 Pump Drills; 7/19 Printmaking; 7/26 Air Dry Clay.

DATES: 7/12, 7/19, 7/26

ARTS ALIVE! AT THE SANTA FE BOTANICAL GARDEN

10 AM-1 PM

Join us for FREE Hands-on Workshops for Ages 3 to 103. Art making activities are from 10 AM to 1 PM Children must be accompanied by an adult. Museum and Garden entrance free for Arts Alive participants during workshop hours. 7/1 Mud Appreciation Day; 8/2 Plant Art.

DATES: 7/1, 8/2

ARTS ALIVE! AT THE WHEELWRIGHT MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

10 AM-1 PM

Join us for FREE Hands-on Workshops for Ages 3 to 103. Art making activities are from 10 AM to 1 PM Children must be accompanied by an adult. Museum and Garden entrance free for Arts Alive participants during workshop hours. 7/5 Recycled t-shirt printing; 8/2 Surprise Art.

DATES: 7/5, 8/2

PERFORMING ARTS

KIDS SING-ALONG WITH QUEEN BEE MUSIC

10:30 - 11:15 AM

Join us every Monday and Saturday for joyful music and games at Queen Bee Music Association.

DATES: Every Monday and Saturday

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT IN LOS ALAMOS

9:30-10 AM

Musical fun for children ages 0 to 6 and their caregivers. Music and Movement (M&M) is great for brain and body development. M&M uses songs, scarves, bells, rhythm sticks, and more to count, clap, sing, jump, and wiggle together.

DATES: Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays at Mesa Public Library; Wednesdays at White Rock Library

TODDLER TUNES AT LAFSN

10:30-11 AM

Children and parents sing, play instruments, and dance together, while Rachel Josephson shares simple ways to engage children in music and movement. Free; drop in.

DATES: First Wednesday

KIDS SING-ALONG WITH QUEEN BEE MUSIC - RAILYARD PARK

10:30-11:15 AM

Join us for joyful music and games at the Railyard Park. We meet on the green lawn

weather permitting, or in the Community Room adjacent to the parking lot.

DATES: Every Wednesday

KIDS KARAOKE AT CAKE'S CAFE

2-4 PM

Come to Cake's Cafe to have some fun, make new friends, and sing. We offer a special kids menu.

DATES: Every Second Saturday

KIDS SING ALONG WITH QBMA - REUNITY RESOURCES FARM

10:30 AM-11:15 AM

Held outdoors next to the farm stand, we're delighted to bring Kids Sing Along classes back to ReUnity Resources this summer. This programming is presented in partnership with the Re-unity Resources Community Farm. Classes resume July 11.

Weather permitting.

DATES: Every Second Saturday

KIDS SING ALONG WITH QBMA - RANDALL DAVEY AUDUBON CENTER

10:30 AM-11:15 AM

This Kids Sing Along class resumes in March. Held outdoors next to the new Nature Discovery Center, please park in the main lot and consider carpooling as parking is limited. This programming is presented in partnership with the Randall Davey Audubon Center.

DATES: Every Third Saturday

UNITED CHURCH KIDS MUSIC AND CARE FOR CREATION

10-11 AM

United Church of Santa Fe is offering weekly opportunities for children of all ages to engage in music and caring for creation as they plant and harvest a children's garden every Sunday morning from June through August. For further information, please contact unitedchurch.dana@gmail.com. Visit our website at unitedchurchofsantafe.org

DATES: Every Sunday



EDUCATION & ENRICHMENT

MANY MOTHERS' PLAY AREA

12 - 2 PM

Did You know Many Mothers has an indoor play area for children 0 to 3 years old? Monday through Thursday, 12 to 2 p.m., you and your little one are invited to stop by and play, have fun, and explore indoors.

DATES: Monday-Thursday

MY MINI MENTOR WITH MY LITTLE HORSE LISTENER

10-11 AM

Kids ages 7 to 12 engage in learning activities with miniature horses, who demonstrate trust, clear communication, emotional regulation, teamwork, and leadership.

DATES: Monday-Friday until 8/7

PAWS AND PAGES AT LA FARGE LIBRARY

4:30-5:30 PM

Practice reading aloud to a friendly therapy dog from the Santa Fe Animal Shelter Pet Outreach Program. Our dogs are patient, cuddly, and love to hear stories. Reluctant readers will gain confidence and seasoned readers will enjoy practicing their read-aloud skills in a relaxed environment.

DATES: Every Monday

PAWS AND PAGES AT MAIN LIBRARY

6-7 PM

Children can practice their reading skills by sharing a story with a furry friend. This program is for early school age children. No registration required. These wonderful dogs are from the Santa Fe Animal Shelter Pet Outreach Program.

DATES: Every Tuesday

STORYTIME AND CRAFT AT SOUTHSIDE LIBRARY

10:30-11:30 AM

Created with early childhood teaching techniques, this story hour and craft provide social, physical, and cognitive skill practice for kindergarten readiness. This program is for pre-school-age children.

DATES: Every Tuesday

BILINGUAL BOOKS AND BABIES AT MAIN LIBRARY

10-11 AM

The power of music and song is used as an introduction to language in this program for babies and toddlers. Exposure to new and different language sounds in early childhood can help children with language acquisition skills as they grow.

DATES: Every Wednesday

STORYTIME AND CRAFT AT LA FARGE LIBRARY

10:30-11:30 AM

Created with early childhood teaching techniques, this story hour and craft provide social, physical, and cognitive skill practice for kindergarten readiness. This program is for pre-school-age children.

DATES: Every Wednesday

STORYTIME AT WHITE ROCK LIBRARY

10:15-10:45 AM

Children ages 3 to 5 years old are invited to attend storytime at White Rock Library. Storytime is meant to teach and affirm early literacy concepts, songs, and fun with kids who can listen to a few books and are starting to put the world together in story form. Babies and older siblings are welcome, but caregivers should be aware of the program's focus.

DATES: Every Wednesday

WEE WEDNESDAYS

10:30-11:30 AM

Santa Fe Children's Museum offers storytime for toddlers and special exploration and activities.

DATES: Every Wednesday

WHAT'S UP WEDNESDAY AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY

1:30-3 PM

Activities for elementary-age kids weekly. It might be Legos, an art project, board games, physical games, a special guest, or something else. Best for children 6 to 11 years old. Children 5 and under must have a caregiver with them.

DATES: Every Wednesday

YOUTH CHESS AT THE MAIN LIBRARY

5:45-7:45 PM

Youth chess is a weekly chance for school-age youth to continue to improve their critical thinking skills through the game of chess. While playing with other youth, new techniques, strategies, and tricks are introduced. This program is for youth of all ages who know the basic elements of chess and can play without aid.

DATES: Every Wednesday

FUN WITH FIREFIGHTERS AT SANTA FE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

1-2 PM

Join the Santa Fe Fire Department for story time at the Santa Fe Children's Museum and then go outside to visit a fire truck. Free with admission to the museum.

DATES: First Thursday

PAJAMA STORYTIME/ HORA DEL CUENTO EN PIJAMA AT SOUTHSIDE LIBRARY

6:30-7:30 PM

A cozy evening storytime that includes a snack and a craft for caregivers and preschool children.

This program is in partnership with the Santa Fe Children's Museum and Growing Up New Mexico.

DATES: Every Thursday

STORYTIME AND CRAFT AT MAIN LIBRARY

10:30-11:30 AM

Created with early childhood teaching techniques, this story hour and craft provide social, physical, and cognitive skill practice for kindergarten readiness. This program is for preschool-age children.

DATES: Every Thursday

PASEO POTTERY THROW DOWN

5-8 PM

The first Friday of every month, Paseo Pottery hosts a Pottery Throw Down to celebrate our local nonprofit organizations. Each month we will invite a local nonprofit and proceeds from the event are donated to them as our way of

saying thanks for the important work they do. There will be live pottery demos, libations, music, and a chance for newbies to try their hand at the wheel with the help of our volunteers. Grab a friend and come play in the mud with us. Cost: \$25 per person.
DATES: First Friday

BILINGUAL BOOKS AND BABIES AT LA FARGE LIBRARY

10-10:30 AM

The power of music and song is used as an introduction to language in this program for babies and toddlers. Exposure to new and different language sounds in early childhood can help children with language acquisition skills as they grow.
DATES: Every Friday

CAREGIVER AND TOT CREATIVE MOVEMENT AT THE MAIN LIBRARY

10:15-11 AM

This gentle introductory class for children and their caregiver utilizes a curriculum based on child development theories and discovery of dance through play, which sparks a lifelong appreciation for movement arts.
DATES: First and third Saturday

PAWS AND PAGES AT SOUTHSIDE LIBRARY

11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Children can practice their reading skills by sharing a story with a furry friend. A local therapy dog will be here at the library eagerly waiting. This program is for early school-age children.
DATES: Every first and third Saturday

BILINGUAL BOOKS AND BABIES AT SOUTHSIDE LIBRARY

10-10:30 AM

The power of music and song is used as an introduction to language in this program for babies and toddlers. Exposure to new and different language sounds in early childhood can help children with language acquisition skills as they grow.
DATES: Every Saturday

SCIENCE SATURDAYS

2-4 PM

Scientists and STEM instructors visit the Santa Fe Children's Museum to conduct experiments, explorations, and demonstrations. Free with admission. Presented in the Woods Family Outdoor Classroom.
DATES: Every Saturday

COME BUILD WITH US AT MAIN LIBRARY

2-4 PM

Come use your imagination to build your newest creation!
DATES: Fourth Saturday

NATURE

NATURE PLAYTIME

10 - 11 AM

Start the week off by playing outside at the Pajarito Environmental Education Center. An opportunity for toddlers, preschoolers, and caregivers to explore the nature center and explore the natural world. Each playtime features outdoor play, sensory exploration, and activities focused on a theme in nature. Dress for the weather, we will be outside year-round. Admission is free.
DATES: Every Monday (excluding holidays)

TOURS AND ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS AT THE NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE CENTER

11:30 AM

Come visit New Mexico Wildlife Center for Animal Encounter programs, Tuesday through Sundays at 11:30 AM Each day's animal encounter features one of our 30-plus resident ambassador animals. While you're here, take a self-guided tour of our scenic wildlife walk to learn more about New Mexico's wildlife and ecosystems. Open hours for visitors are 9 AM to 4 PM Tuesday through Sunday, and the Animal Encounter program is free with admission.
DATES: Tuesday through Sunday



Courtesy photo: Dragonfly Art Studio

MEET CORNELIUS THE SNAKE

1-2 PM

Come say hello to beloved corn snake Cornelius and watch him eat his weekly dinner at the Santa Fe Children's Museum. Please be aware that Cornelius will not be able to come out when he is shedding or not feeling well.
DATES: Every Thursday

SEEDS AND SPROUTS BACKYARD PROGRAM

10:30-11:30 AM

Hands-on gardening and nature-themed craft projects in the Earthworks Garden (weather permitting) at the Santa Fe Children's Museum.
DATES: Every Thursday

WALK-IN PLANETARIUM SHOW

3:45-4:30 PM

Join one of our astronomers for an open house in the planetarium every Wednesday at 4 PM



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They will give a 15-minute planetary show and then answer questions and take requests from attendees. Doors open at 3:45, and the show starts promptly at 4. Admission: Free.

DATES: Every Thursday

ENTERTAINMENT

ANIME CLUB

5:30-7:30 PM

Anime Club is for anyone in grades 7 to 12. This chill program provides snacks and a comfortable place with friendly people to watch two hours of anime at the Zone at Mesa Public Library. Anime may be rated TV-14/PG-13. Art and freebies.

DATES: Second Thursday

RANDOM FANDOM

6-7 PM

Hang out time for youths in grades 7 to 12 to make stuff, play games, eat, and talk. Held at the Zone at Mesa Public Library.

DATES: Fourth Thursday

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CREATION STATION

Experience an area of multi-sized LEGOS®, books about building, and design a masterpiece on a Wall of Wonder!

LEGO® LOOKOUT

Can you find them all? Search the Museum for LEGO® mini figures inspired by famous New Mexicans! Complete the quest to win a Sky Cinema reward!

LEGO® ROBOTICS WORKSHOP

JULY 16TH | 4 PM - 6 PM
AGES 6 - 12

Build, code, play, and learn from the Boys and Girls Tech Club! Kids will use LEGO® SPIKE to tackle fun engineering challenges!

BRICKS & BREW

AUGUST 28TH | 6 PM - 9 PM
ADULTS AGES 21+

*Presented by:
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Enjoy the Museum after hours for a "big kids" night full of LEGO®-inspired activities, building competitions, food, craft beer, music, and more!

Ticket sales benefit SFCM

LEGO LAB: FAMILY WORKSHOP

AUGUST 29TH | 11 AM - 3 PM

Work together on a fun mosaic project to create a one-of-a-kind artwork that will become part of the Museum!

Register today!

LEARN MORE:



santafechildrensmuseum.org
505.989.8359

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2026

ROUTE 66

COMMUNITY DAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF ROUTE 66
WITH MUSIC, DANCE, FOOD, CAR SHOW,
EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AND A CAR CRAWL
UP OLD SANTA FE TRAIL!**

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