



# 2010 July August September



## Dancing with Books

**Not a Box by Antoinette Portis**  
**Thursday, September 9 at 11am**  
**Friday, September 10 at 11am**  
**Tuesday, September 14 at 11am**

We'll use our imaginations to discover different ways to see ordinary boxes: through song and music with Jim Hall on September 9; theatre and storytelling with Reba Short on September 10; and dance with Gretchen Berg on September 14.

**On My Way to Buy Eggs by Chih Yuan Chen**

**Thursday, September 16 at 11am**  
**Thursday, September 23 at 11am**  
**Friday, September 24 at 11am**

Turn the ordinary into the extraordinary! We'll make music from everyday sounds with Jim Hall on September 16; create unique characters with Reba Short on September 23 and find different shapes and shadows with Gretchen Berg on September 24.

**Rattletrap Car by Phyllis Roots**  
**Tuesday, September 28 at 11am**  
**Thursday, September 30 at 11am**

Fizzelly, sizzelly, lumpety, bumpety! We'll make up our own car trip story with Reba Short on September 28 and make music out of noisy car sounds with Jim Hall on September 30.

## Fond Farewells!

Most visitors have never met **Phebe Snow**, but you know her work! For over 15 years, this dedicated volunteer has come in weekly to prepare supplies for creative crafts. Phebe retired from volunteering at the Museum & Theatre this spring – she will be missed!

In over 5 years as a Youth Ranger, **Chadwick Prichard** set a shining example for volunteers and staff alike. He logged hundreds of hours educating visitors about natural science in the Ranger Station and received accolades for his environmental conservation campaign, The Anti-Pollution Revolution. He will attend the University of Pennsylvania this fall – we can't wait to see what he'll achieve in college and beyond!

## The Museum & Theatre – find out what it means for your family!

It's been well over a year since the merger of the Children's Museum and the Children's Theatre. That merger didn't just add a new word to our name – it added a lot of fun new programs for our members. Our new performing arts offerings extend far beyond our full-scale productions – theatre is coming alive here every day! Read on to find your family's next adventure!

**Auditions:** Joining the cast of a Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine production is fun, fabulous, and always free. Auditions are held several weeks before each production (see the back page of Kitetails for upcoming auditions and subscribe to email alerts for updates). Children ages 8 to 17 are invited to audition. No experience necessary - actors just need a willingness to learn, explore and sometimes get a little silly! There are rewarding roles both on and off stage as cast and crew develop close friendships, gain remarkable confidence and put on outstanding shows!

**Workshops and camps:** There's a lot to learn from being part of a show – and not just about acting! On stage, kids build confidence, develop creativity and learn about teamwork and responsibility. Theatre Artistic Director Reba Short, an experienced actor and director, leads classes for all ages and interest levels, ranging from one-day plays to three-week summer intensives. Some workshops are free; members receive a significant discount on paid programs like camps and month-long workshops. Check the Kitetails back page to find out about upcoming workshops.

**Dancing with Books:** Research shows that integrating performing arts with reading stories helps young children build literacy skills more effectively than traditional methods

alone. That research inspired this program, which invites preschool-aged visitors and their families to read a story and then join a guest artist for song, dance and storytelling. In September, we're introducing a new theme, "The Great Adventure," and three new stories (see column at left for schedule). Free with admission.

**Kids on the Block:** Understanding differences and disabilities can be challenging, especially for children. In this performance series, life-sized puppets (brought to life by teen actors) act out enlightening, entertaining scenes and converse with the



audience, offering a comfortable place for kids to pose sensitive questions. Our troupe of puppets has a growing repertoire of stories to entertain all ages; the shows are especially well-suited to school-aged visitors. Free with admission.

**Custard the Dragon:** This lively show uses colorful puppets and a team of professional and teen actors to tell the tale of Custard the cowardly dragon using the artful and inspiring wordplay of Ogden Nash's original poem. Custard and friends will be performing in the Dress Up Theatre this summer (see inside right page for schedule). Just \$5 for members.

For more information on programs and events, please visit [www.kitetails.org](http://www.kitetails.org)

### 5th Annual Golf Tournament!

**When:** Monday, September 20 from 9am-3pm

**Where:** Nonesuch River Golf Club, Scarborough

Grab your clubs and join us for a beautiful day of golf! Register as an individual player for \$150 or sign up as a foursome for \$525. Price includes 18 holes of golf, carts, continental breakfast, barbeque lunch, contests and more! For more information, to register or to purchase a corporate sponsorship, contact Alicia at 828-1234 x242 or [alicia@kitetails.org](mailto:alicia@kitetails.org).

### A round of applause for our 2009-2010 Annual Appeal supporters!

#### Many thanks to our corporate donors and sponsors!

The following 2009-2010 Corporate Sponsors provide support for our special events, exhibits, educational and admission programs or theatre productions.

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We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the following business donors for their support of our 2009-2010 Annual Fund:

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**Your gift to our 2010-2011 Annual Fund will help support our mission to inspire discovery and imagination through exploration and play. For more information or to make your tax deductible contribution contact Alicia at 828-1234 x242 or [alicia@kitetails.org](mailto:alicia@kitetails.org).**

### The Classroom Beyond (R\$)

Join us for a series of three classes for at-home learners investigating the universe we live in. Individual classes are \$15/members, \$20/non-members but buy our three-class punch card and members save \$40, non-members save \$50! This punch card is good for three separate classes. All classes are from 2-3:30pm. Registration deadline is 2 days before the program date. To register call 828-1234 x241 or email [jamie@kitetails.org](mailto:jamie@kitetails.org).

**Exploring the Earth:** Thursday, Sept 9

**Understanding Oceans:** Wednesday, Sept 15

**Observing Outer Space:** Wednesday, Sept 22

### Summer Camps

Time is running out!

Visit [www.kitetails.org/camps](http://www.kitetails.org/camps) to register for our summer day camps:

**Under the Deep Blue Sea** July 19-23

**Around the World** July 26-30

**Slimy, Squishy, Slick and Slippery**

Aug 2-6

**Creative Kids** Aug 9-13

**That's Comedy!** Aug 16-20

**Amazing Animal Journeys** Aug 23-27

### CHILDREN'S MUSEUM & THEATRE OF MAINE

142 Free Street, Portland  
207-828-1234 [www.kitetails.org](http://www.kitetails.org)

#### Summer Hours:

Memorial Day through Labor Day  
Mon–Sat: 10am–5pm, Sun: Noon–5pm  
Open 1st Friday of each month 5–8pm  
CLOSED July 4

#### Fall/Winter Hours:

Labor Day through Memorial Day  
Monday: Closed to the general public  
9-11 am MEMBERS ONLY  
Tues–Sat: 10am–5pm,  
Sun: Noon–5pm  
Open 1st Friday of each month 5–8pm



### SmartArtist-in-Residence:

#### Galen Richmond

Wednesdays, July 7-August 25 at 2pm

Every other Saturday, July 10-August 21 at 11am

Every other Monday, July 12-August 23 at 2pm

Local artist Galen Richmond needs your help! Join him to create cool sounds and hypothesize what will happen next while he builds an electrifying piece of *SmartArt!*

### Animal Programs

**Animal Fun** July 15, August 19 and September 16 at 11:30am

**Sparks' Ark Special Show (\$)** July 16 and August 20 at 11am (\$2/members, \$12/non-members including \$9 admission).

**Pets & More** July 17, August 21 and September 18 at 10:30am

**Animal Friends with David Sparks** September 24 at 11am

### American Girls Club

Bring your favorite doll, hear an American Girl story and create a special craft. To register call 828-1234 x227 or email [louisa@kitetails.org](mailto:louisa@kitetails.org).

**Meet Julie** Tuesday, July 6 & Sunday, July 11 at 3:30pm

**Meet Molly** Sunday, September 5 & Tuesday, September 7 at 3:30pm

## Yoga Time! (\$)

### Check website for dates and times

Join us for an easy session of yoga for beginner or expert kid yogis! We'll transform our bodies into animals and tell a story at the same time. \$3/child for members, \$4/child for non-members; adults are free with admission. Sign up at the front desk. FMI contact jamie@kitetails.org.

## Kids on the Block Puppet Show

### Check website for dates and times

Come meet our troupe of educational puppets that have personalities and stories, just like real kids! This program is a powerful chance to break down barriers, promote healthy attitudes and accept individual differences through performance. Presented through a generous donation from Unum, the Sam L. Cohen Foundation and the Hartford Foundation. FMI call 828-1234 x247 or email reba@kitetails.org.

## \$1 Friday

### Fridays, July 2, August 6 & September 3 from 5-8pm

We strive to share the Museum & Theatre experience with families who cannot visit during our regular business hours or who cannot afford our regular admission rates. We are open the first Friday of every month from 5-8pm for only \$1 per person. As always, members and children under 18 months are admitted free.

## Owl Pellet Dissection (\$)

### Thursdays, July 8 & 22 at 11:30am

### Saturday, August 14 at 3pm

Become a junior field biologist and delve into the eating habits of owls by analyzing and dissecting owl pellets. Cost is \$3 per pellet. Sign up at the front desk.

## Custard the Dragon and the Wicked Knight Puppet Show (\$)

### Friday, July 9 at 2pm

### Friday, August 13 at 11am

### Wednesday, August 18 at 2:30pm

This "realio, trulio" little pet dragon is back to defend the girl he loves against a wicked knight! This puppet show is designed for very young audiences. \$5/members, \$15/non-members (includes \$9 admission). For tickets call 828-1234 x231, visit www.kitetails.org or stop by our front desk!

## Fairy Tea Party (R\$)

### Saturday, July 10 at 3pm

Share fairy snacks and magical stories as you enjoy summertime tea with a friend. We'll make our own herbal tea mixture to take home or give as a gift. \$5/members, \$15/non-members (includes \$9 admission). To register, call 828-1234 x231.

## Little Maine by Jeannie Brett: Book Reading & Signing

### Thursday, July 15 at 10:30am

Join Jeannie Brett to hear a reading from her new book *Little Maine*. Play a guessing game with this author-illustrator and do some drawing of your own! A book signing will follow with her 3 Maine titles: *Little Maine*, *L is for Lobster* and *Fishing for Numbers*.

## KidsCook (R\$)

### Japan: July 18, Italy:

### August 15, Mexico:

### Sept 19 at 12:30pm

Have you ever wanted to learn how to make food from another culture? Join us for KidsCook as we travel around the world without leaving the kitchen. Cost for each session is \$12/members, \$15/non-members (does not include admission; admission not required). To register call 828-1234 x241 or email jamie@kitetails.org.



## Amazing Metamorphosis!

### Sundays, July 18, August 8 &

### September 12 at 1:30pm

Join us as we examine, touch and learn the life stages of the amazing Tobacco Hornworm with USM biology professor, David Champlin.

## "Sankofa" Drum and Dance

### Saturday, July 31 at 11am

Join us for an interactive presentation by Kwabena Owusu and children from Riverton Park. Visitors are welcome to watch the presentation and participate in the drum and dance workshop. Sponsored by Target.

## Movement Workshop with SmartArt Guest

### Artist Gretchen Berg (R)

### Saturdays, July 31 at 2:30pm & August 28 at 11:30am

Using the *SmartArt* exhibit as inspiration, we'll use our bodies to transform sound into motion, creating a fun and artistic performance! Gretchen Berg performed with modern dance company Berg, Jones & Sarvis and received the Maine Alliance for Art Education's 2007 Bill Bonyun Award. Sign up at the front desk.

## Blueberry Festival!

### Sunday, August 1 at 12:30pm

We grow some of the best blueberries in the world right here in Maine! Join us for a celebration of this amazing fruit. We'll have a taste, do berry face-painting and even try painting with blueberry juice!

## Little Kids' Morning Out: Imagine!

### Wednesday, August 11 at 10:30am

Join storyteller Robin Bady for a multicultural story and song event! Robin draws upon world folklore, fairy tales, oral traditions and literature for fun interactive storytelling performances that educate as well as entertain.

## Tie Dye Workshop (R\$)

### Friday, August 27 at 2pm & Saturday,

### August 28 at 2:30pm

It's a messy project, but somebody's got to do it! Join us to tie and dye fabric! Cost is \$5/family. Bring something from home or purchase pillowcases onsite. To register call 828-1234 x227 or email louisa@kitetails.org.

## Musical Instrument Making (R\$)

### Saturday, September 11 at

### 11:30am

Join us to make rubber-band banjos, splendid shakers and thumb pianos. Then we'll rock and romp together as we try out our new instruments. \$5/members, \$15/non-members (includes \$9 admission). To register call 828-1234 x231 or email jamie@kitetails.org.

## Grandparents Day

### Sunday, September 12 from 12-5pm

Free admission for all grandparents today! Join us at 2:30pm to make a special gift for your grandparents.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMMING

By popular demand, **Little Kids' Morning Out** will continue all summer long! Join us on **Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10:30am** for this special series of programs for just for ages 1-5. We'll explore movement, music, art and more – check [www.kitetails.org](http://www.kitetails.org) for each week's programs.

**Members' Mondays** take a break for the summer, but they will resume on **September 13 at 9am** with a Chinese star show!



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[www.kitetails.org](http://www.kitetails.org)  
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### Theatre Programs and Performances Theatre Programs and Performances Theatre Programs and Performances

#### Put on a Play in Just One Day: *Strega Nona* (R\$)

**Monday, July 5 at 1:30pm**

Have you ever heard of Strega Nona and her magic pasta pot? We will rehearse and put on a play for our families! \$5/members, \$15/non-members (includes \$9 admission). Pre-registration is required. To register call 828-1234 x247 or email [reba@kitetails.org](mailto:reba@kitetails.org).

#### *Pinocchio* (\$)

**Thursday, July 22 – Sunday, August 1 (Thursday-Sunday)**

**All performances are at 4pm**

See the magical classic tale by Carlo Collodi and watch our little wooden puppet come to life onstage. Pinocchio has to learn right from wrong if he ever wants to become a real boy. Watch our young company of actors become puppets, donkeys and giant fish! \$8/non-members, \$7/members. See the play and stay to play for \$15. If you'd like to purchase more than 5 tickets, ask about our flex passes! To buy tickets visit [www.kitetails.org](http://www.kitetails.org), call 828-1234 x231 or stop by our front desk!

#### Audition Workshop (R)

**Wednesday, August 25 from 2:30-4pm**

Are you planning to audition for plays in our 2010-2011 season? Come to this friendly and free workshop that will help you choose a monologue and develop the confidence needed to have a really great audition. Space is limited! To register, call 828-1234 x247 or email [reba@kitetails.org](mailto:reba@kitetails.org).

#### *Beauty and the Beast* Auditions

**Monday, August 30 from 3-5pm**

We're looking for actors between the ages of 8 and 17 to join our fall production! Prepare a short monologue for the audition. Be ready to do some improvisation and stay for the entire time. FMI call 828-1234 x247 or email [reba@kitetails.org](mailto:reba@kitetails.org).

#### Put on a Play in Just One Day: *Dirty Beasts* by Roald Dahl (R\$)

**Monday, September 6 at 10:30am**

Become one of the ridiculous animals in Roald Dahl's rhymes. We will rehearse and put on a play for our families! \$5/members, \$15/non-members (includes \$9 admission). To register call 828-1234 x247 or email [reba@kitetails.org](mailto:reba@kitetails.org).

#### Teensy Weensy Production Class: *Jack and the Beanstalk* (R\$)

**Wednesdays, September 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 10:30-11:30am**

We all know the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, now let's turn it into a play! We'll perform for family and friends on the final day of class! For ages 3-5. \$60/members, \$75/non-members. Participants must register for the entire month. To register call 828-1234 x247, email [reba@kitetails.org](mailto:reba@kitetails.org) or visit [www.kitetails.org](http://www.kitetails.org).

