

Family fun at El Día del Niño/El Día del Libro



Young attendees enjoying a puppet show and story time at the 2015 event

On Friday, April 26, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Clark College invites the community to participate in an evening of free, family-friendly activities that celebrate both Latino culture and the value of literacy.

“Celebración de Mi Gente: El Día del Niño/El Día del Libro” (“Celebration of My People: Day of the Child/Day of the Book”) is an annual event hosted by the college. It is free and open to the public. It is always held on or near the Mexican holiday of Día del Niño (April 30), which is also celebrated as Día del Libro by the American Library Association. The festival will feature

interactive

performances and activities, dancing, face-painting, bilingual games,

environmentally sustainable crafts, and delicious snacks.

Clark College's

mascot, Oswald the Penguin, will be on hand for photos with visiting children.

The event will be held in the Gaiser

Student Center on Clark College's main campus. Clark College is located at 1933

Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are

available at www.clark.edu/maps. Anyone needing

accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event

should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at

360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP), prior to the event.

Photos from Clark's 2017 Celebración de Mi Gente are available on

Flickr at

https://www.flickr.com/photos/clark_college/albums/72157683286542155. Video of

past celebrations can be viewed on Clark YouTube channel:

<https://youtu.be/gNxuROUfDdY>.

Sharing the fun of reading



Kindergartners at King Elementary explore copies of *The Cat in the Hat* donated through the Clark College Bookstore. Photo: Clark College Bookstore/Kaina Barba

On March 2, staff members from the Clark College Bookstore participated in Read Across America Day by reading the Dr. Seuss classic *The Cat in the Hat* to kindergartners at King Elementary. But these volunteers didn't just share a love of reading with the children: They also gave each student his or her own copy of the book to take home and keep.

The books—110 in all—were collected during the Bookstore's eighth annual Book Drive in February. Students, faculty and staff purchased and donated copies of *The Cat in the Hat* so that each kindergartner at King Elementary would have a brand-new book to take home and share with their families.

"This is a really big deal to the kids, because so many of them come from low-income homes where there's no money for non-essential items," says Bookstore buyer Marti Earhart, a

coordinator of the book drive. "When we hand each of the kids their own shiny new book, they get so excited!"

This year's goal of 80 books was easily met just a few days into the two-week book drive, so donors continued to buy and donate Dr. Seuss books for the school's library. The library at King Elementary received 30 various Dr. Seuss titles for students to check out and enjoy.

Donors of the books were asked to put their name on a nameplate that appeared on the inside front cover of each book. "At some point the kids will realize that the person whose name is in their book wanted to share their own love of reading with them," says Earhart. "Hopefully this book will give kids confidence to open more books on their own. "

Read Across America Day commemorates the birthday of Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss.

Photos: Clark College Bookstore/Kaina Barba

This article was contributed by Marti Earhart.

Fun for the Whole Familia



Members of the Olincalli Ballet Folklórico perform at the 2014 Latino Festival.

On Friday, May 1, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Clark College invites the community to participate in an evening of free, family-friendly activities that celebrate both Latino culture and the value of literacy.

“Celebración de Mi Gente: El Día del Niño/El Día del Libro” (“Celebration of My People: Day of the Child/Day of the Book”) is an annual event hosted by the college. It is free and open to the public. It is always held on or near the Mexican holiday of Día del Niño (April 30), which is also celebrated as Día del Libro by the American Library Association. The festival will feature a bilingual puppet show, bilingual storytelling and book-reading, dancing, crafts, face-painting, bilingual games, crafts, and delicious snacks. Clark College’s mascot, Oswald the Penguin, will be on hand for photos with visiting children.

The event will be held in the Gaiser Student Center on Clark

College's main campus. Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps. Anyone needing accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at (360) 992-2314 or (360) 991-0901 (VP), prior to the event.

See video about the puppet show and last year's festival:

Photo: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

Video: Clark College/Nick Bremer-Korb

Would You, Could You Buy a Book?



Clark College Bookstore buyer Kaina Derwin reads to Crestline Elementary students during Read Across America Day 2014.

As Theodor Geisel (aka "Dr. Seuss") once wrote, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." Heeding those words, Clark College has chosen to make the beneficiary of its seventh annual book drive Vancouver's King Elementary School.

The Clark College Bookstore is hoping that Book Drive supporters will purchase 100 copies of the Dr. Seuss classic *The Cat in the Hat*. The books will be given to kindergarteners at King Elementary on Read Across America Day, a celebration to commemorate the birthday of Theodor Geisel (aka "Dr. Seuss"). Books will be read aloud to students by volunteers from Clark College Bookstore.

Copies of the selected Dr. Seuss books will be available for purchase and donation Feb. 16-27 for \$6.85 each (plus tax). Each book will include a nameplate with the donor's name. Donors will be able to purchase books at the Bookstore

or online via the Bookstore's website at www.clarkbookstore.com, making it quick and convenient to participate in the book drive.

"The Clark College Book Drive is a wonderful opportunity for King students to hear another adult read a book to them," says King kindergarten teacher Shari Perea. "The students treasure the book that they receive and, in some cases, it is the only book that they own."

According to Clark College Bookstore buyer Marti Earhart, one of the organizers of the drive, "I've personally handed books to students nearly every year of the book drive. I don't doubt for a moment that each one of the kids will be reading the book on their own in a few weeks!"

Bookstore manager Monica Knowles adds, "I delight in knowing the joy those books bring to our local community and I don't hesitate to challenge my friends and family to join it!"

The Clark College Bookstore is located in Gaiser Hall on the northern end of Clark's main campus. Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps. Information about the bookstore is available at www.clarkbookstore.com. For additional information, contact Marti Earhart at the Clark College Bookstore at 360-992-2261.

Photo: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

Photo Album: Fun for the Whole Familia

Not even an accidental fire alarm could stop the festivities at this year's Día del Niño/Día del Libro celebration, held in Gaiser Student Center on May 9. Approximately 225 guests enjoyed the evening-long celebration of Latino culture and literature, which included a bilingual puppet show performed by Clark Spanish language students, dance performances by Olincalli Ballet Folklórico, free food from Panadería Cinco de Mayo, and hands-on activities for children. Oswald the Penguin was on hand to greet children and pose for pictures—even when the party moved outdoors temporarily after an inquisitive toddler managed to pull a fire alarm. The celebration quickly moved back inside to continue the festivities, which are held each year around April 30, the date of Mexico's Día del Niño ("Day of the Child") and the American Library Association's Día del Libro ("Day of the Book").

[alpine-phototile-for-flickr src="set" uid="53812424@N07" sid="72157644687446603" imgl="fancybox" style="wall" row="3" size="240" num="28" shadow="1" highlight="1" align="center" max="100"]

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

A Spanish Lesson with Strings Attached



Professor Betsy Ubiergo takes a moment from putting the finishing touches on some of the puppets she helped create at the Olde World Puppet Theatre studios during her sabbatical.

In a strange way, Spanish professor Betsy Ubiergo has the cruelty of children to thank for inspiring her sabbatical project, which will be unveiled at Clark College's Día del Niño/Día del Libro festival, held May 9 in Gaiser Student Center.

Ubiergo and her Spanish-born husband are raising their daughter, Mar, to be bilingual in both English and Spanish. But Mar began refusing to speak Spanish at home after classmates at her elementary school told her she was "too blonde to speak Spanish."

"She'd come home from school and say, 'Mom, I can't speak Spanish,'" Ubiergo recalled. "But then she'd grab a doll and make the doll speak in Spanish. She'd relax once it wasn't her on the spot. The doll would speak *great* Spanish."

Ubiergo began wondering if this same technique could be used to help her students at Clark, who often seemed to forget their language skills as soon as they had to use them in front of other people. "There's a lot of research going on right now regarding performance-based language learning," said Ubiergo. "I thought, maybe if my students had something to hide behind, they could relax and get more from the experience."



Steven Overton and Martin Richmond of the Olde World Puppet Theatre Studios said they designed the puppets to be both easy for students to use and respectful of the source material's cultural aesthetics.

Ubiergo applied for and received a two-quarter sabbatical to spend creating a series of large puppets based on works of Spanish literature, as well as the training to be able to help her students use them. To help craft the puppets, she turned to Steve Overton and Marty Richmond of Portland's Olde World Puppet Theatre Studios, who spent hundreds of hours working to design, craft, and coordinate the 33 puppets.

"We just really loved what Betsy was doing," said Overton. "It's promoting literacy, and language, and the classics. We were really happy to be part of it."

The puppets are based on three different children's stories, each by a major figure in Spanish-language literature: *El Elefante y Su Secreto* (*The Elephant and his Secret*) by Chilean poet Gabriela Mistral; *Platero y Yo*, by Spanish poet and writer Juan Ramón Jiménez; and *Jaco* by André Dahan, a French writer and illustrator whose children's books have been translated into numerous languages. Ubiergo has created scripts from each story; students in her spring quarter Spanish 123 class are currently learning the plays and will be performing them at Clark's annual Día del Nino/Día del Libro festival, an evening celebration of Latino culture that always includes food, music, dance and a host of other family-friendly activities.



Jaco the Bird is the star of one of the bilingual puppet skits created by Spanish professor Betsy Ubiergo.

"It will be nice because everyone can get something different from this," said Ubiergo. "For my students, they'll have a chance to learn Spanish in a new and non-threatening way, and

to interact with native Spanish speakers. For the children there who speak Spanish, this may introduce them to some important examples of Spanish-language literature that they may not have been familiar with—and because they'll be able to help my students out if they forget a word, it validates their experiences as Spanish speakers. And for English-speaking children, the plays are bilingual, and the puppets make it engaging even when they don't recognize the language."

Ubiergo added that since the puppets were part of her sabbatical project, they are now Clark College property and will be available for future productions and lessons. In fact, she made sure to request that Overton and Richmond make the puppets easy to disassemble and pack for traveling, because she already has plans to use them in a service learning project during the college's next study abroad trip to Mexico during Spring Break 2015.

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

Slideshow: Helping Crestline Turn the Page

Monday, March 3, four Clark College Bookstore employees visited Crestline Elementary School's temporary location, which was created after the school was destroyed in a fire last year. Their mission: To distribute to the school's kindergarten and first-grade students the 190 copies of the Dr. Seuss classic *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* that the Bookstore had gathered through its annual Seuss-a-Palooza

book drive. They also read the book aloud to classrooms as part of Read Across America Day.

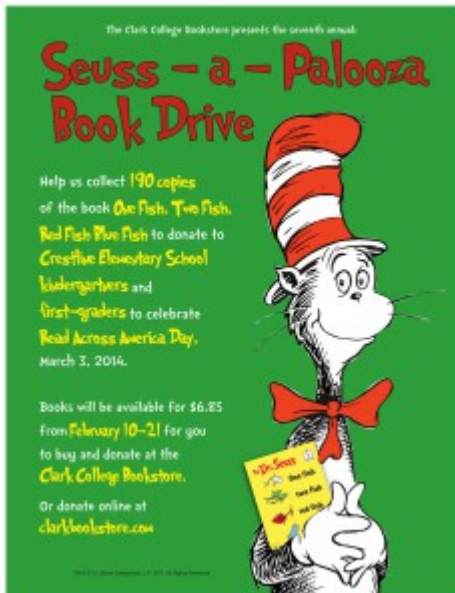
“The best part of the event is always seeing the look on the children’s faces when you hand them a book and tell them that it is their very own to keep and take home to share with their family and friends,” said Bookstore buyer Kaina Barba, who visited Crestline with his colleagues Michael Owenby, Ashley Anderson, and Michal Neubauer. Indeed, many children gasped when they received their books, peppering the Bookstore staff with questions like “how did you get all these books here?” and “I really get to take this book home?”

“The children were absolutely thrilled to receive books of their own,” said Crestline Budget Secretary Lori Boyd. “Many of our students come from homes where there is not extra money to purchase books, and having their very own, brand-new book to keep is a special treat.”

In addition to the Bookstore’s Crestline visit, 56 Clark students participated in Read Across America Day by reading to children at Harney and Fruit Valley elementary schools through Clark’s Volunteer & Service Learning program.

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

One Book, Two Books



As Theodor Geisel (aka “Dr. Seuss”) once wrote, “Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.” Heeding those words, Clark College has chosen to make the beneficiary of its sixth annual “Seuss-a-Palooza” book drive and literacy event Vancouver’s Crestline Elementary School, which was destroyed by fire in February 2013.

The Clark College Bookstore is hoping that Seuss-a-Palooza supporters will purchase 190 copies the Dr. Seuss classic, *One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish*. The books will be given to kindergarteners and first-graders at Crestline’s temporary location on Read Across America Day (held on March 3, the day after Geisel’s birthday). Books will be read aloud to students by volunteers from Clark College Bookstore.

Copies of the selected Dr. Seuss books will be available for purchase and donation Feb. 10-21 for \$6.85 each (plus tax). Each book will have a nameplate for the donor’s name. Donors will be able to purchase books at the Bookstore or online via the Bookstore’s website at www.clarkbookstore.com, making it quick and convenient to participate in the book drive.

“Last year’s book drive had already begun when we learned about the fire at Crestline, so it was unfortunate that we couldn’t collect donated books for them then,” said Clark College Bookstore buyer Marti Earhart, who helps organize the event. “However, the Crestline students are still in temporary facilities and are sacrificing a lot while they wait for their school to be rebuilt. We chose Crestline students as the book recipients of this year’s book drive because we want the children, parents, and staff to know we think of them and

care.”

The Clark College Bookstore is located in Gaiser Hall on the northern end of Clark’s main campus. Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps. Information about the bookstore is available at www.clarkbookstore.com. For additional information, contact Marti Earhart at the Clark College Bookstore at 360-992-2261.

Check It Out



Ray Korpi signs the READ poster he is featured on, *left*, while Michelle Bagley, Dean of Libraries, eLearning, Tutoring and Faculty Development and Dr. Tim Cook, Vice President of Instruction look on.

The Clark College Libraries (Cannell Library and the Information Commons at CTC) participated in Washington Libraries Snapshot Day on April 17. This statewide project seeks to illustrate the importance of libraries for Washington's citizens by collecting statistics, stories and photographs during National Library Week.

The highlight of the event was the unveiling of 10 READ posters featuring members of the Clark College community and their favorite books.

Clark College student Samantha McClure was selected as the student model through a contest the Libraries ran during winter quarter. Current Clark students were invited to enter the contest by filling out a form with the title of their favorite book and why they chose the book. Students submitted entries either in person at one of the libraries or posting it on the Clark College Libraries Facebook page. Samantha chose *No Man's Land* by Ruth Fowler because, she said, "it presents a fascinating alternative for female reality in our modern day era where so much of human experience is represented in a very singular way."

Other college community members featured in campaign were President Bob Knight and Oswald; Student Life Program Coordinator Sami Lelo; Athletics Director Charles Guthrie; Maintenance Mechanic Billie Garner; Physics Professor Dick Shamrell; Satellite Campus Building Administrator Randy Blakely; Dean of BEECH Ray Korpi; Diversity Center Staff Sirius Bonner, Rosalba Pitkin and Felis Peralta; and Security Officer Damon Grady.

The posters were on exhibit at Cannell and the iCommons through the month of April. Additional copies are posted around Clark's main campus.



Wednesday's 2,200 visitors to the Libraries were asked to envision the library of 2020. Suggestions included: "free coffee," "more books," "24-hour library," "more computers," "more study space," and "books downloaded into our brains."

See photos from the day on the Libraries' Facebook page and on Clark's Flickr site.

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley