

Fancy Nancy Posh Pajama Party to be held at UA Student Union

By Angela Pittenger

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Fancy Nancy fans will have the chance to don their most elegant pajamas and have breakfast with the writer behind the beloved fashionista at an event hosted by UA BookStores.

The Fancy Nancy Posh Pajama Party will take place at 8:30 a.m. on March 13 at the Student Union Memorial Center South Ballroom, 1303



E. University Blvd. Jane O'Connor, author of the Fancy Nancy books, will meet

fans and sign copies of her newest book, "Fancy Nancy: Saturday Night Sleepover." A light continental breakfast will be served at the event.

Tickets are \$21.50 per person. Children's tickets come with a copy of the new book.

Go online to uabookstore.arizona.edu to purchase tickets by March 8.

BOOK EVENTS

All events are free unless otherwise noted.

TODAY

• **Analog Hour: Silent Reading Party** — Exo Roast Company, 403 N. Sixth Ave. Bring a book and leave the phone off. 1-3 p.m. Feb. 21. 777-4709.

TUESDAY

• **Local Author Series with Dan Baldwin** — Joyner Green Valley Public Library, 601 N. La Cañada Drive. Presentation on the JFK assassination compares official government statements with what the eyewitnesses, testimony and official reports state. 2-3 p.m. Feb. 23. 594-5295.

• **Science Fiction Book Club** — Oro Valley Public Library, 1305 W. Naranja Drive. "The Female Man" by Joanna Ross. 18 and up. 6-7 p.m. Feb. 23. 594-5580.

WEDNESDAY

• **Sonoran Sleuths Mystery Book Club** — Oro Valley Public Library. "Long and Faraway Gone" by Louis Berney. 18 and up. 11 a.m.-noon Feb. 594-5580.

• **Read To A Dog** — Murphy-Wilmot Public Library, 530 N. Wilmore Road. Kids read to our therapy dogs to improve their reading skills. 3-4 p.m. Wednesdays. 594-5420.

• **A Closer Look Book Club** — UA Poetry Center, 1508 E. Helen St. "So Long. See You Tomorrow" by William Maxwell. 5-6 p.m. Feb. 24. 626-3765.

• **Mystery Book Club** — Mostly Books, 6208 E. Speedway. Discussing "A Killing at Cotton Hill" by Terry Shames. 7-8 p.m. Feb. 24. 571-0110.

THURSDAY

• **Read to a Dog** — Oro Valley Public Library. Children read to a certified therapy dog to gain confidence, increase reading skills and develop a love of reading. 4-5 p.m. Feb. 25. 594-5580.

• **Poetry Circle** — Oro Valley Public Library. Topic: Poetry of Place. The Lyrical Poems of David Baker. 2-3:30 p.m. Feb. 25. 594-5580.

• **Spectacular Poetics: Adrian Matejka** — UA Poetry Center. Reading and craft talk. 7-8 p.m. Feb. 25. 626-3765.

FRIDAY

• **Rillito River Writers** — Dusenberry-River Public Library, 5605 E. River Road. Self-facilitated nonfiction writing group with weekly sessions that include sharing individual work and responding to writing prompts. 18 and up. 1-3 p.m. Fridays. 594-5345.

• **Novelist Reading: Catherine Armsden** — Antigone Books, 411 N.

STORYTIMES

- **Baby Storytime** — Short stories with music and songs. Oro Valley Public Library, 1305 W. Naranja Drive. 10-10:30 a.m. Mondays. 594-5580.
- **Murphy-Wilmot Public Library**, 530 N. Wilmore Road. 10:30-11 a.m. Wednesdays. 594-5420.
- **Woods Memorial Public Library**, 3455 N. First Ave. 10-10:45 a.m. Thursdays. 594-5445.
- **Toddler Storytime** — Listen, learn, sing, move and play together. Sometimes there are puppets. Murphy-Wilmot Public Library. 9:30-10 and 10:30-11 a.m. Tuesdays. 594-5420.
- **Woods Memorial Public Library**. For babies 19-36 months. 11-11:45 a.m. Thursdays. 594-5445.
- **Family Storytime** — Read stories, learn about good books, do crafts, listen to music and sometimes watch a puppet show. Oro Valley Public Library. 10-10:30 a.m. Wednesdays. 594-5580.
- **Woods Memorial Public Library**. 11-11:45 a.m. Saturday. 594-5445.
- **Preschool Storytime** — Read stories, sing songs, and participate in activities. Woods Memorial Public Library. Ages 3-5. 10:15-11 a.m. Wednesdays. 594-5445.
- **Murphy-Wilmot Public Library**. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Fridays. 594-5420.
- **Bilingual Family Storytime** — Murphy-Wilmot Public Library. Read stories, sing songs and play games in Spanish and English. 10:30-11:15 p.m. Thursdays. 594-5420.

Fourth Ave. "Dream House." 7-9 p.m. Feb. 26. 792-3715.

SATURDAY

- **Antique, Vintage and Collectible Book Fair** — Oro Valley Marketplace, 12155 N. Oracle Road. Books range from the 1700s to present, signed, limited, and first editions available. Net proceeds benefit educational nonprofit Tell Me A Good Story. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 27; 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 28. 975-2904.
- **Saguaro Romance Writers** — Viscount Hotel, 4855 E. Broadway. Vicky Loebel, author, speaks on the topic Plot Points for Pantser; and Michael Petersen, business strategist, presents The Romance Writer's Business Guide. Price includes buffet. 18 and up. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 27. \$30. 745-6500.



PHOTOS BY ALEX MCINTYRE / FOR THE ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Jack Connelly, a sixth-grade student, raises his hand to comment on a submission for the next issue of the Eagle's Quill, the literary magazine published by students at St. Michael's Parish Day School.

Tucson school's literary mag receives national recognition

By Angela Pittenger

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Middle school students gather around a table with artwork spread out over it, pencils and score sheets in hand.

"Oh wow. That's a really great portrait," one student says.

"Mr. Hawes, can we see this one in not color?" another asks.

Artworks — submitted by K-8 students — are being graded on a scale from one to 10 for possible inclusion in the 20th edition of the Eagle's Quill, a literary magazine run by students at St. Michael's Parish Day School.

Each edition is full of poetry, stories and artwork created by students in all grades. The editorial staff consists of students in grades six through eight and two faculty advisers. The magazine is published each spring and distributed during the last week of school.

Last year's edition was given a "superior" ranking — the highest — from the National Council of Teachers of English, an organization dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of English and language arts, for the first time.

The recognition draws praise from **Alex Hawes**, teacher and faculty adviser for the Eagle's Quill.

"What I find most gratifying is that what I try to draw out of my students in class ... is recognized and valued," Hawes says. "With an emphasis these days on fill-in-the-bubble tests and nonfiction analysis under Common Core, there's less space in many schools to celebrate the poetic and the beautiful. We've committed ourselves to the fine arts and visual arts at St. Michael's, and Eagle's Quill puts that on display to our families."

Last year's student editors, **Kayla Conway** and **Macey**



The 2015 edition of the Eagle's Quill received a ranking of "superior" from the National Council of Teachers of English.

Brown, both 14-year-old eighth graders, share the same sense of pride.

"I feel really accomplished," Conway says. "It's nice knowing that something I participated in got a national award."

"I'm very proud to go to a school that gets such high rankings for writing and art," Brown adds.

Though it is the magazine's "superior" ranking, it isn't the first time it has been recognized.

"I must admit as the day approaches each winter for NCTE to announce the contest's winners, I do get butterflies," Hawes says. "Having won recognition 10 years in a row now, it would be very disappointing to miss out ... so I do feel a great sense of relief when the envelope from NCTE delivers good news."

Works for the upcoming issue have been submitted throughout the year. The magazine staff promotes monthly contests to encourage students to submit their writing and art.

The current theme: "May the Sci-Fi Be with You."

Hawes projects an image on a screen.

"Does this go with a story?" one student asks.

"Yes, but we're gonna look at it for its own merit," Hawes replies. Each piece of work is judged individually, based on grade level. So, if it's a kindergartener's piece, it is judged accordingly.

"At the beginning of the year, we give a lesson on criteria for judging art and writing," says **Ann Hand**, who founded the Eagle's Quill, and is now a retired teacher and staff adviser. "So, they have a background."

It can be hard to pick favorite writings, says **Madeline Greene**, 13, co-editor of this year's edition.

"Sometimes it can be really hard to decide," Greene says. "Especially when it's repetitive with the younger kids. But, some really stand out."

This year's art director, **Aidan Romanoski**, an 11-year-old sixth grader, has a system for picking his favorite art pieces.

"It just has to have a lot of detail," Romanoski says. "And it can't just be one color."

Contact Angela Pittenger at apitteng@tucson.com. On Twitter: @Centsiblemama

THIS WEEK'S BEST-SELLERS FROM WALL STREET JOURNAL

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FICTION

1. "Love from The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle (Grosset & Dunlap)
2. "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Old School" by Jeff

Kinney (Amulet Books)

3. "Oh, the Places You'll Go" by Dr. Seuss (Random House)
4. "Brotherhood in Death" by J.D. Robb (Berkley)
5. "Glass Sword" by Victoria Aveyard

(Harper Teen)

NONFICTION

1. "The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up" by Marie Kondo (Ten Speed)
2. "When Breath Becomes Air" by Paul Kalanithi

(Random House)

3. "Spark Joy" by Marie Kondo (Ten Speed)
4. "The Name of God is Mercy" by Pope Francis (Random House)
5. "Strengths Finder" by Tom Rath (Gallup Press)

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