



## NEBRASKA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

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# **N E W S   R E L E A S E**

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## **Nebraska Book Fest offers programs for children**

Children who visit the Lincoln Children's Museum on Oct. 27 can meet the "real D.W.," dance to The String Beans, dramatize a story with Leta Powell Drake, and learn secrets to telling ghost stories for Halloween in a series of programs entitled "Outside the Lines: Creative Storytelling Activities for Children."

The museum at 1420 P St. has teamed up with the Nebraska Book Festival, Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Library Commission, and Nebraska Humanities Council to offer these free programs for children and their families. The humanities council is sponsoring free admission to the museum all day.

"Encouraging literacy is one of the main goals of the museum," said Sarah DeWald, director of education for the children's museum. "The festival program for children will be a perfect complement to our other educational programs."

The "real D.W.," sister to the creator of Arthur the aardvark, will present a program for children ages six and older at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Kim Brown will tell stories about growing up with brother Marc Brown. She will share inside information about her brother and his characters, how he creates an Arthur book, and the eight-step formula for drawing Arthur.

At noon the Lincoln-based musical trio The String Beans will share children's tunes about animals, food, being a kid, and what you might find if you "Look in a Book." At 2:15 p.m., Leta Powell Drake, longtime Lincoln actress and TV personality, will lead children ages six and older and their parents in the dramatization of the award-winning children's book, "Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters."

The day culminates at 3:30 p.m. with Dorothy Rieke's "Ghosts, Goblins and Ghouls," a presentation of spooky takes and secrets about what makes a story scary, for children ages eight and older.

"The Nebraska Book Festival is a celebration of books—books we read, listen to, talk about, and write. The festival has traditionally focused on adults, but it's important for children to celebrate books too," said Erika Hamilton, program officer for the Nebraska Humanities Council. "We are excited to partner with the Lincoln Children's Museum to offer these fun activities for children."

Free events for adults include a keynote address by Crazy Horse biographer Joseph Marshall III and sessions on how to read quilts, mystery and crime fiction, photography, and how to get into print. At 3:30 p.m., Rajean Luebs Shepherd, author of "C is for Cornhusker" and "Husker Numbers," will discuss her process of selecting Nebraska treasures for each book, negotiations with her publishers, and ideas that either made it or didn't make it into her books.

The complete festival schedule is at [www.nebraskabookfestival.org](http://www.nebraskabookfestival.org).

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