

CCC Newsletter

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The mission of Concord Children's Center is to cultivate an intimate, welcoming community where children develop respectful relationships and inquisitive minds, build confidence in their individual gifts, and are engaged, prepared and inspired to learn

December, 2018

Calendar

Dec 13	Board meeting
Dec 24	CCC Closes at 1 PM
Dec 25	CCC Closed
Dec 26, 27, 28, 31	Optional Days
Jan 1	CCC Closed
Jan 4	2018-19 Applications Distributed
Jan 9	Board Meeting, 7:15 West Concord
Jan 21	CCC Closed MLK Day
Jan 25	2019-20 Applications Due



Ripley Friendship Feast

December Optional Days: December 26, 27, 28, 31 – All Children at West Concord



Concord Children's Center follows the Concord Public Schools (CPS) calendar for vacations. Therefore, our 40 week school year DOES NOT include the CPS school vacation weeks in December, February, and April. Concord Children's Center is happy to be able to offer optional care during those vacation weeks. Children can come to the Center either on their regular schedule or a modified schedule just for that week. We staff according to enrollment, and plan new and different activities for the children so that the week is special for them.

This year children and teachers from Emerson, Ripley and West Concord will spend the optional week at West Concord, 1300 Main Street. We will hope for snow so we can enjoy our sledding hill during this special week. Please check with your Program Director if you are wondering if you enrolled your child for optional week

Celebrating Holidays at CCC



Holiday celebrations can be wonderful opportunities for children to learn about the traditions and values that are significant parts of people's lives. At Concord Children's Center it is important that our curriculum reflect and respect the cultures represented by all of our families. Holidays are one way for our community to work together to create developmentally and culturally appropriate learning experiences.

Following the lead of our children and their families, CCC includes a variety of holidays in the curriculum and invites families to share special traditions. Our CCC community of families celebrates over two dozen different holidays



throughout the year. Families interested in sharing their holiday with their child's class can speak with their teacher or program director

Many Thanks for a very successful Bookshop Fundraiser! Thanks to all who shopped and volunteered. And much appreciation to the Concord Bookshop!



I am once again sharing the article on Big Body Play. As the weather gets colder and play moves from the outside to inside, families may be wondering why the children can't play just a bit more quietly, perhaps a bit more gently. It is helpful to remember how important play, including rough and tumble play, is to the development of the young child, and how parents and teachers can respond to this very important play. The NAEYC website Family Resource Page (<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/for-families>) recently carried an article by Frances Carlson the author of *Big Body Play: Why Boisterous, Vigorous, and Very Physical Play Is Essential to Children's Development and Learning*.

What Is Big Body Play and Why Is It Important?

Big body play is the very physical, vigorous, boisterous, and sometimes bone-jarring play style many children love and crave.

Big body play is...

- When a child throws herself onto a sofa.
- When children wrestle.
- When friends jump off climbing equipment.
- When friends chase each other as they laugh, or race to a finish line.

Why is big body play important for children? Big body play supports children's physical development, but it also supports the development of children's social awareness, emotional thinking, and language skills. Research shows that big body play comes naturally to children. Children all over the world play this way, and that is why it's so important that adults, both teachers and family members, understand and support it.

How does big body play support children's learning? There are many ways big body play supports and enhances children's learning. Younger children gain a lot of information about their bodies through big body play. When children enjoy big body play, they can also build both verbal and nonverbal communication skills. Through big body play, they learn to correctly interpret nonverbal gestures, like when my friend puts her hand up it means I should stop but if she smiles it means I can keep going. Children will apply this skill throughout their lives in different social situations.

Five things you should know about big body play

1. Big body play looks like fighting, but it isn't fighting.
2. Big body play is rowdy, physical, and usually loud. It rarely turns into real fighting.
3. Big body play is a vital component of children's growth and development. Children all over the world play this way.
4. Big body play gives children sustained moderate-to-vigorous physical exercise.
5. The quickest way to distinguish big body play from real fighting is by looking at the expressions on children's faces. Their big smiles let us know the play is okay.

OVER 51% OF OUR FAMILIES HAVE ALREADY DONATED TO THE **FUND FOR CCC**. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO CCC -- YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR OUR CHILDREN AND OUR SCHOOL. THERE WILL BE A SECOND ASK IN THE SPRING, AND YOU CAN ALWAYS DONATE ON-LINE ([HTTP://CONCORDCHILDRENSCENTER.ORG/SUPPORT-CCC/FUND-FOR-CCC/MAKE-A-DONATION/](http://concordchildrenscenter.org/support-ccc/fund-for-ccc/make-a-donation/)) OR USING THE MATERIALS YOU RECEIVED IN THE MAIL EARLIER THIS MONTH.



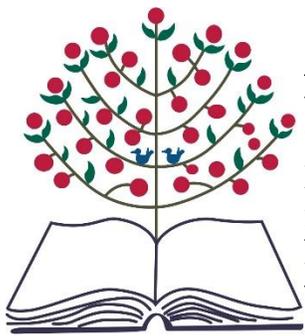
WELCOMING WINTER WITH CONCORD

CELEBRATIONS OF THE SEASON

The Concord Museum Family Trees: A Celebration of Children's Literature

November 21, 2018 - January 1, 2019

Monday - Friday 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
in the Anna and Neil Rasmussen Education Center at the Concord Museum



A love of books and reading is a lifelong treasure passed from adult to child, from generation to generation. *Family Trees: A Celebration of Children's Literature* at the Concord Museum in historic Concord, Massachusetts gives Concord's renowned literary tradition a creative twist. During the holiday season the Museum decorates more than 30 fanciful trees and wreaths - of all shapes and sizes - with original ornaments inspired by acclaimed children's storybooks and contemporary picture book favorites.



2018 marks the 23rd year of the Concord Museum's award-winning *Family Trees: A Celebration of Children's Literature*. This fall, the Museum will be celebrating the opening of a new Education Center. Visitors to *Family Trees* will be welcomed by outdoor trees in the new courtyard and orchard. Then, in the new welcome area and in three purpose-built classrooms, trees and wreaths will share the space with specially-installed classroom galleries housing some of the Museum's renowned collection of historical artifacts. Finally, the spacious new community Lyceum will be literally a forest of trees large and small. All will be decorated as visitors have come to expect with whimsical ornaments that bring to life classic and contemporary children's books.

TOWN OF CONCORD

HOLIDAY PARADE & TREE LIGHTING

DECEMBER 2, 2018



TREATS & ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL TO ENJOY
CONCORD CENTER

CONCORD
RECREATION

Entertainment Begins 3:00 PM
Parade Begins 4:50 PM
Tree Lighting 5:15 PM
Photos with Santa 5:30 PM

BEEDE
CENTER
swim + fitness

MUSKET&QUID WINTER SOLSTICE



WINTER SOLSTICE: FIRE AND DRUM SING-A-LONG
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2017
6:00-7:30PM

ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE OLD MANSE, 269
MONUMENT STREET, CONCORD, MA

Warm the spirit on the longest night of the year at the candle and bonfire lit evening on the back lawn of the Old Manse. Sing-a-long with Voices for the Earth Chorus and dance to drum rhythms. Hot cider and the makings of s'mores provided. FREE and open to the public.



Concord Recreation New Year's Eve Day Party

Families will ring in the New Year together at noon, complete with Noon Year's Eve favors and a super fun countdown! *Age Guidance - This event will be most enjoyed by families with at least one child between the ages of 1-10 but older and younger siblings will have a blast as well!*

This family disco party will have kids and parents boogying down together to the hottest tunes spun by a rockin' DJ. And when they need to catch their breath, your kids will be able to get groovy hairdos, rad tattoos, a funky family photo for their memory box, express their inner artist on our graffiti wall, enjoy the most delicious pizza and drinks in town, and more! Families will ring in the New Year together at noon complete with Noon Year's Eve favors and a super fun countdown!

Age Guidance - This event will be most enjoyed by families with at least one child between the ages of 1-10 but older and younger siblings will have a blast as well! Tickets: \$15 for family up to three people; \$20 for family of four or more. Children under 1 are free.

All proceeds from this event benefit: [The Concord Carousel Preschool Scholarship Fund](#)

Tickets: \$15 for family up to three people; \$20 for family of four or more. Children under 1 are free.

CCC Board Meetings are open to all families. Please feel free to stop by and listen as we discuss the work of the Center.

Meeting Locations, Topics and Special Events. All meetings begin at 7:15 pm unless otherwise noted

- December 12** **Emerson**
Development and Events Update and Discussion
Seventh Annual: Holiday Sweater Contest!
- January 9** **Ripley**
2nd Quarter financials and projection
Admin Update: Ethical Code of Conduct
Events: Skating Party February 10, 3-5
- February 13** **West Concord**
Benefits and Salary Review – Philosophy and Comparison
Admin Update: Professional Development Report, Staff Survey
- March 13** **West Concord**
Tuition Analysis, Tuition and Salary Increase Discussion
Draft Budget
Event Auction March 30!
- April 10** **Ripley**
Budget Proposal vote
3rd Quarter financials and projection
Admin & LRP Update: Facilities
- May 8** **West Concord**
PHONATHON/Board Dinner
Event: Special Friends Day May 10; End of the year picnics
- June 12** **West Concord**
7:00 pm: Annual Corporation Meeting: Board slate, annual reports, recognition of significant volunteers, scholarship recipient
7:30 PM: June Board meeting: Slate of Officers, welcome new members
Event: Staff Appreciation Dinner,



CCC Board 2013 Holiday Sweater Contest

(yes we need a new photo!)

2017-2018 Board Members

West Concord: Betsy Keller, -Chair, , Jay Abelowitz, Co-Chair , Campbell Rowe, Secretary, Marcella Bean, Eric Boisvert, JC Conti, Mark Daniel, Karen Lennon, Becky McCullough, Kathy Manero,

Emerson
Tom Doherty, Jonathan Rankin

Ripley
Nate Kemp, Kerry Norton, Jeanne Triant

Alumni
Stephan Bader, Treasurer

