

Animal art show aims to please kids

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Bring your kids -- and their pets -- to a gallery opening. How often do you get an invitation like that?

Amy Amdur, owner and director of Amdur Gallery of Contemporary Art, Glen Town Center, 2071 Tower Drive, Glenview, wants everyone to feel welcome at the opening of "Parade of Animals!" 4-8 p.m. Friday. In addition to the traditional wine and cheese, her staff will be serving animal crackers and milk, and dog biscuits.

"I'm the mother of two children," Amdur said. "January is a month we're all looking for special things to do with our children. Usually, the weather's not too good and we've all been to all of the museums already."

She decided to do "a show at the gallery that was family-friendly. I knew a lot of artists who had the theme of animals in their work." Many of those artists will attend the opening. An artist will do free pet caricatures and there will be hands-on art projects for kids.

"Not only will (children) look at art, they'll also be able to make art," Amdur said.

For details, call (847) 998-0777 or see www.amdurgallery.com.

Grimm tasks

A young boy must climb to a castle in the sky, defeat a giant and save a princess in "Jack and the Beanstalk." The Northbrook Theatre for Young Audiences' production of the Grimm Brothers tale will be performed at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays, through March 3 at 3323 Walters Ave., Northbrook. Tickets are \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance. Lunch/theater performances on Feb. 10 and March 3 are \$13.

For details, call (847) 291-2367.

Embrace another culture

Escape to the orient on Sunday during "Cultures of the World: Fujima Ryu Japanese." From 2-3 p.m., the acclaimed Chicago-based Japanese dance company will perform both classical and Japanese folk dances at Vernon Area Public Library District, 300 Olde Half Day Road, Lincolnshire. Registration is required for this free dance concert.

For details, call (847) 634-3650.

Quite a feat

Life can be complex when you're "A Clown without a Circus." That's the plight of eighth-generation circus performer Ottavio Canestrelli, who presents his one-man show at 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays, through Feb. 25, at the Actors Gymnasium, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. Tickets to the combination of biography and amazing stunts are \$7-\$15 for children, \$16-\$30 for adults.

For details, call (800) 838-3006.

Read all about it

News flash: "Guys Read!" That's the title of a program for boys in grades 4-6 and their

dads that meets on selected Wednesdays, from 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Winnetka Public Library, 768 Oak Street. At the next session, January 24, they will discuss Roland Smith's "Sasquatch."

For details, call (847) 446-7220.

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