

Two storytellers share fables, lessons with kids

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FAMILY FRIENDLY

By MYRNA PETLICKI

Everyone is different but we're "More Alike than Not." That's the message Susan O'Halloran and Northbrook native Arif Choudhury will deliver, 10-11 a.m., Saturday March 21, in the auditorium of the Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane.

"We use fables as well as personal stories to talk about our differences and our similarities," O'Halloran said. "With family shows, we use a lot of fables that talk about bullying and people making judgments about each other. We talk about how people can be so wrong -- kids relate to that right away."

"We also talk very positively," O'Halloran added. "We give the kids examples through history when people stood up for each other and would say, 'You can't hurt somebody else because if you hurt somebody else, you hurt me,'" since we're all connected.

The two storytellers are very different. "He's younger than me," O'Halloran reported. "Brown skin, white skin, Muslim, Christian. Our point is if we take the time to listen to each other's stories, we'll find out how similar we are and how valuable the differences are."

For details, call (847) 272-6224.

Look up to Lincoln

The words of Abraham Lincoln will be set to music when the Music Institute of Chicago's Lincoln Trio presents "Tall Tales," 10 a.m. Saturday, March 21, in the Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Ravinia Festival President and CEO Welz Kauffman will narrate at this free concert, preceded by kids' activities and an open house at 9 a.m.

For details, call (847) 905-1500.

Parlor trick

Kids ages 4-10, with an adult, will whip up a batch of vanilla ice cream and pot a mint plant for flavoring, at Homemade Ice Cream, 9:30-11 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m. Saturdays, April 4 or 11, at Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. They will also learn about ice cream flavors that come from plants. Cost is \$17 per child member, \$20 per child nonmember. Register soon because classes fill quickly.

For details, call (847) 835-8363.

A cover-up

Headwear is encouraged at Mad Hatters, 1-2 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at the Deerfield Public Library, 920 Waukegan Road. The silly book-based play will be presented by Junior League of Chicago members for kids in kindergarten through fifth grade and their parents or caregivers.

For details, call (847) 945-3311.

Clowning with a purpose

It will be a circus at Hemenway United Methodist Church, 933 Chicago Ave., Evanston, 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 21, when entertainers from Actors Gymnasium clown, stiltwalk, juggle, tumble and do acrobatics at Family FunFest. There will also be games and crafts at this ChildServ benefit. Admission is \$25 per family or \$12 per adult and \$6 per child at the door.

For details, call (773) 867-7361.

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