



# SPARK

spark plug newsletter



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## Secrets: Family Fun



### Family Fun Highlight

Bundle up and set sail aboard Balclutha, a historical landmark previously used for transporting cargo around the world. In the Music of the Sea for Kids, program on Saturday, December 18 at 2PM

history will resonate on the ship in the form of songs. Hop aboard this fun ship at the Hyde Street Pier in San Francisco. Fee is \$5 for adults and FREE for supervised children under 17. More information at the National Park Service site at [nps.gov](http://nps.gov).

Search Spark



### Spark tips

- \* The Artscard gives families discounted admission to more than 65 art and cultural institutions throughout the Bay Area and is free for families with children enrolled in grades PreK-12. To find out more, go to [artscard.info](http://artscard.info)
- \* Your local library is a wonderful resource for books on arts, and many have art exhibitions and free events for children. Here are some links to libraries near you. To find a California library near you, go to [library.ca.gov](http://library.ca.gov).
- \* Here are some other great resources to explore before you go out and play.

### Places to Go

#### Asian Art Museum's Storytelling

[asianart.org](http://asianart.org)

The Asian Art Museum of San Francisco currently preserves a vast collection of art and artifacts from the far east. But the museum's art isn't just visual; every Sunday at 1pm, the Asian Art Museum Storytelling Corps offer entertaining and educational programs for kids and adults to enjoy, continuing oral traditions that otherwise would have been forgotten.

**Where:** 200 Larkin St., San Francisco

**Phone:** (415) 581-3500

**Cost:** Storytelling free with museum admission: \$10 adults, \$7 seniors, \$6 students, free for children under 12, Asian Art Museum members, and SFUSD students; \$5 Thursday evenings after 5 pm; free first Tuesday of every month

#### Bay Area Discovery Museum

[baykidsmuseum.org](http://baykidsmuseum.org)

Events, performances, learning labs and exhibits at the Bay Area Discovery Museum engage and educate children through exploration of and connection with the local environment and the diverse communities that live here.

**Where:** Fort Baker, 557 McReynolds Rd., Sausalito

**Phone:** (415) 339-3900 (recorded information), (415) 339-3931 (reservations)

**Cost:** \$8.50 adults and \$7.50 children over 1, free for children under 1 and Bay Area Discovery Museum members, free the second Saturday of the month after 1pm

#### Cartoon Art Museum

[cartoonart.org](http://cartoonart.org)

Located in San Francisco, The Cartoon Art Museum is the only institution in the United States dedicated to preserving an art form not often thought of as an art form: printed cartoons. The museum frequently holds events for young children, and the ongoing exhibits have fascinated young and old alike.

#### Artsopolis: Kids/Families

[artsopolis.com](http://artsopolis.com)

This Web site from the Arts Council Silicon Valley offers the largest database of Silicon Valley Arts and Cultural events.

#### Bay Area Kid Fun

[bayareakidfun.com](http://bayareakidfun.com)

Find the many wonderful places, activities and events that are available to you and your family in the San Francisco Bay Area.

#### GoCityKids

[gocitykids.com](http://gocitykids.com)

In this online guide, find the best family-friendly activities in cities across the United States.

#### GoKid.org

[gokid.org](http://gokid.org)

This community-based Web site created by a group of San Francisco moms offers listings of places to go and things to do with kids, children's health and safety information, and more.

**Where:** 655 Mission St., San Francisco

**Phone:** (415) CARTOON

**Cost:** \$6 adults, \$4 students & seniors, \$2 children (ages 6 - 12), free for children age 5 & under. The first Tuesday of month is "Pay What You Wish Day."

### Community School of Music and Arts

[arts4all.org](http://arts4all.org)

CSMA offers a complete Early Childhood Music & Art Program for children (18 months to 5 years) accompanied by a parent. Additional offerings include summer day camps for children grades K-8 and weekly music and art classes for students of all ages from children to adults.

**Where:** Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Cir., Mountain View

**Phone:** (650) 917-6800

### Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose

[cdm.org](http://cdm.org)

Visit the big, purple building where children can discover unusual events, exhibits, and artwork for themselves. The Children's Discovery Museum exposes kids to the world of science, technology and art at an early age, to stimulate their curiosities and dreams for the benefit of future generations.

**Where:** 180 Woz Way, San Jose

**Phone:** (408) 298-5437

**Cost:** \$7 ages 1 through 59, \$6 seniors, free for children under 1 and Children's Discovery Museum members

### de Young Art Center

[thinker.org](http://thinker.org)

The de Young Art Center is home to the de Young Museum's award-winning art education programs until June, 2005, when the new de Young Museum opens to the public. The center provides research materials, books, and a multimedia library for teachers and college students and offers day time and weekend hands-on activities for all ages as well as artists' demonstrations, workshops, lectures and seminars.

**Where:** 2501 Irving St., San Francisco

**Phone:** (415) 682-2485

**Cost:** Admission is free

### Exploratorium

[exploratorium.org](http://exploratorium.org)

This hands-on museum houses more than 650 science, art and human perception exhibits. And their Web site is super fun too, with plenty of interactive games!

**Where:** Palace of Fine Arts, 3601 Lyon St., San Francisco

**Phone:** (415) EXPLORE (397-5673)

**Cost:** \$12 adults (18-64), \$9.50 students and seniors, \$8 children 4 through 17, free for children 3 and under, free the first Wednesday of the month

### Habitot

[habitot.org](http://habitot.org)

A place for young children, Habitot Children's Museum offers hands-on exhibits, a drop-in art studio and special weekend events that are geared toward infants, toddlers and preschoolers.

**Where:** 2065 Kittredge St., Berkeley

**Phone:** (510) 647-1111

**Cost:** \$5 adults, \$6 children, 10 percent discount for seniors and people with disabilities, free for children under age 1; inquire about admission rates for low-income families, special-needs families, teen parents, foster parents, homeless families and others in need.

### International Children's Art Museum

The museum features art from children around the world. The exhibits will satisfy anyone curious about childhood in other cultures and about contrasting common characteristics of children's art from many

If there is a **Family Fun Secret** you would like to submit to **Spark**, email us at [sparkweb@kqed.org](mailto:sparkweb@kqed.org).

different nations.

**Where:** World Trade Center, Suite 103, Ferry Bldg., Embarcadero at Market St., San Francisco

**Phone:** (415) 772-9977

**Cost:** \$1 adults, 50 cents children

### **Koret Visitor Education Center**

[sfmoma.org](http://sfmoma.org)

Unique among art museums in the United States, SFMOMA's Koret Visitor Education Center offers new pathways to enjoying art, with art activity bins for children and studios for hands-on family programs.

**Where:** 151 Third St., San Francisco

**Phone:** (415) 357-4000

**Cost:** \$10 adults, \$7 seniors, \$6 students with ID, free for SFMOMA members and children 12 and under with adult, free the first Tuesday of the month.

### **Museum of Children's Art**

[mocha.org](http://mocha.org)

Especially for kids, the Museum of Children's Art offers classes, family workshops and an art camp. And it offers Little Studio and Open Studio, drop-in art programs for kids and their families.

**Where:** 538 Ninth St., San Francisco

**Phone:** (510) 465-8770

**Cost:** Gallery admission is always free; classes, workshops and camps often charge a fee -- contact them for more information.

### **Randall Museum**

[randallmuseum.org](http://randallmuseum.org)

The Randall Museum offers a unique haven where children and adults can explore the creative aspects of art and science and make discoveries about nature and the environment by direct participation in classes, workshops, special events and clubs. Our suggestion: check out their Drop-In Family Ceramics on Saturdays.

**Where:** 199 Museum Way, San Francisco

**Phone:** (415) 554-9600

**Cost:** Museum admission and school field trip programs are free. Donations are gratefully accepted.

### **San Francisco Children's Art Center**

[childrensartcenter.org](http://childrensartcenter.org)

For more than two decades, the San Francisco Children's Art Center has focused on a process-oriented art experience. They offer weekly art classes and art birthday parties and conduct programs at community sites in San Francisco

**Where:** Fort Mason, Building C, San Francisco

**Phone:** (415) 771-0292

### **San Francisco Symphony's Music for Families Series**

[sfsymphony.org](http://sfsymphony.org)

The Music for Families Series offers quarterly symphony concerts that combine great music with fascinating talks, show-and-tell demonstrations and useful tools to promote music appreciation at home.

**Where:** Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

**Phone:** (415) 864-6000

**Cost:** Adult \$10-\$50, child \$5-\$25

### **San Jose Museum of Art**

[sjmusart.org](http://sjmusart.org)

Join families from all over the Bay Area at the San Jose Museum of Art's Kids ArtSunday! With the objective of making the artwork on view accessible to young audiences, SJMA's education department offers this quarterly event free.

**Where:** 110 South Market St., San Jose

**Phone:** (408) 271-6840

**Cost:** Free

### Yoshi's Sunday Matinees

[yoshis.com](http://yoshis.com)

Yoshi's is committed to encouraging younger audiences to enjoy the experience of a jazz show by offering the specially priced Yoshi's Sunday Matinee Series. Timed for the convenience of families, the shows are at 2pm on most Sundays.

**Where:** Jack London Square, 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland

**Phone:** (510) 238-9200

**Cost:** \$15 per adult with one child, \$5 children 2 through 17

### Zeum

[zeum.org](http://zeum.org)

Providing a hands-on participatory environment for youth arts expression, Zeum is a lot of fun for everyone. If that isn't enough fun for your whole family, Zeum is the cornerstone of the Rooftop at Yerba Buena Gardens, which also includes an ice skating rink, a bowling center, a child development center, a 1906 Playland-at-the-Beach carousel and gardens.

**Where:** Fourth and Howard streets, San Francisco

**Phone:** (415) 777-2800

**Cost:** \$7 general public, \$6 students and seniors, \$5 children 4 through 18, free for Zeum members.

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## Places to Surf

### Albright-Knox Artgames

[albrightknox.org](http://albrightknox.org)

Created by high-school art students from the Riverside Institute of Technology in Buffalo, N.Y., this site combines art and technology, with new games each month.

### Crayola

[crayola.com](http://crayola.com)

Get everyone in a creative mood with activities for kids and parents on this colorful Web site.

### Parents Press

[parentspress.com](http://parentspress.com)

Stuck indoors? Parents Press offers some great suggestions to beat the rainy day blues.

### PBS Kids

[pbskids.org](http://pbskids.org)

With games, stories, music and coloring activities, what more could you want from a Web site? Maybe something for the parents? You got it at PBS.org.

### San Francisco Symphony (SFS) Kids

[sfskids.org](http://sfskids.org)

An interactive site, SFS Kids provides a great way for people of all ages to hear, learn, create and have fun with music.

### Scribbles

[scribbleskidsart.com](http://scribbleskidsart.com)

Learn about different artists and their artwork, do an online art project, take quizzes, and submit work to the Scribbles online art gallery.

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