

The Pen & Pencil

An Interactive Monthly Newsletter About Books and More
For Readers & Writers Ages 6 - 11

December 2009



Beethoven's Wig



December 16th is Beethoven's birthday. If you would like a fun way to celebrate, look for the three *Beethoven's Wig* CDs in the children's room of the library.

Richard Perlmutter is the creator, lyricist, and featured performer in this fun tribute to Beethoven's music. All three albums in the series have been

nominated for Grammy Awards for Best Musical Album for Children. In addition, Richard has written music for radio and TV. He holds degrees from Cornell University, Rhode Island School of Design, and Yale University. He also taught at Yale. (Wow, what a smarty-pants!)

This hilarious (and educational) CD can be found in the children's room under this call number: CD ZM PERL BW R12

Happy listening!

Name the Book Contest

Life is usually easy for popular fifth-grader Hart Evans, but when his music teacher puts him in charge of the holiday concert, he must use all of his leadership skills to unite the other students. The author of this book is *Andrew Clements*.

For a chance to win a copy of this great book, write the title on a 3"x 5" card (or cut out this entry blank). Be sure to include your name, age, and phone, so that we can contact you if you win. Bring to either College Hill or Irving Street Library Children's Desk by January 15, 2010.

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December Name the Book Contest

The title of the book about Hart Evans is:

Your name:
Age:
Phone:

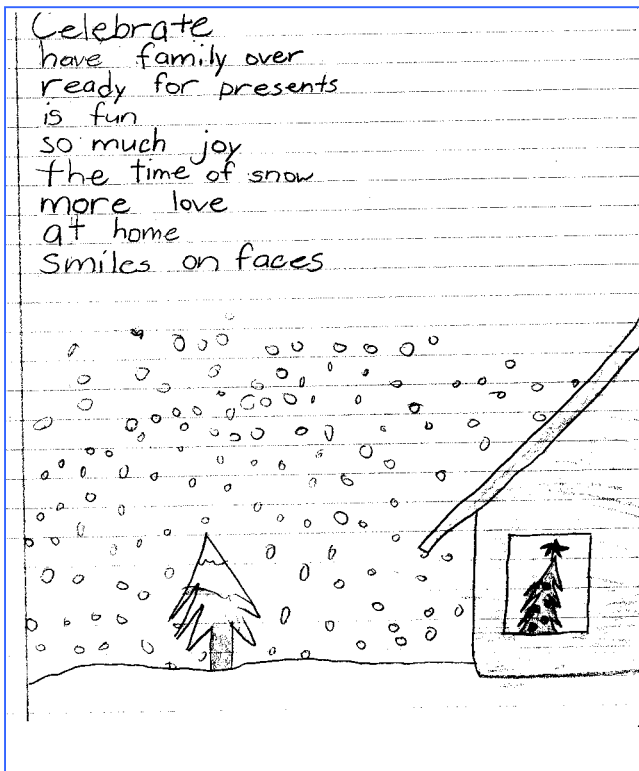
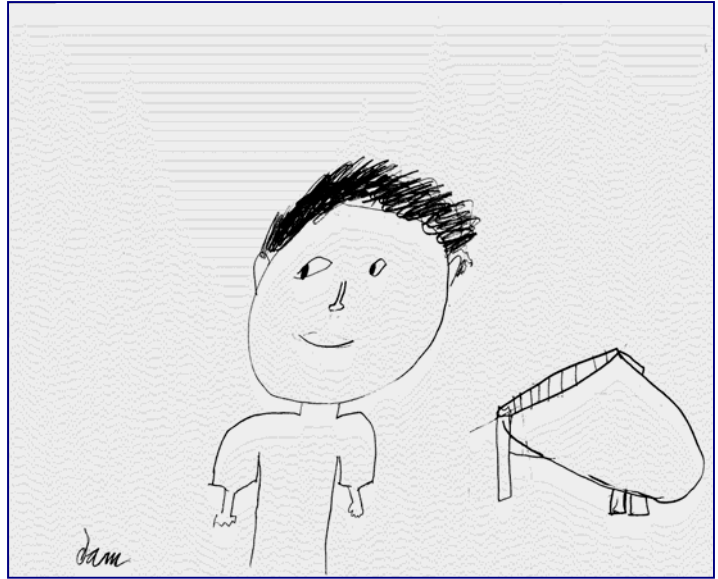
Bring to either College Hill or Irving Street Library, Children's Desk.

Deadline: Jan. 15, 2010

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Happy Birthday, Beethoven!

*Pencil Drawing by
Sam deSeriore
Age 10,
Holy Trinity School*



*Poem & Pencil Drawing from Writing Journal of
Jacob Capps, age 9, Semper Elementary*

Celebrate

by Jacob Capps

Celebrate

Have family over

Ready for presents

Is fun

So much joy

The time of snow

More love

At home

Smiles on faces.

Father Fox's Poem

Stoke the fire
Bright and warm
Against the dark
Of winter's storm
No matter how fiercely
The wind may blow
Lashing the window
With ice and snow
These flames that crackle
Lick and dart
Will toast the toes
And warm the heart

From: *Father Fox's Christmas Rhymes*,
by Clyde Watson



*"You don't stop playing because you
grow old; you grow old because you
stop playing..."*

--Ben Franklin

Pen & Pencil Club Recommends...

Katie is reading *Wings: A Fairy Tale*,
by E. D. Baker

Luigi and Mateo are enjoying the series,
39 Clues, which so far includes – *Maze of
Bones*, by Rick Riordan, *One False Note*, by
Gordon Korman, *Black Circle*, by Patrick
Carman, *Sword Thief*, by Peter Lerangis, *In
Too Deep*, and *Beyond the Grave*, both by
Jude Watson. The next book, *Viper's Nest*,
will be out in February 2010.

Melting Moment Cookies



These cookies are
made from just
four ingredients
and are perfect for winter holidays as they
look like little snowballs.

Ingredients:
2 cups butter
1/2 cup cornstarch
3 cups flour
1 cup confectioner sugar

Cream butter; add remaining ingredients and
mix well. Drop on cookie sheet (1/2 -1 inch
balls). Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.
Cool, then roll in sifted confectioner sugar.

Source: www.about.com



December Reading

Beethoven Lives Upstairs, by Barbara Nichol—The letters that 10-year-old Christoph and his uncle exchange show how Christoph's feelings for Mr. Beethoven, the eccentric boarder who shares his house, change from anger to admiration. This book has been made into a beautiful film, which the library also owns.

Beethoven's Cat, by Elisabet McHugh—After a self-important cat named Ludwig discovers that he strongly resembles Ludwig Van Beethoven's cat, he begins to suspect that the spirit of the long-dead composer has possessed him.

Cassie Loves Beethoven, by Alan Arkin—The Kennedys' cow Cassie loves music, especially the music of Beethoven.

Moxy Maxwell Does Not Like Writing Thank You Notes, by Peggy Gifford - Moxy has promised to write twelve thank-you notes by the day after Christmas so that she can go to Hollywood to visit her father, but her brilliant ideas to finish the task more efficiently all end in chaos.

Children of Green Knowe, by Lucy Boston—When Tolly spends his winter holiday with his great-grandmother in an ancient family manor house, the children of centuries past seem to be alive there still.

Join the Club!

If you like to write, or talk about your favorite books, and you are between the ages of 6 – 11, you might want to become a member of the Pen & Pencil Club.



Come to our next meeting at College Hill Library. Bring something you have written, or read a passage from your favorite book.

The cookies are always sweet, and the lemonade is not half bad! Join us!

Next Meeting –
Saturday, January 16, 2010
2 – 3 p.m., Room L 107

Upcoming Meetings, 2-3 p.m. –
February 13, March 27,
April 24



Questions? Comments? Contact Mary Wickins,
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or call 303-404-5106

Westminster Public Library
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