

# KCL MONTHLY

Kuskokwim Consortium Library Newsletter

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*Happy Holidays  
from the  
Kuskokwim  
Consortium  
Library Staff*

# DECEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

28 Library Closed	29	30	1 StoryTime with Ms. Miller 11:00 a.m. Art with Jimmy: zoom session: Pop-up books 4:00 p.m.	2 Teen Time @ the Library 4:00 p.m.	3	4 Adult Holiday Craft 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
5 Library Closed	6	7	8 StoryTime with Ms. Miller 11:00 a.m.	9 Teen Time @ the Library: Cookie baking 4:00 p.m.	10	11 Holiday Craft @ Saturday Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
12 Library Closed	13 Junior Librarian League: Cookie baking/Meeting 5:00 p.m.	14	15 StoryTime with Ms. Miller 11:00 a.m. Art with Jimmy: Animation 4:00 p.m.	16 Teen Time @ the Library: Animation with Jimmy Riordan 4:00 p.m.	17	18 Cookie Decorating @ Saturday Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
19 Library Closed	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Library Closed	27 Library Closed	28 Library Closed	29 Library Closed	30 Library Closed	31 Library Closed	1 Library Closed

# LET'S GET OUR KIDS READING!

By Theresa Quiner, currently reading "The Wiseman's Fear" by Patrick Rothfuss

Reading is a big part of my life, and has been since I was 7 years old. Like a lot of kids, reading didn't come naturally to me when I was first learning. I can tell you exactly what book sparked my life-long love of reading: "Little House in the Big Woods" by Laura Ingalls Wilder. This seemed like an incredibly long chapter book to me at that age, but I started reading it when I was sick and couldn't put it down! I have been an avid reader ever since.

The ability to read has a huge impact on a person's life. Beyond providing entertainment, research shows that having low reading comprehension has a negative impact on a person's employment, health, self-esteem and more. 43% of Americans lack the literacy skills for living wage jobs (Kutner et al, 2006)- shocking, isn't it! Fourth grade is a benchmark year for a child's ability to read and an important indicator of a child's future literacy skills. By 4th grade, children must be able to read in order to learn other subjects, and the inability to read at grade level has an impact on children's future success in school in all subject areas and into adulthood.

Thankfully, there is a lot that we can do to support our kids so that they are reading at grade level and are not lacking this important skill as adults. The most important thing you can do is read to your children starting at birth. It might not be intuitive to read to a baby, but it is incredibly important. Reading to children starting at birth builds a foundation for literacy that will benefit children throughout their education and it will be that "spark" that teaches children that reading is enjoyable- not something they "have to do" for school. Model to your children that reading is fun, and make sure that there is always a variety of books available to them in the home. Visit the library with them, and let them pick out books that interest them (librarians can help with that). Read with your kids even as they get older- it is a great bonding activity. We had family reading parties when I was a kid! And don't forget to sign your babies up for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library by calling the library or at [imaginationlibrary.com](http://imaginationlibrary.com). It is a free book program available in Bethel, and a free, high quality book will be mailed to your kid every month.

Kutner M, Greenberg E, Baer J. National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL): A first look at the literacy of America's adults in the 21st century (Report No. NCES 2006-470) U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics; Washington, DC: 2006.



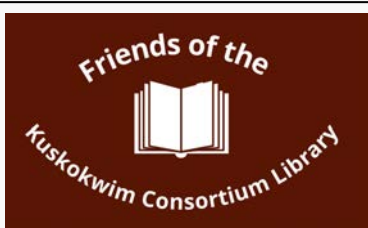
Donations can be made to the library at [bcsfoundation.org](http://bcsfoundation.org) by selecting "Friends of the KuC Library Fund".



The library is also one of the participating organizations in the #BethelGives fundraising campaign. Donations can be made at [bethelgives.org](http://bethelgives.org)



Consider joining the Junior Librarian League for kids ages 8-12. This is a club for kids who want to get involved with their local library. If you want to learn more about the club, call the library at 907-543-4516. Help build up your community library!



The library is seeking community members to serve on our Advisory Committee! The committee will help establish annual priorities, fundraise, and help us establish and evaluate our policies. If you are interested in helping to make the library a better place, please email Theresa at [tquiner@alaska.edu](mailto:tquiner@alaska.edu) or by calling 907-543-4517.





# Jimmy's Art Gallery

Jimmy Riordan is an Alaskan born multidisciplinary artist and educator. Though technically trained in book-arts and printmaking, his practice is not bound by any specific media. Based in Anchorage, Jimmy teaches most of the art programs done at the library; such as "Art with Jimmy". Here are some recent pieces done from the last in person program: Mini-painting.



## **KUSKOKWIM CONSORTIUM LIBRARY STAFF**

**THERESA QUINER, LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

**MIKAYLA MILLER, YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR**

**ELEANOR OSER, ADULT SERVICES COORDINATOR & JESUIT VOLUNTEER**

**THOMAS DANIEL, STUDENT WORKER**



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907-543-4516



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