

# COOL CULTURE eFamilyTime

Cool Culture® provides 50,000 underserved families with free, unlimited access to 90 cultural institutions – so that parents can provide their children with educational experience that will help them succeed in school and life.

e-Family Time Newsletter, brought to you by [Cool Culture](#)—December 2011

## Explore a Storybook World at The Jewish Museum



Esra Jack Keats, "In his great hurry, Peter bumped into Amy." Final illustration for *A Letter to Amy*, 1968. Watercolor, paint, and collage on board. Ezra Jack Keats Papers, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, McCain Library and Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi. Copyright Ezra Jack Keats Foundation.

Step out of the wintry cold and into a warm, colorful world inspired by some of the world's most famous children's books with a visit to [The Snowy Day and the Art of Ezra Jack Keats](#) exhibition at The Jewish Museum.

"It is one of the richest family-friendly shows we've ever had," says Rachel Katz, Senior Manager of Family Programs at The Jewish Museum. "Don't miss it!"

### Know Before You Go

Discover dozens of children's book illustrations on display here by Ezra Jack Keats, a pioneering artist and author who created bold, bright collages to go along with his stories about a multicultural group of kids growing up in the city.

"There is a lot that is very inspiring in Keats' art," says Claudia Nahson, Curator at The Jewish Museum. "His stories are hopeful, his colors are amazing and his collages are vivid," notes Ms. Nahson, who organized the exhibition.

### Join the World of Keats

Check out the exhibition's awesome design elements that bring the storybook collages to life, like the cozy reading corner that looks just like the quirky streets in Mr. Keats' illustrations. Filled with picture books, beanbags and even a make-believe apartment stoop, it is the perfect spot for family story time!

## Also In This Issue

- [December Events Calendar](#)
- [Looking Ahead to January Events](#)



Did you know? Your child can create their very own gifts at an art workshop or right at home! Check out the events calendar for fun workshops or [visit our website](#) for a fun activity your child can do this month.



Have you received your [Family Pass](#)? You should expect it by mid-December from the [Cultural Liaison](#) at your child's program - ask them to recommend a fun place to go with your new Pass!

Remember, the [Family Pass](#) provides free general admission for up to 5 individuals any time the cultural institution is open! Don't forget to bring your ID. Have fun exploring NYC's arts and culture!

Comments, Feedback?  
Contact Cool Culture Staff  
Email [familytime@coolculture.org](mailto:familytime@coolculture.org).

For a full [list of Cool Culture partners](#),

"A lot of the design is meant to really make the art shine... and wrap the kids up in Keats' world," Ms. Nahson explains.

Explore this storybook world with the help of a FREE activity-packed family guide available at The Jewish Museum's front desk and [on their website](#).

### Free Family Events

Continue the adventure at their [free family workshops](#) inspired by the exhibition during the month of December! In addition to drop-in art workshops every Sunday from 1 - 4 pm, the museum will also feature **special collage-making sessions on December 26, 27, 29 and 30** focused on the theme of light. [Click here](#) to learn more.

"With the various holidays that relate to light that time of year, we thought it would be a lovely and universal connection," says Ms. Katz.

Get more info on upcoming family workshops at The Jewish Museum's [events calendar](#).

By Erin Cassin

check out the Cool Culture [website](#).

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## DECEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

**A perfect way to end the year!**

### EVENTS CALENDAR KEY:

FP = Free with Cool Culture Family Pass

FREE = Free to all, Cool Culture Family Pass not necessary

### Planning to visit [The New York Botanical Garden's](#) Holiday Train Show?

During the peak dates of December 19 - January 2, admission to the show is NOT covered by the Cool Culture Family Pass. During all other dates, you may gain free admission to the train show, but be prepared to wait—often the tickets you will be given will be for a few hours later in the day.

#### Saturday, December 10

##### FAMILY AFFAIR HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES, 1:00 - 4:00pm

Celebrate the holidays with art-making activities, food, and tours of current exhibitions including Muntadas. The hands-on activities are developed in collaboration with teaching artists, performances, guided tours, screenings, and many other surprises.

[BRONX MUSEUM OF THE ARTS](#), Bronx. Ages 12 & Under. FREE

#### Saturday, December 10

##### Winter Holiday Family Fun Day

Enjoy a holiday-themed performance in JCAL's theater as well as art projects like decoration and gift-making, holiday games, sing-a-longs, caroling plus lots of treats to celebrate. For the schedule, please contact [JCAL](#).

[JAMAICA CENTER FOR ARTS AND LEARNING](#), Queens. All ages. FREE

#### Sunday, December 11

##### HANDIWORK: TASKS AND CRAFTS FROM THE PAST, 2:30 - 3:30 pm

Engage in a blast from the past with arts, crafts and games just like they did in 19th-century Brooklyn.

[LEFFERTS HISTORIC HOUSE](#), Brooklyn. All ages. FREE

#### Wednesday, December 14 and 21

##### LEARN TAINO CULTURE & SONGS, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Dance and sing together to fun Taino music played by educator and musician, Irka Mateo (Taino). Come Sing Along!

[NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN](#), Manhattan. All ages. FREE

#### Sunday, December 18

##### HANUKKAH FAMILY DAY, 12:00 - 4:00 pm

Construct a sculptural Hanukkah menorah with funky found objects - a JM tradition. Create a colorfully patterned dreidel, design a scene inspired by Ezra Jack Keats, dance with Ben Rudnick & Friends and explore the Museum's world-famous collection of Hanukkah lamps.

[THE JEWISH MUSEUM](#), Manhattan. Ages 3+. FP

Monday, December 19

**STORYTIME AT ELDRIDGE STREET, 10:00am**

Join us for a special hour listening to stories and creating art in this great museum.

[MUSEUM AT ELDRIDGE STREET](#), Manhattan. Ages 2-5. FREE

Monday, December 26, 27, 29, 30

**GLOWING ILLUSTRATION FOR KEATS, 1:00 - 4:00pm**

Create art by painting with watercolor and layer patterned papers to form a glowing collage using light. Get inspired from the exhibition *The Snowy Day* and *the Art of Ezra Jack Keats* and imitate Keats's vibrant colors and striking collages.

[THE JEWISH MUSEUM](#), Manhattan. Ages 3+. FP

Wednesday, December 28

**KWANZAA STORIES AND SONGS WITH "BABALOO"! 2:00 pm**

Enjoy exciting cultural stories from Staten Island's favorite storyteller, Babaloo, as he brings Kwanza to life!

[STATEN ISLAND CHILDREN'S MUSEUM](#), Staten Island. All Ages. FP

Saturday, December 31

**NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION- KID STYLE! 1:00 - 3:00 pm**

Join Patrick and Family for a Rocking New Year's Eve (day) celebration! Music, dancing, snacks-skip naptime and come to the Museum—we promise a full night's sleep for kids, as parents ring in the New Year!

[STATEN ISLAND CHILDREN'S MUSEUM](#), Staten Island. All Ages. FP

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### JANUARY EVENTS CALENDAR

**New Years Resolution: Enjoy more great family outings!**

Friday, January 6

**Three Kings Day Celebration, 10:30am - 1:00pm**

Come celebrate a great Latino tradition at El Museo! There will be a colorful and fun parade starring the Three Wise Kings and you may even spot a camel! Children who sign up to march in the parade, receive gifts from the three Kings. Make sure to register for the march, by calling [212-660-7100](tel:212-660-7100).

[EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO](#), Manhattan. All Ages. FREE

Saturday, January 7

**We Three Kings, 1:00 - 2:00 pm**

Explore sculptures of the Three Wise Kings and see paintings in celebration of the Three Kings Day. You can also discover the meaning of their special gifts.

[THE CLOISTERS](#), Manhattan. All Ages. FREE

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### GREAT ONGOING PROGRAMS

**Family fun anytime, all the time!**

Ongoing throughout the year

**START WITH ART AT THE MET**

Sketch, explore, listen to stories, and discover the meaning of art! Meet at Carson Family Hall, Uris Center for Education, ground floor. Visit [www.metmuseum.org](http://www.metmuseum.org) for dates and times.

[THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART](#), Manhattan. Ages 3-7 FP

Every Sunday

**FREE DROP-IN ART WORKSHOPS, 1:30-4:30pm**

Come for fun activities that will get you talking about the art on view! These programs are accessible to all families, including those whose children have special needs and those for whom English is a new language.

[QUEENS MUSEUM OF ART](#), Queens. Ages 5-12 FREE

Every third Saturday of the Month,

**SUPER SABADO! 11:00am - 8:30pm**

Open the door to the vibrancy and diversity of Latino Culture. Drop-in for free concerts, gallery tours, art-making workshops and more!

[EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO](#), Manhattan. All Ages FREE

Every Sunday

**TARGET FREE SUNDAYS, 12:00 - 4:00pm**

Come for free programs and events ranging from family workshops to theater performances. You can explore how art and visual communication can ignite the imagination, engage the mind and reflect our human experience - past, present and future!

[THE STUDIO MUSEUM IN HARLEM](#), Manhattan. All Ages FREE

Every Sunday

**FAMILY SUNDAYS AT THE JEWISH MUSEUM, 1:00 - 4:00pm**

Choose from a variety of family-fun events including their Storybooks & Art session, and their Drop-In Art Workshop to engage in painting, sculpting, drawing or crafting. Every second Sunday from 12:00-3:00pm, they also have an Archaeological Digging Zone, where kids can dress up and explore unusual treasures!

[THE JEWISH MUSEUM](#), Manhattan. All Ages FREE

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