



Arts & Reading For Life Program



Mesa Arts Center is teaming up with the Salt River Tribal Library and GRAMMY nominated and multiple Native American Music Award-winner, **Jana Mashonee**, and her organization, Jana's Kids, to launch a reading and arts program. The purpose of the program is to provide a unique experience in hopes to encourage reading and appreciation for the arts by connecting literature to visual and performing arts.

We are seeking 30 students who enjoy reading

The program will be centered on Mesa Arts Center's programming and Jana's upcoming release of her new book titled, *American Indian Story: The Adventures of Sha 'kona*. *

Mesa Arts Center is requiring chosen participants to:

- Read at home at least 30 minutes a day,
- Commit to finishing the book assigned for the program, and
- Attend the orientation and at least two scheduled book discussions held once a week from August to September 2010.

Mesa Arts Center will in turn:

- Provide each participant with a personal copy of Jana Mashonee's book, *American Indian Story: The Adventures of Sha 'kona*, for them to keep and read for the program;
- Provide each student with a copy of Jana's CD;
- Receive an invite to attend the opening of Mesa Contemporary Art Museum's *Contemporary American Indian Artwork* exhibit on Friday, September 10, 2010;
- Organize a private book discussion for participants **with** Jana Mashonee;
- Provide each student with two tickets to Jana's performance on September 11, 2010 at 8 p.m., in Mesa Arts Center's Ikeda Theater.

Deadline for applications is **August 19, 2010**. For more information or to request an application, contact

Nejo Salazar at the Salt River Tribal Library

Email: nejo.salazar@srpmic-ed.org

Phone: 480-362-2557

* *Book is 283 pages and is appropriate for mature readers, 4th grade to high school.*

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Program Schedule

Session	Date	Time	Location
Orientation	Thursday, August 19, 2010	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Salt River Tribal Library
Discussion #1	Thursday, August 26, 2010	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Salt River Tribal Library
Discussion #2	Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Salt River Tribal Library
Discussion #3	Thursday, Sept. 9, 2010	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Salt River Tribal Library
Contemporary American Indian Artwork Exhibit	Friday, Sept. 10, 2010 or Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010	7:30 – 9:00 p.m.	Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum at Mesa Arts Center
Private Book Discussion with Jana Mashonee	TBD	TBD	Salt River Tribal Library
Jana Mashonee Performance	Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010	8:00 p.m.	Mesa Arts Center Ikeda Theater

Located in Mesa, Arizona, Mesa Arts Center is a stunning performing, visual, and community arts education center spanning over seven acres. It boasts four magnificent theatres featuring professional touring artist and shows providing first-class entertainment, two studio buildings containing 14 state-of-the-art visual and performing arts classrooms, and five galleries that make up Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum (MCA).

Formed in the 1980's by avid art supporters, Mesa Arts Center Foundation is a 501(c) 3 organization managed by a 31 member board that supports the arts educational programs for youth at Mesa Arts Center. Its mission is to support Mesa Arts Center's programs and services by providing needed financial resources and advocacy. The mission of Mesa Arts Center is to inspire people through impacting and engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible and relevant and that enhance the quality of life and vitality of the region.

The goal of Jana's Kids Reading for Life Project is to improve Indigenous children's literacy in North America by providing culturally relevant books created to inspire reading by the GRAMMY nominated founder of Jana's Kids, Jana Mashonee. A proud member of the Lumbee Nation, Jana is a singer-songwriter-author who will soon release her first book, *American Indian Story: The Adventures of Sha 'kona* and has released eight CD's winning seven Native American Music Awards. She is an ambassador to the Indian Nation and continues to inspire people of all ages.