

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **ARIZONA HUMANITIES BRINGS CHILDREN'S AUTHORS TO PHOENIX**

*Hop, Skip & Jump into Summer Reading* will feature local and regional children's authors, illustrators, musicians, and artists on Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at the New City Church in Phoenix.

**PHOENIX, AZ** – Families and children are invited to this free fun-filled event celebrating reading on Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 1:00pm at New City Church (1300 N. Central Avenue – Phoenix, AZ 85004). Families can meet local children's book authors, hear exciting stories, participate in singalongs, enjoy tasty snacks, make art and crafts, take home books, and more! Discover Books is donating books so each child will receive a free book to take home. Authors will also be available to sign books available for purchase.

*"Reading is fun, reading is essential. When you read you can learn about the world around you, and dream about places you have never been. Reading helps you think, grow and imagine the universe."* - Brenda Thomson, Executive Director, Arizona Humanities

### **Featured Authors:**

Nancy K. Arnold – *Patriotic Pups & Pioneer Pups*

Kristin Cetone – *Buckaroo Buckeye* and *Nuts About Reading*

Gale Leach – *Bruce and the Road to Courage*

Conrad Storar – *The Bat Book (Afraid of a Bat, What's Up with That?)*

Dianne White – *Blue on Blue*

In addition to interactive reading activities, this day will feature musical performances, book illustrations, and music by local artists. BookPALS Arizona, an all-volunteer literacy program sponsored by the Screen Actors Guild Foundation, will be on hand to distribute books, read aloud and act out stories for elementary school-aged children.

The event is free and open to all. No registration required. For questions or more information, call Ellie Hutchison at 602-257-0335 or visit [www.azhumanities.org](http://www.azhumanities.org).

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**About Arizona Humanities**  
<http://www.azhumanities.org>

Arizona Humanities (formerly the Arizona Humanities Council) is an independent non-profit organization and the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Arizona Humanities supports public programming in the humanities that promotes understanding of human thoughts, actions, creations, and values. Since its foundation in 1973, nearly \$11 million has been provided to cultural and educational institutions throughout Arizona.

*Mission: Arizona Humanities builds a just and civil society by creating opportunities to explore our shared human experiences through discussion, learning and reflection.*