



## Poetry 4 Kids with Kenn Nesbitt

Kenn Nesbitt writes funny poetry for kids. In fact, that is the name of the website he created-poetry4kids. It is full of fun and funny poetry, from Animal Antics to Wacky Weirdness. You can click on and read 10 of his newest poems, play games and read his hints for writing poetry and making it funny. He even has a free online rhyming dictionary.

His poetry is also available in these books: The Tightly Whitey Spider, My Hippo Has the Hiccups, When the Teacher Isn't Looking, The Revenge of the Lunch Ladies, and The Aliens Have Landed at Our School.

Kenn was born on February 20, 1962 in Berkley, California. He grew up in Fresno and San Diego and now lives

in Spokane, Washington with his wife, Ann, and two children, Max and Madison. They live in a big, old house with a collection of pets, cats, dogs, mice, and goldfish. Before becoming a published author and poet, Kenn was as a computer software developer. No wonder his website is so much fun!

Kenn visits 50 schools throughout the year. He says, "The goal of my "stand-up comedy, poetry-writing assembly programs" is to show kids just how much fun they can have with a book and how easy it is to write poetry that they and their friends will enjoy."

For more information check out Kenn's website: [www.poetry4kids.com](http://www.poetry4kids.com)

Call Cyndy Pruski for information about Kenn's Guam Tour.

### Kenn Nesbitt to visit the Barrigada Branch Library

Bring your kids after school to the Barrigada Branch of the Guam Public Library on Thursday, October 21, from 3:30 to 4:30 pm for Poetry Hour "Poetry 4 Kids with Kenn Nesbitt". Turn at either San Roke St. off Route 8 or on Route 10 to reach the library. It is right across from San Vicente Church and next to the Barrigada Mayor's Office.

### Poetry Workshop with Kenn Nesbitt for Teachers

Enrich your teaching with this poetry workshop with Kenn Nesbitt. Poetry 4 Teachers Workshop will be at the Ordot Chalan Pago Elementary School Cafeteria on Tuesday, October 19, 2010, from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. An "Alternate Activity" for USD students.

Everyone is welcome.

Enriching Poetry with Kenn Nesbitt on October 16 at the Sheraton Laguna

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## UOG's LANGUAGE ARTS CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON READING AND WRITING FOR PACIFIC ISLAND STUDENTS

The University of Guam's 23rd Annual Regional Language Arts Conference (LAC) is an annual event in which Western Pacific educators are provided with opportunities for professional growth and enrichment in literacy. The conference theme is "Scaffolding Reading and Writing Instruction for Pacific Island Students."

The conference will be held Friday and Saturday, November 5 and 6, 2010 at the University of Guam and Guam Marriott Resort and

Spa respectively. For more information, go to <http://www.uog.edu/languageartsconference>.

This year's keynote speaker, Dr. Junko Yokota, is the Director of the Center for Teaching through Children's Books and Professor at National - Louis University in Chicago, Illinois. She is the author and co-author of several books, eight book chapters, several hundred thousand dollars of grants, forty journal articles, and an encyclopedia article. Yokota has

given over a hundred presentations in her career, including an invited speech to the Annual Convention of the American Library Association this June. Her specialty is Asian-American language acquisition, and she was one of the co-leaders of a U.S. delegation to China focused on "Children's Literature and the Language Arts" in November 1994.

The LAC will also offer two graduate credits for those who possess at least a bachelor's degree or three CEUs for

those who do not hold a degree. As part of the course requirements, students must complete the following: full attendance at the conference; classroom application of one or more of the strategies/techniques learned at the conference; write a brief reflection for each session attended; and write a five-page, typed, double-spaced paper explaining how the Language Arts Conference has increased their knowledge and understanding of using reading and writing for Pacific Island students.

(Continued on page 2)



Hafa Adai,

It was great to see everyone at last month's general membership meeting. So many things have happened since the summer and it was nice to hear everyone catching up. If you stopped by the Read-A-Thon table during the meeting, you would of noticed the new Read-A-Thon 2011, "Read to Succeed" T-Shirts. If you are interested in purchasing a T-Shirt, contact me at 477-8340, extension 4816 or email me at [readathon2011@gmail.com](mailto:readathon2011@gmail.com).

Since so many events happen in the month of October, it would be a great

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE POEM

Hey, hey what do you say?  
 Become a member of IRA.  
 For twenty five dollars, you can attend all our meetings,  
 Think of the benefits of buzzing, browsing, and buying.  
 Great door prizes await your name,  
 All IRA members hope for the same.  
 The convention in Orlando is around the corner,  
 Winning the random drawing would be an honor.  
 Continental breakfast is served promptly at eight,  
 Become a member today, why wait.  
 If you are a visitor for today  
 There is a \$10 per person fee you'll need to pay  
 Member or non-member what shall it be  
 The Guam Council of IRA is one GREAT BIG FAMILY.

—Margaret Asuncion

## Read-A-Thon 2011: "Read to Succeed"

opportunity for everyone to stock up on these career books: explorers, fire fighters, magicians, scientists, bus drivers, artists, and caregivers. The following events will be celebrated or recognized in October: Children's Magazine Month, Columbus Day, Computer Learning Month, Dictionary Day, Fire Prevention Week, Halloween, International Magic Week, Kids Care Week, National Arts and Humanities Month, National Book Month, National Chemistry Week, National Go on a Field Trip Month, National Grouch Day, Read for the Record (Jumpstart), Squirrel Awareness Week, Teen Read Week, and United Nations Day.

Finally, mark your calendars! Read-A-Thon 2011 will begin Saturday, February 5, 2011 until Saturday, February 12, 2011. The 2011 committee members are working really hard to ensure it will be a memorable event.

Keep reading every month for latest news!

Adios,

Nel



## GRANTS

Got any great literacy ideas, but just don't have the money to purchase those books? IRA Grants has up to \$500 dollars to give away for the 2010 Fall Cycle! All you need to do is—  
 1) visit our website at [www.iraguam.blogspot.com](http://www.iraguam.blogspot.com) for the guidelines and grant application  
 2) if you qualify, fill it out the application as thoroughly as possible  
 3) submit application no later than 11 a.m. on October 16, 2010 (IRA membership meeting) or via email.

This is a great opportunity to get books into the hands of your students...for FREE!! Any questions, please email—Tina Buendicho at [hooray4reading@yahoo.com](mailto:hooray4reading@yahoo.com) or Evelyn Topasna at [edptquam@yahoo.com](mailto:edptquam@yahoo.com). As a reminder for previous Grant recipients (Fall Cycle 2009 and Spring Cycle 2010), please submit your evaluation as soon as possible. The evaluation forms may be downloaded from our website. Thank you for those who submitted the evaluation on time.

## KENN NESBITT

Ken Nesbitt will be at these schools during the week of October 18-22, 2010.

### Monday, October 18

- San Vicente Catholic
- Price Elementary

### Tuesday, October 19

- Agana Heights Elementary
- Ordot Chalan Pago Elementary

### Wednesday, October 20

- Montessori School of Guam
- Liguana Elementary
- Wettengel Elementary

### Thursday, October 21

- Astumbo Elementary
- St. Paul's Christian
- Upi Elementary

### Friday, October 22

- Marcial Sablan Elementary
- H.S. Truman Elementary
- Talofoto Elementary

## UOG'S Language Arts Conference

(Continued from page 1)

Students must register for the conference before they register for the graduate credits/CEUs at the Professional International Programs, 2nd floor, MARC, Computer Center, PIP Building, Room #217. For more information, students may call 735-2601 or fax 734-1233. They may also e-mail the instructor, Dr. Matilda Naputi Rivera: [mnriviera1@yahoo.com](mailto:mnriviera1@yahoo.com).

The LAC registration fee includes the following:

\*IRA members, UOG students, presenters \$40

\*On-site registration - \$55

Pre-registration payments for the LAC will be accepted at IRA's general membership meeting on October 16, 2010. Cash and check payments will be accepted. Make checks payable to UOG LANGUAGE ARTS CONFERENCE.

For additional information regarding the conference, participants/presenters may call Debbie Respicio at 735-2725 or e-mail her at

[ugam.languageartsconference@yahoo.com](mailto:ugam.languageartsconference@yahoo.com)

## BOOK EXCHANGE

Bring-A-Book-Take-A-Book! Remember your books for the Book Exchange Table! We do have a small supply now so come check them out.

### Teaching Supplies for New Teachers

If you have material you are no longer using bring them to the January meeting to give to new teachers.

New Teachers are welcome to take used but still good material for your classroom. This is also for college students who will be graduating soon.

Margaret Asuncion	President	Email:	<a href="mailto:gogreen.rat10@gmail.com">gogreen.rat10@gmail.com</a>	Jodie Barnhouse	Professional	Email:	<a href="mailto:johappyjo7@hotmail.com">johappyjo7@hotmail.com</a>
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Grace Griffin	Hardcover / Newsletter	Email:	<a href="mailto:iraguam1@gmail.com">iraguam1@gmail.com</a>	<div data-bbox="894 1411 1463 1455" data-label="Section-Header"> <h2>September Grand Prize Winner</h2> </div> <div data-bbox="831 1455 1089 1654" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="824 1472 1539 1728" data-label="Text"> <p>Congratulations to Gregory Nanay, Southern High School teacher, for winning a round trip ticket to any one of Continental Micronesia destinations within the Asia/Pacific region. Special thanks to Continental Airlines for the complimentary ticket. Join us at the Sheraton Laguna on October 16. You might be the lucky winner of these great prizes!</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1088 1740 1255 1770" data-label="Text"> <p><b>5-in-One Printer</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="1104 1785 1240 1814" data-label="Text"> <p><b>Time Tracker</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="1101 1829 1243 1858" data-label="Text"> <p><b>Apple Letters</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="1109 1873 1234 1902" data-label="Text"> <p><b>Space Place</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="1050 1915 1291 1946" data-label="Text"> <p><b>And much, much more.</b></p> </div>			
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## Guam Council International Reading Association



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**One book can make a difference.**

## MEMBERSHIP

IRA NEEDS YOU - AND - YOU NEED IRA

MEMBERSHIP GOAL  $300 - 204 = 96$  members needed

**OCTOBER SPECIAL**—Each new member you bring to the October meeting = \$5 chit to spend at the IRA Book Tables. JUST add your name to his/her membership application.

**INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS**—If your name is highlighted in Green on the attendance sheet, PLEASE update your expiration date when you renew your International Membership on the attendance sheet.

Membership expires on the last day of the month.

EXAMPLE: Expires on 10/30/09

**EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATE**—If you did not receive your Newsletter via email, please check the e-mail list at the membership table.

### DID YOU KNOW?

IF you join the International IRA and our local IRA at the same time you will receive a 50% reduction in Local Dues for this year. Local Dues = \$12.50 + International Dues (amount depends on number of journals you choose). Application forms will be at the Membership Table. This is a one-time offer. Subsequent local dues will be \$25.

## President's Message

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

The Guam delegates shared some ideas from Chicago at our first meeting, The greetings were endless and the camaraderie amongst all was a great feeling. For October, we will be Enriching Poetry with Kenn Nesbitt, As we have been anxiously awaiting his visit. We would like to share the Hafa Adai spirit from our beautiful island of Guam, Our community is like a rainbow, many colors which blend into one. He has had quite a journey, coming from Spokane, We promise him a memorable experience, like others have claimed. A goal of the International Reading Association Guam Council family, Is to make Guam an Island of Readers and continuously promote literacy. This visit was made possible by our annual Read-A-Thon in which many school children participated, Their dedication and energy has kept us elated. Our children have read thousands of hours in two weeks, Our gratitude has no words, their actions speak. Kenn's presence in our community is as sweet as a box of chocolate, As we give the community the opportunity to meet and greet an author and poet. His programs will be full of knowledge and jubilation, Our community will remember this rare lifetime experience.

**Yoshi**

## THIS YEAR'S MONTHLY THEMES

**R**eadings in Many Languages: Convention Highlights—**September 11.**

**E**nriching Poetry with Kenn Nesbitt—**October 16.**

**C**ultivating Professional Learning with the Language Arts Conference—**November 6.**

**Y**ou, Me, and the Community Book Fair—**December 11.**

**C**rafting a Story with SASS—**January 15.**

**L**aunching Read-A-Thon 2011 "Read to Succeed"—**February 5.**

**I**nstilling Literacy Through our Cultures—**March 12.**

**N**urturing our Students with Resources. "Spend it All, Spend it Now"—**April 9 (OCPE).**

**G**athering Together for the Year in Review—**May 21.**