



B-H-K CHILD DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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*'Serving children and families through comprehensive
early childhood education, health and family support services'*

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From: B-H-K Child Development Board
Contact: Heidi Knuutila, 487-6600 ext. 107
Date: April 20, 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Michigan children's book author to present fun series in area

Diane Youngblood Donlon, a.k.a. Miss Diane, to offer music, movement, dance

HOUGHTON – A Michigan children's book author will present her popular "Miss Diane's OLLYKAZOO Adventure Series" from April 26-29, 2004, at several sites in the Copper Country.

Diane Youngblood Donlon, who has published the books "Tippee Tippee Tiptoe" and "Creep, Sleep, Pounce and Peek ... LIKE A CAT," will perform her series for area youngsters and their parents at a variety of events.

"Reviews of Miss Diane's performances have been glowing, so we thought she'd be a perfect fit for some area literacy events as part of our celebration of April, the month of the young child," said Rosemary Grier of the Copper Country Reading Council, a primary sponsor of Donlon's visit. "And the best part is that this is not just a reading event – it's music, dance and all kinds of things to get children fired up about the joys and discoveries that literacy allows."

Donlon's performances incorporate music, movement, storytelling and games to improve children's well-being and development through interactive presentations, delightful books, original songs and music CDs.

On Monday, April 26, Donlon will present her series to children in kindergarten to grade 6 at Lake Linden-Hubbell Elementary School. On Tuesday, she'll present the same program to children in grades K-5 at Houghton Elementary. These two visits are sponsored with school Title I funding and are only open to children in those schools and grades.

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On Tuesday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Donlon will host a Family Night at Houghton Elementary School's multi-purpose room. All area parents and children are invited to attend, and no pre-registration is required.

On Wednesday morning, Donlon will present at the Houghton Elementary Science room to preschoolers from 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and to infants and toddlers from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. On Wednesday afternoon, she'll present at the Mohawk Early Childhood Center to preschoolers from 1:15 p.m. to 2 p.m. and 2:15 p.m. to 3 p.m. and to infants and toddlers from 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

On Thursday, Donlon will be at the Baraga School Library to present two sessions to infants and toddlers, from 8:45 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and from 1:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.; and four sessions to preschoolers, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m., and 2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Tuesday's Family Night and Wednesday's and Thursday's events are open to the general public with children in the appropriate age range. No pre-registration is required for the Tuesday night event, but due to space limitations, parents are asked to call 487-6600 ext. 107 to pre-register for the Wednesday and Thursday events.

Event sponsors include the Copper Country Reading Council, local schools, the Copper Country Intermediate School District, Portage Lake District Library, B-H-K Child Development Board and Keweenaw Family Resource Center. Funding is provided through the Michigan Department of Education's Great Parents, Great Start project, All Students Achieve Program – Parent Involvement and Education and other sources.

For more information or to register, call Heidi at 487-6600 ext. 107.

On the Web: www.ollypublishing.com