## **NEW to ABQ** ®

# Things to do With Your Kids By Sally Sacco

Bienvenidos! As a stepmother of two teenage girls, I am always on the lookout for things to do in the local area that would be fun or educational for our whole family. As an Albuquerque-native, I have compiled several lists of local things to do from several sources and here is my short list of events, programs, etc. for families with kids, including:

- Calendars
- Amusement Centers
- Museums
- Youth Programs
- Just for Fun...

### **Calendars:**

#### ABQTodo, www.abqtodo.com

ABQtodo is Albuquerque & Bernalillo County's premier events calendar. A one-stop shop for everything arts, culture, sports, recreation, and dining.

#### ABQ Kids Activity Book - A Family Vacation Guide

https://www.visitalbuquerque.org/includes/content/docs/media/1\_KidsBrochure2014\_WEB.pdf

Although an older publication, it contains a wealth of information including:

- Amusement - Outdoor Recreation

- Cultural Attractions - Performing Arts & Theaters

- Museums- Nature & Zoological Centers- Tours

New Mexico Department of Tourism Family Fun, <a href="www.newmexico.org/true-family-fun/">www.newmexico.org/true-family-fun/</a> Includes Places to Go, Things to Do and Events.

## New Mexico Kids! Family Magazine, www.newmexico-kids.com

New Mexico Kids! is a bimonthly family magazine filled with detailed listings of activities for children, teens and their parents, grandparents and teachers, along with comprehensive directories of public and private schools, summer camps and afterschool programs. One of the best resources for local events. You can find it on newsstands around town or just visit their comprehensive site online.

**Visit Albuquerque Family Fun & Kids,** <u>www.visitalbuquerque.org/albuquerque/family-fun/</u>
Hosted by Visit Albuquerque, the site features information regarding local amusement parks, outdoor activities, museums and much more.

#### **Amusement Centers:**

There are several amusement centers in local area or within a day's drive, and most are open year-round! The newest addition, Meow Wolf is a magical place that is perfect for your kids to explore.

Albuquerque Indoor Karting, www.abgkarting.com

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, www.balloonfiesta.com

Cliff's Amusement Park, www.cliffsamusementpark.com

Hinkle Family Fun Center, www.hinklefamilyfuncenter.com

Meow Wolf (Santa Fe), <a href="https://meowwolf.com/">https://meowwolf.com/</a>

Sandia Speedway, http://racesandia.com/

Wagner's Farmland Experience, www.wagnersfarmlandexperience.com

#### **Museums:**

Albuquerque boasts a long list of museums. Some of the more popular ones in both the Albuquerque and Santa Fe area include:

- Albuquerque Museum, www.cabq.gov/museum
- Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum, www.cabq.gov/balloon
- Casa San Ysidro, www.cabq.gov/museum/history/casatour.html
- Coronado Historic Site, <a href="https://kuaua.com/">https://kuaua.com/</a>
- El Camino Real Historic Trail Site, http://nmmonuments.org/el-camino-real
- El Rancho de las Golondrinas Living History Museum, https://golondrinas.org/
- Explora! Children's Museum, www.explora.us/en/
- Georgia O-Keefe Museum (Santa Fe), www.okeeffemuseum.org
- Historical Society of New Mexico, www.hsnm.org
- Holocaust & Intolerance Museum of New Mexico, www.nmholocaustmuseum.org
- Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, www.indianpueblo.org
- J&R Vintage Auto Museum (Rio Rancho), www.jrvintageautos.com
- National Hispanic Cultural Center, www.nhccnm.org
- National Museum of Nuclear Science & History, www.nuclearmuseum.org
- New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science, www.nmnaturalhistory.org
- Petroglyph National Monument, https://www.nps.gov/petr/index.htm
- Rattlesnake Museum, www.rattlesnakes.com
- Tinkertown Museum, www.tinkertown.com
- Unser Racing Museum, www.unserracingmuseum.com
- Wildlife West Nature Park (East Mountain area), http://wildlifewest.org/wwblog/

Most of the museums also feature special events to celebrate the seasons or a particular holiday (like the River of Lights or luminaria tours, or choral concerts at several churches downtown over the Christmas holiday), so be sure to check their sites on a regular basis for calendar updates.

## **Youth Programs:**

There are numerous organizations, programs and resources to support local youth including:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central New Mexico, www.bbbs-cnm.org
- Boy Scouts of America Great Southwest Council, www.gswcbsa.org
- Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails, www.nmgirlscouts.org
- Girls Inc of Santa Fe, https://girlsincofsantafe.org/
- Junior Achievement, https://www.juniorachievement.org/web/ja-newmexico
- National Dance Institute of New Mexico, www.ndi-nm.org
- New Mexico Association for the Education of Young Children, https://www.nmaeyc.org/
- New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department, https://cyfd.org/
- New Mexico Children's Foundation, http://nmchildren.org/
- New Mexico Parent Teacher Association (PTA), www.newmexicopta.org
- New Mexico VOICES for Children, www.nmvoices.org
- New Mexico Young Actors, www.nmyoungactors.org
- NewMexicoKids Early Childhood Services Center, www.newmexicokids.org
- PLAY Conservatory, https://sites.google.com/site/playcollaborative/
- TEDxABQ Youth, www.tedxabq.com
- Teen Albuquerque Startup Weekend, https://www.facebook.com/TeenABQStartupWeekend/
- UNM Children's Hospital, http://hospitals.unm.edu/children/
- Warehouse 508, Downtown Youth Art and Entertainment Center, www.warehouse508.org
- YMCA of Central New Mexico, www.ymcacnm.org
- YWCA Middle Rio Grande, www.ywca-nm.org

## Just For Fun...

Looking for something out of the ordinary and unique to do with a New Mexico flavor? Here's a great list to start your journey!

- 48-Hour Film Project, www.48hourfilm.com/albuquerque-nm
- Albuquerque Bio Park, www.cabq.gov/biopark
- Albuquerque Film and Museum Experience, www.abqfilmx.com/
- Albuquerque Trolley, www.abqtrolley.com
- Bubonicon Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention, www.bubonicon.com
- Empire Board Game Library, www.empirgamelibrary.com
- Fractal Foundation, www.fractalfoundation.org
- Ghost Tour of Old Town, <a href="https://www.toursofoldtown.com/GhostTour.php">https://www.toursofoldtown.com/GhostTour.php</a>
- Globalquerque!, www.globalquerque.com
- National Fiery Foods & Barbecue Festival, www.fieryfoodsshow.com
- New Mexico Farmers' Markets, www.farmersmarketsnm.org
- Old Town Farms, <a href="http://oldtownfarm.com/">http://oldtownfarm.com/</a>
- Quiet Waters Paddling (hosts trips down the Rio Grande River), www.quietwaterspaddling.com
- Rio Grande Zoo, https://www.cabq.gov/culturalservices/biopark/zoo
- Sandia Peak Ski & Tramway, www.sandiapeak.com
- Wheels Museum, http://wheelsmuseum.org/

For more information about your new home of Albuquerque including jobs, schools, best areas of town to live in, please let me know. I would be happy to provide additional information and lists to support you and your family.

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