

Club Literacy shines at OCC Book Fair

THE CURRENT

Club Literacy, a long time staple of Newport Beach's educational scene, offered young children another reason to read over this past weekend. Club Literacy partnered with John Archambault, the co-author of "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom," at the ninth annual Orange County Children's Book Festival held at Orange Coast College.

Tracey Frank, the owner of Club Literacy, and Archambault did what they do best – they supported, cheered and encouraged the development of becoming a lifelong reader to the many hundreds of young children who stopped by their booth. Many children, as well as teachers, showed up with their beloved copies of "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" for Archambault to sign.

"It was very exciting and heart warming to see so many people of all ages stop by the booth to tell John that 'Chicka' was their all time favorite book," Frank said. "Everyone had in-



John Archambault and Tracey Frank, owner of Club Literacy. "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" quilt made by Club Literacy students.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SCOTT PRINGLE

credibly unique and personal stories to share. I was so impressed at the many teenagers who were completely giddy waiting in the hot sun for John to sign their personal and very weathered copies. This was such a strong demonstration of the power of great children's literature."

Club Literacy, established in 1998 located at 359 San Miguel, Newport Beach, is an educational center dedicated to the development of reading and writing for young children. The center

focuses on Pre-K through third grade-aged children. The owner believes a solid reading foundation is the key to higher academic performance and success in all curriculum areas, and strives to infuse children with a love for reading ... bringing books closer to the heart.

The Pre-K classes help young children establish a strong literacy foundation to prepare for success in the Kindergarten year. K through third grade students work in small groups improving and practicing their reading and

writing skills. The school-aged children always conclude their Club Literacy school year by publishing their very own book. The center nurtures each student through the entire writing process of making a real book. Club Literacy has helped young students author more than 1,800 books in the last 14 years.

Frank, a credential teacher, was particularly thrilled to meet the many children who attended the festival, sharing that their big dream was to become an author. "It was a delight to share with them samples of the Club Literacy student-published books. It really showed them that they too can write a book. Meeting the many authors and seeing the many examples of books featured at the festival seemed incredibly exciting and inspiring to the children in attendance."

Club Literacy offers reading readiness classes before and after school. On a monthly basis, the center provides unique story telling events featuring great children's literature. The Spookfest will be the weekend of October 19, featuring John Archambault's "Ghost Eye Tree," as well as many other spooky tales.

Reach Club Literacy at 949-717-6624.

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