

Scene With Kids: Harris, Trump, Snyder, DiMenna, Walker

By Amanda Gordon | Jan 26, 2015 11:09 AM ET | [0 Comments](#) [Email](#) [Print](#)

The family benefits over the weekend hosted by the New-York Historical Society and the New York Public Library made parent-child bonding look easy.

Boaz Weinstein and his daughter saw a puppet show starring the Little Red Hen. J. Michael Evans watched his son dress up as a train conductor. Alan Mnuchin delivered glasses of chocolate milk to his young ones.

It seemed like a good time to ask parents how they stay close to their kids without the assistance of party planners.

“At dinner we play Happy, Lucky, Yucky,” said Marjorie Harris, wife of Apollo Global Management’s Josh Harris. The sharing game encourages kids to discuss good and bad things that happened in their day.

A “happy” would be having a brownie after school, said her seven-year-old, taking a break from a craft table where he was building, as he put it, “a car that can also fly.”

Hedge-fund manager Joe DiMenna, whose name is on the Children’s History Museum at the Historical Society, said sometimes the family plays Roses and Thorns, a similar sharing game. “Or sometimes it’s just a normal conversation. How was your test today? What’d you do? Sometimes we even get answers.”

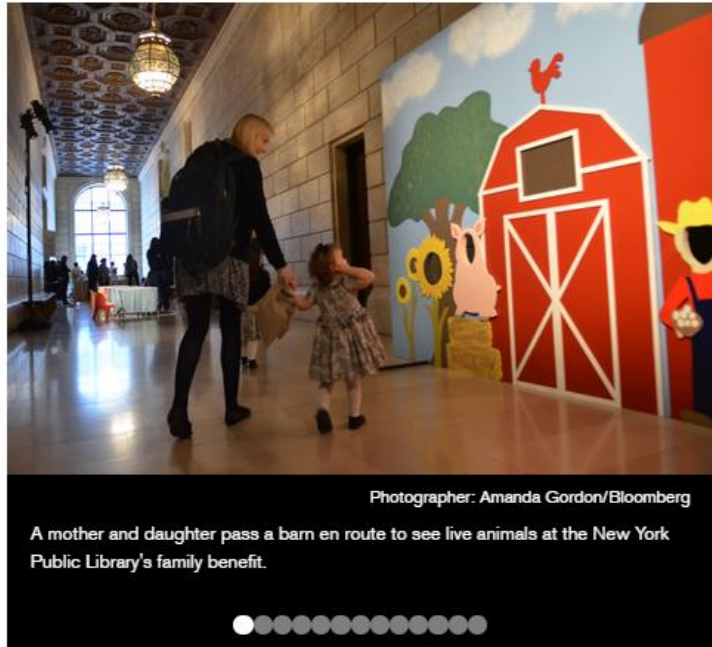
“If the priority is to be together, you arrange everything around that,” said Diana DiMenna, mother of two girls. “We’re not out every night. We’re at things that are very important to us and otherwise we’re home.”

Old Ship

“We like to do game night,” said Jeffrey Binder, a father of two who works at JonesTrading Institutional Services. “Last night we did Trouble. The other night we played Simon. Whoever wins gets to pick the game we play next.”

The Historical Society’s transportation-themed event on Saturday, where guests included Tony Pasquariello of Goldman Sachs and Svetoslav Nikov of Cyrus Capital Partners, included a tour of a 17th-century Dutch East India Company ship. Everyone passed by a sponsor table by the coat check featuring the Astor, a restored Upper West Side building where condominiums big enough for families are about to go on sale.

The library, on Sunday, took Chris Kojima of Goldman Sachs, Alexander Tisch of Loews Corp. and other guests to the farm with live chickens, ducks and one big, soft bunny. Children planted seeds in dirt and made pictures with vegetable brushes -- peppers and broccoli dipped in paint.



Photographer: Amanda Gordon/Bloomberg

A mother and daughter pass a barn en route to see live animals at the New York Public Library’s family benefit.



Grilled Cheese

Grilled cheese sandwiches and macaroni and cheese were available at both parties. At the society, the pigs in blankets were served in baskets attached to fake hot-air balloons. At the library, they were offered by waiters with bandanas around their necks.

“We play the question game,” Carola Jain, a senior director at Interbrand who is married to Robert Jain of Credit Suisse, said in the line for balloon animals at the library. “The kids may guess how many pieces of pasta are in this bowl. Then they take the newspaper and ask us, what’s the temperature in Russia or **Morocco**?”

Ed Yruma, a managing director at KeyBanc, said he gets time with his daughter by “coming home a little early” and “getting good, quality vacation time.”

Breakfast Briefing

Former hedge-fund manager Michael Karsch said his favorite time with his three kids is breakfast. “There’s a 20-minute window where I feel the kids are fresh. We go through the paper together, figure out the day,” he said at the society. “I wake them up and bring them to the bus.”

“They’ve started calling me during the day,” said Doug Snyder, managing director of Starboard Value. “If you’re stuck at work, you can have a nice chat with them.”

“The weekends, we spend almost all of it with the kids,” said George Walker, chief executive of Neuberger Berman.

His wife, Nancy Dorn Walker, a research analyst, elaborated: “We make plans so we end up doing fun things. Every weekend is an adventure.” On Saturday they went to the **New York** Hall of Science, then ate Chinese food in Flushing, Queens.

Ivanka Trump has a weekly business lunch with her daughter Arabella, who’s 3 1/2.

“It’s a working lunch, in my office,” Trump said beside a huge drawing of a barn’s facade in the library’s Astor Hall. “The first time we met, she was looking for something with color on it, so I printed out a set of floor plans from a building under development. It was an aerial view, and I started showing her where the bed was, the nightstands. Now she’s like a pro. She can lay out a room better than anyone.”

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Photographer: Amanda Gordon/Bloomberg

A train conductor explains how he keeps the trains running on time and safely to a guest at the New-York Historical Society's family benefit. **Close**



Photographer: Amanda Gordon/Bloomberg

A dad holds his child's artwork, in this case decoration of a cookie.



Photographer: Amanda Gordon/Bloomberg

Simone Levinson, Lauren Geller and Marjorie Harris at the New-York Historical Society family benefit.



Photographer: Amanda Gordon/Bloomberg

Joe and Diana DiMenna.



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Pam Schaffer, chairman of the New-York Historical Society, with its president and CEO, Louise Mirrer.



Photographer: Amanda Gordon/Bloomberg

A newsstand serves grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup at the New-York Historical Society's benefit.



Photographer: Amanda Gordon/Bloomberg

In the surgeon's quarters of the Dutch East India Company ship, where guests could take a treatment for scurvy --... [Read More](#)



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Tony Marx, center, president of the New York Public Library, visits with a bunny at the family benefit.



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Ed Yuma, a managing director at KeyBanc, with his daughter.



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George Walker, CEO of Neuberger Berman, Nancy Dom Walker, a research analyst, and Tony Marx, president of the New York Public Library.



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Painting with vegetables at the library.



Photographer: Amanda Gordon/Bloomberg

A balloon-animal chicken didn't survive the New York Public Library festivities.