

## Perfect Pajamas for Everyone: Check Out Art-Reach In-Facility Artist The Cat's Pajamas



Janet Schreiner's enthusiasm for music comes through pitch-perfect over the phone. She speaks eloquently about songs, children's literacy, and how story-telling with musicians inspire all different individuals and communities, children and adults. Over the course of our conversation, she artfully describes a great local act which appeals to a wide audience: something kids, parents and grandparents can all enjoy.

Have you ever wanted to go to a show that is perfect for your whole family, not just the adults and not just the kids? Does this sound too good to be true?

Well, in fact, it sounds like the Cat's Pajamas. Janet is one of the four talented artists who "make very cool music for kids" with this established children's act. Janet has a contagious belief in the power of this type of art. "We love what we do. We're singing stories," she says. The group's approach hinges on intensive interaction with the audience and engaging them in all ways. "A lot of what we do is motion and sight oriented," she adds. The act integrates both visual and musical cues, taking all learning styles into account. The movements incorporated in the songs allow children to better grasp the lyrics.

The group is dedicated to fostering a love of words and reading in the Philadelphia area and beyond. The music has an undeniable impact. Janet describes audiences' particular enthusiasm for their hit song; *I Love it When You Read To Me*, (which they sing with the help of some "very groovy bookworms"). This is all coupled with some fantastic melodies, lyrics, and harmonies. Their sound and style is described on their website as "Madcap theatricality (a plunger, shower cap, fly swatter, a four foot shark and more), three part harmony and a great band make this a truly unique and interactive show for the whole family. From the opening blast

of percussion, syncopated claps and echoes to the unexpected request to put your finger in your bellybutton, audiences are totally hooked."

One thing Janet added as we talked about the music was, "You have to feel truly, truly passionate about what you sing about." This has stuck with me. That passion comes through in the shows and the smiles of on people's faces. We are lucky that the The Cat's Pajama's isn't just for children, it's for everyone.

If you are an Art-Reach member and you would like to request a performance from the Cat's Pajamas, please submit an [In-Facility request form](#) or contact the Art-Reach Programming Department at 215-568-2115 x4 or x5.

-By Sarah Berenstain

Sarah serves as Special Projects Ambassador through [Art-Reach's Ambassador Program](#)