

Entertainment

# Style Invitational Week 1255: Tour de Fours XIV – SANT is coming

Plus the winning 'things to be thankful for' from Week 1251



Insanta Claus! (Bob Staake for The Washington Post)

By Pat Myers November 22, 2017 [Email the author](#)

(Click [here to skip down](#) to the winning Things to Be Thankful For)

**INSANTA CLAUS: Mr. Kringle, it's cold out — please put your boots back on!**

**GYMNASTINESS: Whoa, it's not nice to spit on the tumbling mat ...**

**KAKISTAN: A country ruled by its least qualified citizens. (Location unknown. Okay, known.)**

Tour de Fours is an annual Invitational contest almost as old as the Empress's reign, run each time with a different set of four letters: **Coin a word or multi-word term that contains the letter block S-A-N-T** (since the results will run right before Christmas) and describe it, as in the examples above; **the letters may be in any order, but there may be no other letters between them** (you may insert a space or hyphen). You might include a funny example of how the term would be used; that's how you'd beat out another Loser who thought up the same term.

NEW EXHIBITION

**AAM @ 60: The Diamond Exhibition II**

Reception:  
July 27, 2018  
5:30 - 7:00 pm

July 28 -  
October 14, 2018

Miriam Schapiro.  
*Children of Paradise, 1983-1984.*  
Color lithograph and collage on arches

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*Children of Paradise, 1983-1984.*  
Color lithograph and collage on arches  
cover paper: AAM 2008/014. Gift of  
George Heizer, 2008

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*Children of Paradise, 1983-1984.*  
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### Most Read Entertainment

- 1 First glimpse of Kennedy Center's much delayed expansion unveiled
- 2 Perspective President Trump's power to pardon

Submit entries at this website: [wapo.st/enter-invite-1255](http://wapo.st/enter-invite-1255) (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives — maybe but probably not in time for Christmas — this special **Invite Holiday Pack** containing (a) a two-piece gift set of bath "fizzies" spelling out "HO," which the Empress snapped up immediately at a yard sale; (b) a "Christmas Pickle" ornament, alleged to be an old German tradition in which whoever finds the pickle on the Christmas tree gets to open the first present, though alas, it seems actually to have been thought up by an American marketer; and (c) a little red bag containing some pieces of fake coal, a promotion for some long-ago movie — and one piece of real coal.

**Other runners-up** win our "You Gotta Play to Lose" Loser Mug or our Grossery Bag, "I Got a B in Punmanship." Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "No Childishness Left Behind" or "Magnum Dopus." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (**FirStink** for their first ink). Deadline is Monday night, Dec. 4; results published Dec. 24 (online Dec. 21). See general contest rules and guidelines at [wapo.st/InvRules](http://wapo.st/InvRules). The headline "Thanksgoofing" was submitted by both Tom Witte and Jesse Frankovich; Jesse also wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](https://on.fb.me/invdev). "Like" Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at [bit.ly/inkofday](http://bit.ly/inkofday); follow [@StyleInvite](https://twitter.com/StyleInvite) on Twitter.

**The Style Conversational** The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. Check it out at [wapo.st/conv1255](http://wapo.st/conv1255).

[And from The Style Invitational four weeks ago . . .](#)

## THANKSGOOFING: LET'S GO AROUND THE TABLE WITH THE WEEK 1251 WINNERS

Just in time for Thanksgiving — or, for our print-edition readers, just in time to be too late for Thanksgiving — in **Week 1251** we asked you to tell us things to be thankful for.

### 4th place:

I'm thankful that turkey breasts don't have nipples. (Kel Nagel, Salisbury, Md.)

### 3rd place

"Bath fizzies," a Christmas Pickle ornament and lumps of fake coal: It's our 2nd-prize Holiday Gift Pack. (Pat Myers/The Washington Post)

I'm thankful for the tax cuts we'll be getting, because life can be unsettling

if you don't know where your next billion is coming from. (Nancy Provorny, Silver Spring, Md., a First Offender)

### 2nd place

and the [plush roast-turkey hat](#):


I'm thankful that you can't smell Twitter. (Dudley Thompson, Cary, N.C.)


### And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

I'm thankful that Harvey won't ever be grabbing me again. — Oscar (John O'Byrne, Dublin)


### No merci: Honorable mentions

I am thankful that Google doesn't ask, "Why do you want to know?" (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

himself, as skewered by cartoons 

**3** Celebrities, fashion insiders react to death of Kate Spade 

**4** **Review**  
Sex, politics and art painted in broad strokes in 'Botticelli in the Fire' 

**5** **Perspective**  
Trump's Super Bowl party without the Eagles, as mocked through cartoons 

### Our Online Games

Play right from this page



Klondike Solitaire  
Card game



Mahjongg Candy  
Matching game



Word Wipe  
Word game



Mahjongg Dimensions  
Arcade game

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... for family! What, someone already said "family" Damn you all. You suck. (Bird Waring, Larchmont, N.Y.)

... that the president's bone spurs didn't keep him from going to Vietnam this time. (Paul E. Milligan, Columbia, Md., a First Offender)

... that Ken Burns hasn't made a documentary about the Hundred Years' War. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

... that I live in a country where anyone can grow up to be president. In fact, you don't even NEED to grow up! (Larry McClemons, Annandale, Va.)

... that they invented the euphemism "toilet" paper. (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

... that my generation is the first to be so cool, our kids always want us to go out with them and their friend ... Wait, sweetie, I'm still putting on my Uggs! (Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.)

... that Grandpa no longer has the capacity to produce his usual flow of racist and sexist jokes. (Christy Tosatto, Brookeville, Md.)  
out with them and their friend ... wait, sweetie, I'm still putting on my Uggs!  
(Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.)

... that Grandpa no longer has the capacity to produce his usual flow of racist and sexist jokes. (Christy Tosatto, Brookeville, Md.)

... that I'm not famous, so when two celebrities die I don't have to worry. (Steve McClemons, Arlington)

... that our constitutional democracy was strong enough to survive 44 presidents in a row. (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

... that my fellow woodworkers call me "Old Ten-Fingers." (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.)

Bros everywhere are grateful to Harvey Weinstein for giving them a good reason not to watch Miramax films. "I'm sorry, honey, I just can't see 'The English Patient.' It's just a matter of principle for me." (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

... that the current state of cellphone technology still lets me use the "I guess we got disconnected" excuse. (Frank Mann, Washington)

... that I don't live in a tiny, picturesque town in England, because I know from TV mysteries that half my neighbors would be murderers. (Melissa

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\$250k+  
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Balmain)

... that the president is a teetotaler because OMG CAN YOU IMAGINE??  
(Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.)

... that Tofurky contains no toe fur. (Bill Dorner, Indianapolis)

... that we're expected to eat the mascot only for Thanksgiving and not  
Groundhog Day. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

... that Hershey's Kisses are wrapped in tinfoil, because otherwise they  
would all be melted by those mind-controlling radio signals. (Dudley  
Thompson)

... that I'm not Robert Mueller's food taster. (Duncan Stevens)



... that the Silver Line will supply efficient public transit between Dulles and  
downtown D.C. in all likelihood at some point before I die. (Jeff  
Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

... that my kid doesn't remember me screaming "Stop stomping on my  
bladder, you little brat," at him before he was born. Also, I'm thankful he  
stopped stomping on my bladder. He's 17. That would hurt. (Hildy Zampella,  
Falls Church, Va.)

... that a huge tax cut for the rich may bring me larger tips when I wait on  
their tables. (Robert Schechter)

... that I received my colonoscopy pictures back in time to share them with  
you. (Frank Osen)

... that the president has won the war on coal, because now there will be  
something in my kids' Christmas stockings. (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

... that I can use this year's wall calendar again in 2062. (Mark Calandra,  
Sudbury, Mass.)

... that so many people in my phone exchange care enough to call me every  
day. (Chris Doyle)

... that the Internet allows me to buy ribbons for my manual typewriters.  
(Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf, Md.)

... that I'm naturally warm, because otherwise my cat wouldn't spend any  
time with me, since I am not tuna. (Dan Helming, Maplewood, N.J.)

... that Zargoth the Implacable is, as yet, unaware that I have escaped to

your dimension. (Frank Osen)

... that Grandma never found out that my first Communion was also my last. (Jon Graft, Centreville, Va.)

... to President G.H.W. Bush for the Christmas goose. (Ward Kay, Vienna, Va.)

... that these oysters on the half-shell don't have faces. (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

... that my ex's name is short enough to easily tattoo over. (Danielle Nowlin)

### Local crime & safety email alerts

Important breaking news alerts for crime, public safety and the courts in the D.C. area.

Sign up

... for the advancement of human civilization — we had a pretty good run going there for a while. (Ivars Kuskevics, Takoma Park, Md.)

**And last:** Full of great thank I am magnificent Russia not ever no-way infiltrate the Washington Post Invitation to the Style. PS glorious Empress, you get my rubles? No yes? (Barbara Turner, Takoma Park, Md.)

**Still running — deadline Monday night, Nov. 27: Our contest to change the name of a business by one letter and name the new one. See [wapo.st/invite1254](http://wapo.st/invite1254).**

0 Comments



Pat Myers is editor and judge of The Style Invitational, The Washington Post's page for clever, edgy humor and wordplay. In the role since December 2003, she has posted and judged more than 700 contests. She also writes the weekly Style Conversational column and runs the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook. Follow @patmyersTWP

### The Post Recommends

#### Opinion

### Trump's terrible legal team has really messed up now

Did Trump's lawyers admit he committed a crime?

1 day ago



### AP FACT CHECK: Fabrications of Trump and his critics

President Donald Trump fabricated history when it came to assessing the 2016 election, his achievements on the opioid epidemic and a congressman's voting record on taxes. Critics of his immigration policy got it wrong when they accused the Trump administration of taking 1,500 immigrant children from their parents and losing them.

4 days ago

