A Concise Guide to What's Hot This Holiday Season in Toronto and Southern Ontario



Featuring More Than 200 Christmas, Hanukkah, New Year Concerts, Theatre, Special Events & Attractions for the whole family!



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# Season's Greetings

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## Holiday Entertainment Guide From the Editor

A Holiday Guide

**Every Age!** 

For Every Believer and

This is the season that makes you think

- of what to be thankful for, what you should

do to take care of your health as the new year

approaches, what to do for the holidays, where

to go, what to see ... oh yes, and what gifts to

buy. Decisions, decisions! The one thing you do



Joey Cee Publisher & Managing Editor

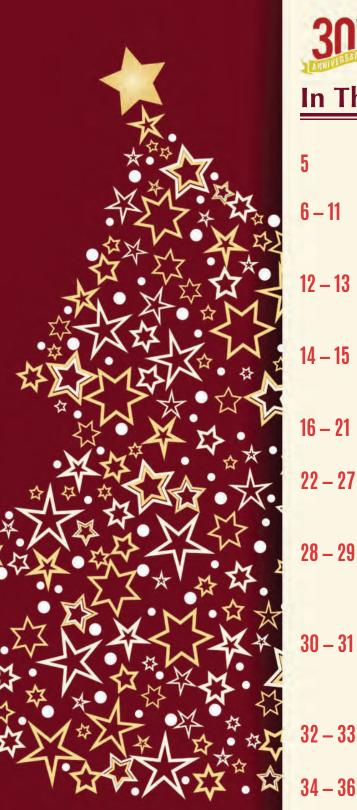
not want to be doing this season is cocooning.

This is a joyous season. A time to be with family and friends and enjoy the invigorating outdoors and indoor. Take the time to enjoy the sights and sounds of Christmas (or whatever name you want this holiday to go by). For me it always was and always will be Christmas. For many of my friends and readers its Hanukkah, Diwali, Kwanzaa and Winter Solstice. Whatever your religion or beliefs, we are all one people enjoying this one life – and this is a great time to get out and ENJOY – together! Cold or snow always create a great buzz for those who crave outdoor sports and activities. It's also a great backdrop for some fun times indoors by attending a concert, play, movie, dinner or visit one of the great galleries the city has to offer. There is no shortage of festivities going on throughout Southern Ontario. This issue will guide you through the holidays.

Enjoy this wonderful and joyous season.



From Our Families to Yours... Holiday Greetings and Best Wishes to All!







## In This Special HOLIDAY Issue

### Holiday Season has Arrived

### Festive Delights & Holiday Highlights

Here's a guide to some of the best activities and events to enjoy during the holiday season.

### Time to Ring in the New Year

Festive celebrations and fireworks to welcome 2025 with joy and enthusiasm.

### Santa Claus is Coming to Town

Experience the magic of the holiday season as towns and cities witness the grand arrival of Santa Claus.

### **Christmas Markets in Southern Ontario**

Discover the enchantment of the Christmas Markets!

### **Holiday Concerts**

Perfect for family outings or a special night out, these concerts are sure to make your holiday season memorable.

## The Nutcracker Ballet, A Christmas Tradition

Performed annually by ballet companies around the globe, The Nutcracker celebrates the holiday season with its dazzling costumes, elaborate sets, and unforgettable music.

## Holiday Theatre Productions

From classic holiday tales to contemporary performances, Southern Ontario's 2024 holiday theatre productions offer something for everyone.

#### Hanukkah 2024

Eight nights of light, joy, and tradition.

## **Creating Memories with Your Family**

Explore a variety of Christmas family activities in Southern Ontario! From enchanting light displays and festive markets to ice skating and holiday-themed performances.

## www.TorontoOnDemand.com

## Holiday Season has Arrived in Southern Ontario

elebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa in Southern Ontario can be a rich and diverse experience due to the region's multicultural population. Here's how you might observe these holidays:

#### **Christmas Festivities and Events:**

- Christmas Markets: Cities like Toronto, Hamilton, and Niagaraon-the-Lake host festive Christmas markets with local crafts, food, and holiday entertainment. (See page 16 – 19 and start planning for your day adventure.)
- Santa Claus Parades: Many towns and cities have Santa Claus parades with floats, bands, and of course, Santa. (See page 14 15 for dates and locations.)
- Holiday Lights: Various neighborhoods and parks have beautiful light displays. Notable ones include the Cavalcade of Lights in Toronto and the Festival of Lights in Niagara Falls. (See page 6 for dates and locations.)
- Church Services: Many churches offer special Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services, including midnight mass.

#### Hanukkah Celebrations and Traditions:

- Menorah Lighting: Public menorah lighting ceremonies are held in cities like Toronto, often accompanied by music, food, and celebrations. Nathan Phillips Square and Mel Lastman Square in Toronto are popular spots.
- Community Events: Jewish community centers and synagogues host events like Hanukkah parties, dreidel games, and communal meals.
- Kosher Markets: Local kosher markets and bakeries offer traditional Hanukkah foods like latkes and sufganiyot.
- Family Gatherings: Families come together to light the menorah, exchange gifts, and enjoy traditional meals.

#### Kwanzaa Observances and Activities:

- Community Celebrations: Cultural centers and community organizations in cities like Toronto host Kwanzaa events featuring music, dance, storytelling, and African drumming.
- Educational Workshops: There are workshops and lectures about the principles of Kwanzaa and African heritage.
- Art and Craft Fairs: Some communities organize fairs where traditional African crafts, clothing, and artwork are displayed and sold.
- Feasts and Gatherings: Families and friends gather for Karamu, the Kwanzaa feast, which often includes traditional African dishes and a celebration of heritage and culture.

#### Tips for Enjoying the Holidays:

- Plan Ahead: Many events require tickets or reservations, so plan ahead to secure your spot.
- Explore Cultural Centers: Places like the Toronto Jewish Film Festival or the Harbourfront Centre often have holiday-specific programming.
- Embrace Diversity: Southern Ontario's multicultural environment offers a unique opportunity to learn about and participate in different cultural celebrations. Engage with the community and respect the traditions and customs of each holiday.

By participating in the various events and activities available, you can enjoy a festive and inclusive holiday season in Southern Ontario. ■

## FESTIVE DELIGHTS S HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

Southern Ontario is a winter wonderland during the holiday season, offering a variety of festive delights and holiday highlights. Here's a guide to some of the best activities and events to enjoy during the holiday season.

#### HOLIDAY LIGHTS

#### November 1, 2024 – January 13, 2025 ILLUMI: A DAZZLING WORLD OF LIGHTS

7174 Derry Crest Dr., Mississauga toronto.illumi.com

Illumi: A Dazzling World of Lights is an enchanting light festival featuring millions of dazzling lights and captivating installations. This immersive experience offers visitors breathtaking displays across themed zones, from illuminated forests to magical creatures, perfect for families and friends to enjoy during the holiday season.

#### November 15 – 16, 2024 WINTER LIGHTS FESTIVAL

Downtown Brampton

#### bit.ly/winter-lights-brampton

The Winter Lights Festival in Downtown Brampton transforms the city into a sparkling wonderland. Featuring vibrant light displays, festive activities, and a magical tree lighting ceremony, this annual event brings holiday cheer to residents and visitors, creating a perfect atmosphere for winter celebrations with family and friends.

#### November 15 – 16, 2024 WINTER NIGHTS, CITY LIGHTS

#### 1867 Valley Farm Road, Pickering www.pickering.ca/en/discovering/winternights-city-lights.aspx

Experience the magic of Pickering's *Winter Nights, City Lights*! Participate in a enchanting light displays, festive activities, and community celebrations. Enjoy outdoor entertainment, delicious treats, and holiday cheer throughout the season. Bring your family and friends to create unforgettable winter memories in beautiful Pickering. Celebrate the season together!



#### November 16, 2024 – January 5, 2025 WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS Niagara Falls

wfol.com

Join the Winter Festival of Lights, a spectacular celebration featuring stunning light displays, festive events, and holiday entertainment. Experience the magic of winter as you stroll through illuminated pathways, enjoy family-friendly activities, and soak in the breathtaking beauty of the falls transformed by winter lights.

#### November 22, 2024 – January 5, 2025 WHITBY LIGHTS THE NIGHT CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

#### Whitby Civic Park, Whitby

#### www.whitby.ca/en/play/whitby-lights-thenight.aspx

Join thousands of residents and assist Santa "light the night". All of your favorite Whitby Farmers' Market vendors will be onsite with a wide array of handmade crafts, foods and seasonal gifts.

#### November 23, 2024 – January 4, 2025 WINTERFEST 2024

#### Canada's Wonderland, Vaughan www.canadaswonderland.com/events/ winterfest

WinterFest 2024 offers a spectacular winter experience filled with millions of twinkling lights, live entertainment, holiday-themed rides, and festive treats. Running from November to December, it's a magical celebration for families and friends.

#### November 23, 2024 – January 2, 2025 LIGHT UP THE SQUARE

Celebration Square, Mississauga www.mississauga.ca/eventsand-attractions/events-calendar/ light-up-the-square-2024

Experience the magic of the holiday season with festive lights, live entertainment, and family-friendly activities. Don't miss the grand tree lighting ceremony that kicks off the celebrations, creating unforgettable memories for everyone!!

#### November 25 – December 31, 2024 BLOOR-YORKVILLE HOLIDAY MAGIC

Bloor-Yorkville, Toronto www.bloor-yorkville.com/holiday\_magic/ holiday\_lights.php

The Bloor-Yorkville BIA will be celebrating the holiday season with its one-of-a-kind festive lighting displays. Continuing with its annual traditions, visitors can look forward to shopping, dining, and surround themselves with the holiday lighting along the tree-lined streets.

#### November 29, 2024 | 6 – 9 pm MARKHAM ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

## Main Street, Markham *mainstreetmarkham.com/events.php*

Experience the Markham Annual Festival of Lights, a dazzling celebration that transforms the city into a winter wonderland. Start off the Holiday Season with live music, carolers, fire artists, a visit from Santa to help light up Markham's Christmas tree and Fireworks!

#### November 29, 2024 – January 8, 2025 BURLINGTON FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Spencer Smith Park, Burlington www.facebook.com/BurlingtonFOL

Come share your holiday spirits with family and friends while strolling through the 60 magical lighting displays set up at Spencer Smith Park.

#### November 30, 2024 – January 7, 2025 CAVALCADE OF LIGHTS

Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto www.toronto.ca/explore-enjoy/ festivals-events/cavalcade-of-lights

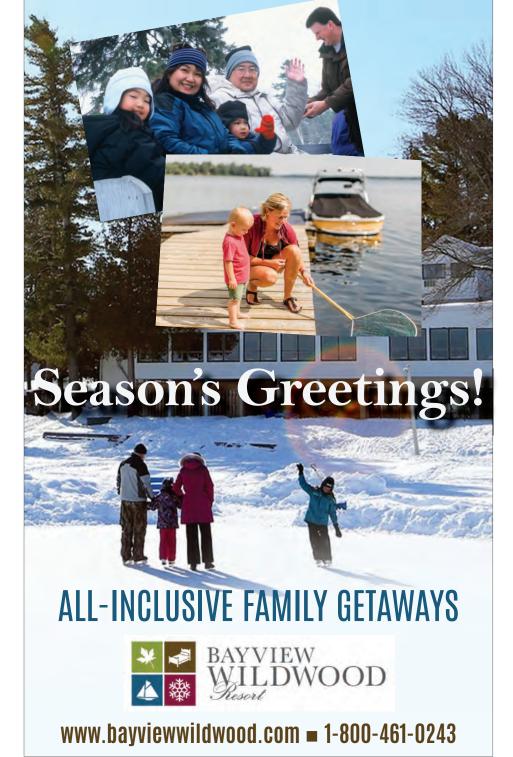
Every year Nathan Phillips Square is transformed into a twinkling holiday event where you can ice skate surrounded by glowing Christmas lights and a giant glittering tree.

#### December 2024 – January 2025 HOLIDAY LIGHTS TOUR

Casa Loma, Toronto casaloma.ca/project/ holiday-lights-tour-2

This December experience the magic of the season at Casa Loma's spectacular Holiday Light Tour. Wander through a dazzling lighting display in the gardens and tunnels, all decorated for the festive season.

## Experience Muskoka All Year!



#### HOLIDAY CONSUMER SHOW AND EXHIBITIONS

#### November 9, 2024 CROCHET CHRISTMAS BAUBLES Ed's Mercantile, 605 Bloor St. W.

*www.eventbrite.ca/e/crochet-christmasbaubles-tickets-943796429527?aff= ebdssbdestsearch* 

Learn how to crochet your very own Christmas baubles to add a personal touch to your holiday decor.

#### November 23 – 24, 2024 TORONTO CHRISTMAS PET SHOW

International Centre, Mississauga *www.canadianpetexpo.ca* 

The Festive Season is certainly in the air as pet parents' thoughts turn to spoil their furry family members during the Holidays.

#### December 1, 2024 10TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TOY & NOSTALGIA SHOW

3710 Chesswood Drive, Toronto eventbrite.ca/e/10th-annual-christmastoy-nostalgia-show-tickets-

*911582376427?aff=ebdssbdestsearch* A fantastic day of nostalgia and fun. Get ready to step back in time and relive your favorite childhood memories.

#### December 2 – 31, 2024 | 12 – 4 pm WINTER BREAK DROP-IN ACTIVITY CENTRE: SWEETLAND

Hamilton Museum of Steam & Technology National Historic Site www.hamilton.ca/things-do/festivalsevents/events-calendar/winter-breakdrop-activity-centre-sweetland

This winter break you can satisfy that sweet tooth at the Hamilton Museum of Steam & Technology. This free, drop-in activity centre is taking the shape of a giant candythemed board game. Closed: Mondays, December 25, December 26

#### **HOLIDAY DISPLAYS**

#### November 29, 2024 – January 31, 2025 WINDOW WONDERLAND

The Junction, Toronto *www.torontojunction.ca* 

Put on your warmest coat and make your way to the Junction as you explore local stores and check out holiday-themed storefronts all decorated by local artists. Head there on December 16 if you want to listen to some festive carolers!

#### November 2024 – January 2025 ANNUAL POINSETTIA SHOW

Floral Showhouse, Niagara Falls *www.niagaraparks.com/events* 

This iconic show features traditional holiday landscapes with modern touches of brilliant colours and lights that make the warmth and magic of the holiday season come to life.

#### December 6 – 15, 2024 ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES

Small Arms Inspection Building, Mississauga

www.creativehub1352.ca/festival-of-trees The annual Mississauga Festival of Trees is a celebration of the winter season, art, food, and community. With twinkling canopies of seasonal lights, commissioned artistcreated trees, artisan and culinary markets with local, handmade goods, workshops, live entertainment, and more.

#### December 2024 – January 2025 CHRISTMAS AT THE CASTLE

Casa Loma, Toronto casaloma.ca/project/ christmas-at-the-castle

Casa Loma is hosting a wide range of activities and thrilling performances that are sure to be fun for the whole family. Guests will be surrounded by holiday magic throughout the castle which will be resplendent with holiday décor, and as always kids are invited to visit Santa in his castle workshop.

#### HOLIDAY FUNDRAISING Events

#### November 14 – December 31, 2024 MIRACLE TORONTO

## 875 Bloor St West, Toronto *www.miracletoronto.com*

This magical Christmas-themed pop-up cocktail bar is returning this holiday season. This pop-up is the perfect photo ops spot with all things Christmas!

\$1 of every drink sold is donated to Nellie's Shelter, an organization providing shelter, education and advocacy for women and children in the GTA.

#### November 21 – December 20, 2024 CPKC HOLIDAY TRAIN

Various Location www.cpkcr.com/en/community/ HolidayTrain

As in years past, two trains will operate coast-to-coast under the Holiday Train banner, with approximately 150 shows held in November and December.

Raising money, food and awareness for the important work that food banks do in their communities

#### November 24, 2024 SANTA AND ELF RUN

Niagara-On-The-Lake raceroster.com/events/2024/85024/ notl-santa-and-elf-run

Grab your family and friends, put on a Santa suit and run an IN-PERSON 5KM marathon in scenic Niagara-on-the-Lake.

*Event is raising funds for the NOTL Youth Collective.* 

#### December 6 – 7, 2024 NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE ROTARY HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR

210 John St. E., Niagara-on-the-Lake www.niagaraonthelakerotary.ca/page/ holiday-house-tour

If you like interior design, architecture, and seasonal decorations, this tour is for you. Tour 6 beautifully decorated homes; visit local historic and cultural sites; sample complimentary tastings from 3 featured wineries and a winery/distillery; and enjoy specially priced luncheons.

All profits go to charitable causes.

#### December 6, 13, 20, 27, 2024 FROZEN FRIDAYS

Riverwalk Commons, Newmarket www.newmarket.ca/ThingsToDo/Pages/ Recreation%20and%20Culture/Events/ Frozen%20Fridays.aspx

Enjoy live DJ music, outdoor skating, train rides on the Tim Hortons Express Train (weather permitting), free hot chocolate prepared by Hungry Brew Hops (while supplies last), fire & LED busker performances, LED Tree shows, photo opportunities and more.

Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to the Town of Newmarket tent on site. All donations go to the Newmarket Food Pantry.

#### December 7, 2024 SANTA SHUFFLE FUN RUN AND ELF WALK

Various Locations raceroster.com/search?q=%20 Santa%20Shuffle%20Fun%20Run%20 %26%20Elf%20Walk&t=upcoming

Every year, the Santa Shuffle brings passionate individuals from across the country to support vulnerable Canadians and the work of The Salvation Army.

Pledges raised for the Santa Shuffle will support people in your community who may be struggling to make ends meet.

#### January 1, 2025 POLAR BEAR DIP

Coronation Park, Oakville *www.polarbeardip.ca* 

Every year, hundreds of people gather and jump into the icy cold waters of Lake Ontario for numerous reasons. But they all do it to help provide clean water in developing countries, through World Vision Canada.

In support of the World Vision Canada clean water program.

#### HOLIDAYS IN THE MUSEUM

#### November 24, 2024, 12 – 4 pm FIRST DAY OF CHRISTMAS

Dundurn National Historic Site, Hamilton www.hamilton.ca/things-do/ festivals-events/events-calendar/ first-day-christmas

Visit Dundurn Castle for the first day of its Victorian Christmas for FREE! Join Historic Interpreters for a free self-paced visit of the mid-19th century home of Sir Allan MacNab and his family beautifully decorated by the Garden Club of Hamilton with cedar boughs, ribbons and dried flowers.

#### November 24, 26, 27 - 30, 2024 December 1, 3 - 5, 7 - 8, 10 - 15, 17 - 21, 24, 27 - 29, 2024 WHITEHERN: A CHRISTMAS FOR THE AGES

Whitehern Historic House & Garden, Hamilton

www.hamilton.ca/things-do/ festivals-events/events-calendar/ whitehern-christmas-ages-40 Come to Whitehern and experience the holidays as they were celebrated through the 1850s, 1870s and the 1930s – a festive celebration that captures the magic of the holiday season. Explore beautifully decorated historic rooms, enjoy live music, and participate in engaging activities. Experience the warmth of tradition and create lasting memories at this enchanting event.

#### December 4, 2024 Rombus: Holiday Delights In Headwaters: Art, Theatre and Christmas Magic

Royal Ontario Museum www.rom.on.ca/en/whats-on/rombusholiday-delights-in-headwaters-arttheatre-and-christmas-magic

Jump in the ROMBus to head northwest of the city into Dufferin County on a seasonal trip that promises art, theatre, and a glimpse into Ontario's past. Your day start the lovely Headwaters Art Gallery in historic Alton Mill. Nestled on the shores of Shaw's Creek, the gallery showcases works by local, emerging, and award-winning artists. After a delicious



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lunch in Orangeville, enjoy a hilarious pantomime of Sleeping Beauty at Theatre Orangeville. Your day ends with a stroll through Christmas in the Park, an outdoor celebration of festive lights and winter magic.

#### HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

#### November 1 – 5, 2024 CRAFT SCENTED CANDLES

Yummi Candles, Toronto www.yummicandles.ca/pages/ scented-candle-workshop

Expert chandlers will guide you in creating your own scented candles by choosing up to eight fragrances from their specially selected fragrance catalog and learning how to expertly combine them with their proprietary blend of plant-based waxes and wicks.

#### November 12, 2024 LEARN TO SEW WITH FELT: CHRISTMAS EDITION

Ed's Mercantile, 605 Bloor St. W., Toronto www.eventbrite.ca/e/learn-to-sew-withfelt-christmas-edition-tickets-946418973627?aff=ebdssbdestsearch

All supplies are included in this fun and informative workshop. You will learn hand sewing techniques and embroidery skills to create pretty ornaments with wool felt.

#### November 24, 2024 | 1 – 4 pm NEEDLE FELT A SANTA ORNAMENT WORKSHOP

The Village at Black Creek, Toronto www.eventbrite.ca/e/needle-felta-santa-ornament-workshoptickets-982107559147

Learn the magic of turning wool fluff into a solid Santa figure using a special needle. The Santa ornament stands approximately four inches tall.

#### November 27, 2024 | 10am – 12pm CHRISTMAS DECORATION WORKSHOP

The Village at Black Creek, Toronto blackcreek.ca/events/#event=christmasdecoration-workshop;instance=2024112 7100000?popup=1&lang=en-US

Get ready for the holidays by crafting Victorian-inspired Christmas ornaments. Explore the history behind treasured decorations and investigate how and why these traditions have changed over time.



#### November 29, 2024 | 7 – 9:30 pm PUDDING CLUB COOKING WORKSHOP

#### Dundurn Castle, Hamilton www.hamilton.ca/things-do/ festivals-events/events-calendar/ pudding-club-cooking-workshop

Be a part of a unique and entertaining evening exploring the world of puddings at Dundurn Castle. Their cooks will guide you through a hands-on preparation of a delicious pudding recipe in their historic kitchen, a tour of the home decorated for the season and finally, the reason you came... dessert!

#### December 6, 12, 15, 19, 21, & 29, 2024 PERFECT PARISIAN MACARONS

12 Sousa Mendes St, Toronto www.ledolci.com/products/ perfect-parisian-macarons-1

In this master class, instructed by one of the talented chefs you will work in groups to execute a Parisian macaron recipe.

#### December 8, 2024 | 10 am – 12:30 pm ELF CLUB: A CHILDREN'S COOKING WORKSHOP

#### Dundurn Castle, Hamilton www.hamilton.ca/things-do/ festivals-events/events-calendar/ elf-club-childrens-cooking-workshop

Join the Elf Club and help make cookies for the season. This fun children's cooking workshop includes a boiled pudding demonstration and hands-on cookie making in the historic kitchen.

#### December 8, 14, 15, 21 & 22, 2024 CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE MAKING WORKSHOP

430 York Blvd., Hamilton chocolatetales.ca/in-person-workshops/ hamilton/xx

Expert chocolatiers will guide you through the art of chocolate making, teaching you the techniques to create your own delectable chocolates. This workshop is sure to delight your taste buds and spread holiday cheer.

#### December 15, 2024 CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE MAKING WORKSHOP (KITCHEN 24)

Kitchen 24, 100 Marmora St., Toronto eventbrite.ca/e/christmas-chocolatemaking-workshop-kitchen-24-tickets-644303006637?aff=ebdssbdestsearch

Chocolate Tales' expert chocolatiers will guide you through the art of chocolate making, teaching you the techniques to create your own delectable chocolates. Put your creativity to the test.

## December 21, 2024 | 9 and 11:30 am KIDS CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

Watering Can Flower Market, St. Catharines

#### thewateringcan.ca/product/

kids-christmas-workshop-2

Child(ren) will immerse themselves in the magic of the season as they craft their very own winter wonderland scape, a masterpiece they will be eager to display with pride.

#### **SPECIAL HOLIDAY SHOWS**

#### December 6, 2024 CANDLELIGHT STROLL

Downtown Niagara-On-The-Lake www.niagaraonthelake.com/ candlelightstroll2023

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce is delighted to uphold this cherished and heartwarming tradition, marking the beginning of the holiday season.

#### December 12, 2024 JOYEUX NOËL/MERRY CHRISTMAS

Alliance Francaise, Downtown Toronto www.eventbrite.ca/e/joyeux-noel-merrychristmas-tickets-927348653787?aff=ebd ssbdestsearch

On the backdrop of the Great War, it is Christmas in 1914, an event will forever change the destinies of four protagonists. *In French with English subtitles.* 

#### December 12, 2024 – January 3, 2025 'TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE... BY CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

Meridian Hall, Toronto tolive.com/Event-Details-Page/reference/ Twas-2024

Classic holiday tale reimagines with breathtaking acrobatics, vibrant visuals, and whimsical characters, a stunning performances with holiday cheer, creating an unforgettable and magical Christmas.

#### December 13, 2024 CHRISTMAS IN SPACE! A HOLIDAY CIRQUE SPECTACULAR

#### Casino Rama Resort, Rama

*www.casinorama.com/christmas-in-space* Step into a world where intergalactic wonder meets Yuletide joy in "Christmas in Space," an electrifying extravaganza. This show features an unparalleled cast of acrobats and cirque performers who will leave you mesmerized.

#### December 19 – 22, 2024 WINTER BLOOMS | CIRCUS

Toronto Botanical Garden torontobotanicalgarden.ca/enjoy/ events-at-the-garden

A one-of-a-kind immersive holiday experience at the Garden. This captivating high-flying circus show brought to life by Toronto's top aerial artists.



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## Merry Christmas Joyeux Noël Maligayang Pasko Feliz Navidad Mele Kalikimaka Buon Natale

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Time to Ring in the Tew Year in Southern Ontario

Festive celebrations and fireworks to welcome 2025 with joy and enthusiasm.

ime to Ring in 2025 in Southern Ontario and it promises to be vibrant and festive atmosphere. Major cities like Toronto, Hamilton, and Mississauga will host dazzling fireworks displays, live music performances, and outdoor festivities. Toronto's Nathan Phillips Square will be a focal point with ice skating, food trucks, and a spectacular midnight fireworks show. Smaller communities across the region will also embrace the celebration with local events. family-friendly activities, and traditional countdowns.

#### **DINNER & DANCE**

#### December 31, 2024 | 9 pm STARS NEW YEARS EVE, ALL INCLUSIVE

Mirage Banquet Hall, Toronto www.facebook.com/starsNYE

The combination of Live Entertainment and All-Inclusive options has made this a favourite for those who know how to ring in the New Year in style!

#### December 31, 2024 | 7 pm NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE

Peter & Paul Banquet Hall, Toronto www.eventbrite.ca/e/new-years-evedinner-dance-dec-31-2024-2025at-peter-paul-banquet-hall-tickets-811497680407?aff=ebdssbdestsearch Includes dinner, mini dance lesson, social dancing, line dancing, wine with dinner (red or white and midnight toast)

#### December 31, 2024 NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH

Château Le Jardin, Woodbridge lejardin.com/upcoming-events/ new-years-eve-party

Château Le Jardin's New Year's Eve Bash is a glamorous event featuring live entertainment, gourmet dining, and an elegant ambiance in Vaughan, Ontario. Guests can enjoy a night of dancing, champagne toasts, and a spectacular midnight countdown to ring in the New Year in style.

#### FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

#### December 31, 2024 | 6 – 9 pm OSHAWA CELEBRATES

Delpark Homes Centre, Oshawa www.oshawa.ca/en/parks-recreation-and-culture/oshawa-celebrates.aspx This free family-friendly event includes free skating, free swimming, free ticketed magic shows in the Library, live entertainment, a zoo, dinosaurs and crafts!

#### **SHOWS / CONCERTS**

#### December 31, 2024 | 8 and 10 pm BEST DAMN STAND-UP COMEDY SHOW: NEW YEAR'S EVE EDITION

SoCap Comedy (The Social Capital), 154 Danforth Ave., 2nd floor, Toronto eventbrite.ca/e/best-damn-stand-upcomedy-show-new-years-eve-edition-1000-pm-show-tickets-800280098317? aff=ebdssbdestsearch

Get ready to laugh this New Year's Eve. The line-up of Toronto's favorite comedians and up and coming jokesters will have you ringing in the New Year with plenty of joy, laughter and an synchronized countdown. An Evening that will have you roaring with laughter

#### December 31, 2024 | 7 pm BRAVISSIMO! NEW YEAR'S AT THE OPERA

Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto roythomsonhall.mhrth.com/tickets/ bravissimo-24

Arias and duets from operas including Carmen, Turandot, Marriage of Figaro, and more deliver a glamorous New Year's Eve for seasoned and budding operalovers alike.

#### January 1, 2025 | 2:30 pm SALUTE TO VIENNA NEW YEAR'S CONCERT 2025

Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto roythomsonhall.mhrth.com/tickets/ salute-to-vienna-25

Salute to Vienna New Year's Concert is a joyful, lively experience that has delighted audiences in Toronto for more than 25 years.

#### OUTDOOR CELEBRATIONS

#### December 31, 2024 | 6 –11:59 pm DOWNTOWN COUNTDOWN

#### Barrie City Hall, Barrie

www.barrie.ca/community-recreation-environment/community-events/ downtown-countdown

Downtown Barrie is the place to be to ring in the New Year! Since 1998, the Downtown Countdown has brought thousands together from near and far to celebrate the arrival of the new year.

#### December 31, 2024 NEW YEAR'S EVE

Garden Square, Downtown Brampton *bit.ly/4d5mFnr* 

#### December 31, 2024 | 8 – 11:59 PM NEW YEAR'S EVE 2024

Celebration Square, Mississauga www.mississauga.ca/ events-and-attractions/events-calendar Join the biggest event of the year to ring in 2025! Fireworks presented by Tim Hortons.

#### December 31, 2024 TIM HORTONS FIRST NIGHT

Magna Centre, Newmarket www.newmarket.ca/firstnight

Bring the whole family and celebrate the new year at this years Tim Hortons First Night. Guests will get to enjoy free public skating, free public swimming, watch free figure skating performances, live outdoor concert and live fireworks display.

#### December 31, 2024 NIAGARA FALLS NEW YEAR'S EVE

Queen Victoria Park, Niagara Falls www.niagaraparks.com/events/event/ niagara-falls-new-years-eve

Revellers flock to Queen Victoria Park for the annual Niagara Falls New Year's Eve with entertainment, food and fireworks next to the spectacular Horseshoe Falls.

#### December 31, 2024 NEW YEARS CELEBRATION

Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto www.toronto.ca/explore-enjoy/ festivals-events/new-years-eve

This festive event offers a family-friendly atmosphere and a vibrant way to ring in the New Year, making it a beloved tradition for Torontonians and visitors alike. ■

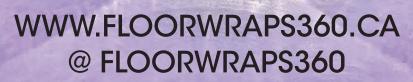
Stay updated with the latest in show & exhibitions news, announcements, and exclusive content by subscribing to our newsletter and following us on social media.

For the latest HOLIDAY news visit, www.torontoondemand.ca/ category/christmas-events.

## LUXURY DANCE FLOOR WRAPS PORTRAIT PRINTS & SIGNAGE

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# Santa Claus is Coming to Town

Experience the magic of the holiday season as towns and cities across the region come alive with spectacular parades featuring colourful floats, lively marching bands, and joyous characters. Witness the grand arrival of Santa Claus and create cherished memories with family and friends.

Santa Claus is coming to Southern Ontario, bringing festive cheer to various communities! From holiday parades to special appearances at local malls and Christmas markets, families can look forward to magical moments with Santa. These celebrations are perfect for creating holiday memories and spreading Christmas cheer.

#### November 16, 2024 | 11 am – 1 pm NEWMARKET SANTA CLAUS PARADE

#### Eagle St. & Main St., Newmarket www.newmarket.ca/ThingsToDo/Pages/ Recreation%20and%20Culture/Events/ Santa%20Claus.aspx

Bundle up and bring your family and friends to see the festive holiday floats followed by a special guest – jolly Old St. Nick. Remember to bring your letter to Santa to be picked up by Canada Post and your non-perishable food item to be collected for the Newmarket Food Pantry.

#### November 16, 2024 BARRIE SANTA CLAUS PARADE Tiffin and Lakeshore, Barrie

#### www.barriechamber.com

This long running family event is a beloved community holiday tradition celebration that brings together families and friends to enjoy the joyful sights and sounds of the holiday season in Barrie. The parade kicks off at 5 pm.

#### November 16, 2024 | 5 pm BRAMPTON SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Bramalea Rd. & Central Park Dr., Brampton *www.bramptonsantaclausparade.com* Cherished annual event in Brampton that marks the holiday season with festive floats, music, and Santa's grand appearance.

#### November 16, 2024 | 4pm NIAGARA FALLS SANTA CLAUS PARADE & TREE LIGHTING

Victoria Ave., Queen St., Centennial Square, Niagara Falls

#### *www.niagarafalls.ca/events/annualevents/santa-claus-parade/default.aspx* As always the parade will feature bands, floats, characters, performers and Santa .

#### November 16, 2024 | 2 pm HAMILTON SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Starts on Upper Sherman & Acadia Drive *www.hamiltonsantaparade.com* 

**NEW PARADE ROUTE!** Featuring a vibrant array of floats, marching bands, and festive characters, the parade creates a magical atmosphere for spectators of all ages.

Collecting non-perishable food items and financial donations for Mission Services.

#### November 16, 2024 | 6 pm OSHAWA SANTA CLAUS PARADE OF LIGHTS

King St. W., Simcoe St. N. and Bond St. W. *www.oshawasantaclausparade.org* 

A cherished tradition brings the community together to celebrate Christmas in a joyous and memorable way.

#### November 17, 2024 | 1:30 pm MILTON SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Main Street West and Whitmer, Milton *www.miltonsantaclausparade.ca* 

This annual celebration brings the magic of Christmas through the decades to life, the timeless traditions, nostalgic moments, and cherished memories that have made the holiday season so special.

#### November 23, 2024 | 5 – 7 pm ORILLIA SANTA CLAUS PARADE

## Mississaga St. E. and Front St., Orillia *www.orillia.com/santa-claus-parade*

The 119th annual Orillia Santa Claus Parade spreads holiday magic with over 100 floats, marching bands, cheerful characters and Santa himself. Celebrate the festive season in this charming annual tradition!

#### November 23, 2024 PICKERING SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Glenanna Road, Pickering www.pickering.ca/en/living/santa-clausparade.aspx

With extravagant floats from Pickering businesses and community groups, marching bands, and Santa Claus himself, the Santa Claus Parade is the spectacle to kick off everyone's holiday season. A joyous celebration that will impress all ages.

#### November 23, 2024 | 6 – 7:30 pm TOWN OF AJAX SANTA'S SPECTACLE OF LIGHTS

## Bayly Street and Mackenzie Avenue *bit.ly/Town-of-Ajax-Santa-Claus-Parade*

Ajax residents and visitors are invited to come out and welcome Santa when he arrives in town to bring holiday cheer with festive floats, and music. Families gather to enjoy this magical celebration, kicking off the holiday season in style!

#### November 24, 2024 SANTA CLAUS PARADE TORONTO

Downtown Toronto

#### www.thesantaclausparade.com

The Santa Claus Parade in Toronto is a beloved annual tradition, featuring colourful floats, lively performances, and of course, Santa himself. Drawing thousands of spectators, the parade brings festive cheer to the city's streets each November. It's a magical kickoff to the holiday season for families and visitors alike.

#### November 16, 2024 OAKVILLE SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Downtown Oakville www.oakville.ca/community-events/ events/events-calendar/santa-claus-parade For over 70 years, the Oakville Santa Claus Parade has been bringing joy by providing members of the community a chance to come together and participate or watch the parade.

#### November 30, 2024 MARKHAM SANTA CLAUS PARADE Main Street Markham

#### bit.ly/Markham-Santa-Claus-Parade

The 50th Annual Markham Santa Claus Parade is the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season with your loved ones.

#### December 1, 2024 BURLINGTON SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Guelph Line from Prospect Street to New Street

#### www.burlington.ca/en/news/festivals-andevents/santa-claus-parade.aspx

Featuring dazzling floats, lively marching bands, and of course, Santa Claus himself.

Support and bring a non-perishable food donation to the Parade. The Burlington Teen Tour Boosters will be collecting in support of the Burlington Food Bank.

#### December 1, 2024 | 11 am MISSISSAUGA SANTA CLAUS PARADE

#### Erin Mills Auto Centre, Mississauga www.mississaugasantaclausparade.com

The Mississauga Santa Claus Parade brings holiday joy with dazzling floats, cheerful performers, and festive music. Families gather to celebrate the season, welcoming Santa as he spreads Christmas magic throughout the city.

#### December 7, 2024 | 10 am ETOBICOKE LAKESHORE SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Dwight Avenue to Thirtieth Street along the Lakeshore

#### www.lakeshoreparade.ca

The Etobicoke Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade delights the community with colorful floats, lively bands, and holiday spirit. Families gather to enjoy the festive procession, celebrating the arrival of Santa in style.

#### December 7, 2024 | 6 pm STOUFFVILLE SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Main Street from Ninth Line to Park Drive www.townofws.ca/play/events/ santa-claus-parade

Celebrate the season as a cavalcade of lights, floats, bands and more will make its way down the Historic Downtown Main Street.

#### December 7, 2024 | 10 am WHITBY SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Brock Street North and Manning Road *www.whitbysantaclausparade.ca* 

An event for all ages, the parade showcases over 50 organizations' holiday spirit as they walk along the Brock Street parade route.

#### December 14, 2024 | 11 am NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Old Town, Niagara-on-the-Lake www.notl.com/recreation-community/ community-events/christmas-parade

Families and visitors from near and far gather along the historic streets to enjoy the holiday spirit, community camaraderie, and joyful atmosphere that marks the beginning of the Christmas season in this charming locale. ■



## Christmas Markets in Southern Ontario



Discover the enchantment of Southern Ontario Christmas Markets! These festive events across the region offer charming vendor stalls, seasonal delights, and lively entertainment. Perfect for holiday shopping and family outings, these markets capture the essence of the season, creating magical experiences filled with joy and community spirit.

#### **GREATER TORONTO AREA**

#### November 2, 2024 | 11 – 6 pm TORONTO ART CRAWL HOLIDAY MARKET

250 Fort York Blvd., The Bentway *www.torontoartcrawl.com* 

This free holiday market is a creative's shopping dream. Come shop directly from the hands of 180+ amazingly talented Toronto artists and artisans, Saturday November 2, 2024 in Toronto's trendy King West, under the Gardiner Expressway, at the cool urban Bentway!

#### November 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 2024 TORONTO ZOO HOLIDAY

MARKETPLACE Toronto Zoo

#### www.torontozoo.com/marketplace

The Toronto Zoo Holiday Marketplace offers a festive experience where visitors can shop for unique gifts, enjoy seasonal treats, and explore the zoo's winter wonderland, making it a perfect holiday outing for families.

#### November 9 – 10, 2024 MERRY MARKET: CELEBRATING 5 YEARS OF HANDMADE!

Small Arms Inspection Building, 1352 Lakeshore Rd E, Mississauga www.hellohappyhq.com/ upcoming-events/24-merry-market-1

Support over 100 local businesses and shop small this holiday season. Hello Happy will be hosting a food drive during this event. All donations will be in support of a local charity.

#### November 13 – December 31, 2024 DISTILLERY WINTER VILLAGE

Distillery District, Toronto www.thedistillerywintervillage.com Visitors to the Distillery Winter Village

(formally the Toronto Christmas Market) will be immersed in a unique atmosphere

that brings Ontario's best and most unique craftspeople, artists and artisans, together with an international roster of world-class vendors.

#### November 15 – 17, 2024 2024 SEASONS CHRISTMAS SHOW International Centre, Mississauga

### www.seasonsshow.com

Whether you are looking for the latest in Christmas decor, the perfect stocking stuffers, or a unique handmade gift in the Makeful Market, the Seasons Christmas show will provide you with the opportunity to shop, taste, and experience the best the holiday season has to offer!

#### November 15 – December 29, 2024 HOLIDAY HILLS AT STACKT MARKET Stackt Market, 28 Bathurst St.

#### www.stacktmarket.com

Holiday Hills will transform STACKT into a show stopping winter wonderland where you can immerse yourself in the holiday spirit with a whole roster of cozy, fun and festive activities.

#### November 16, 2024 JUBILEE CHRISTMAS MARKET

#### Jubilee United Church, Toronto

*www.jubileeunited.ca/jubileemarket* You will find a multitude of art forms and other items that you will not find in any stores.

#### November 22 – December 8, 2024 THE INDIGENOUS ARTISAN MARKETPLACE

The Native Canadian Centre, Toronto *www.ncct.on.ca/indigenous-artisan-marketplace* 

This free market will feature an array of Indigenous artisans and craft vendors for you to shop this season. Pick up an edgy acrylic painting or some beautiful beads. If you love live music make sure to check out one of the markets performances.

16 | https://www.torontoondemand.ca /christmas-markets

#### November 22 – 24, 2024 December 13 – 15, 2024 HOLIDAY MARKET

Toronto Botanical Garden, 777 Lawrence Ave E.

#### torontobotanicalgarden.ca/enjoy/specialevents/holiday-market-open-house

Go green this holiday season by visiting the Annual Toronto Botanical Garden Holiday Market, an eco-minded, nature-inspired, relaxed shopping experience.

#### November 23, 2024 | 10 am – 3 pm HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS MARKET

Small Arms Inspection Building 1352 Lakeshore Road East, Mississauga *www.themommarketco.com/peel-region* The day is filled with holiday-themed workshops, gift-wrapping stations and over 80 local vendors, and will be the perfect kickstart to your holiday season shopping.

#### November 23, 2024 | 3 – 10:30 pm CRAAF HOLIDAY MARKET

Vic Johnston Community Centre, Mississauga

#### www.craaf.ca/events

This charming event is designed to bring the community together and celebrate the season, support local artisans and businesses.

#### November 23 – December 23, 2024 HOLIDAY FAIR IN THE SQUARE

## Mel Lastman Square, Toronto *www.fairinthesquare.ca*

Stroll through the stalls of the artisan marketplace, warm up in the Fireside Lounge while sipping a hot chocolate or mulled wine and toasting your very own s'more, or enjoy a visit with Santa himself! Holiday Fair in the Square is a holiday tradition you don't want to miss.

#### November 29 – December 1, 2024 December 6 – 8, 2024 AURORA'S CHRISTMAS MARKET

Aurora Town Square www.aurora.ca/en/recreation-arts-andculture/christmas-market.aspx

This annual festive event features twinkling lights, charming vendor stalls, delicious holiday treats, and live entertainment. Bring the family and enjoy a cozy, communityoriented celebration that captures the spirit of the season.

#### November 30, 2024 SANTA'S ELVES' MARKET

Great Lakes Brewery, Toronto *www.greatlakesbeer.com* 

Crack open a cold one and browse through amazing local vendors. Make sure to bring non-perishable food items for the donation bin.

#### December 1, 2024 | 12 – 5 pm 10TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POP UP

## The Great Hall,1087 Queen St. W. *www.torontoartcrawl.com/ christmas-pop-up-december-1-2024*

A FREE Christmas POP UP for all! Shop directly from the hands of 100+ amazingly talented Toronto artists and artisans. If you are looking for art, photography, sculptures, jewellery, fashion, home decor, skin care and more one of a kind items, you won't want to miss this one day market.

#### December 1, 2024 | 10 am – 4 pm BAM! HOLIDAY ART MARKET

#### Wychwood Barns, Toronto

www.wychwoodbarns.ca/ bam-fall-and-winter-markets-2024 Be part of the annual Holiday Community Event that showcases unique, handcrafted gifts from local artists, perfect for festive shopping and supporting creative talent.

#### December 2 –16, 2024 MISSISSAUGA'S ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES

Small Arms Inspection Building, Mississauga

#### creativehub1352.ca/festival-of-trees

A celebration of the winter season, art, food, and community. With twinkling canopies of seasonal lights, commissioned artistcreated trees, artisan and culinary markets with local, handmade goods, workshops, live entertainment, and more.

#### December 7, 2024 | 10 am – 7 pm HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS MARKET

Dixie Outlet Mall, Mississauga

*www.themommarketco.com/peel-region* The day will be filled with holiday-themed workshops, gift-wrapping stations and over 80 local vendors, and will be the perfect kickstart to your holiday season shopping.

## In the Spirit of Christmas

This is a time to show compassion for those who are not as fortunate as we are. These are our brothers and sisters on the streets, in the shelters, and those lined up at the food banks. They are people like us, who for one reason or another, are unable to enjoy what we take for granted. Remember to help those less fortunate during this holiday season. The spirit of the season only shines through us. We are the ones who can help lighten up the rest of the world. Throughout the year, we should be their beacons but at this time of year we can become the real, Christmas light for many who need us - the shining star on their virtual tree of life.

#### ALGONQUIN PARK, Muskoka & Parry Sound

#### November 22, 2024 MOONLIGHT SHOPPING PARTY & STREET FESTIVAL

Downtown Bracebrifge www.bracebridge.ca/explore/ festivals-and-events

Bring your friends and the whole family downtown Bracebridge to kick off the holiday season with Santa! Fireworks, living window reveals, late night shopping, Christmas carols, live entertainment, kids crafts and activities, hot cocoa trail, local vendors, Elf on the Shelf hide & seek, Santa Claus parade, illumination of holiday displays and much more!

#### BRUCE, GREY & SIMCOE

#### November 1 – 3, 2024 BARRIE CHRISTMAS ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW & SALE

Sadlon Arena, Barrie www.barrieartsandcraftsshows.ca/ arts-crafts-shows-c1bbg

Ontario's most talented artisans and crafters come together at Annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Show & Sale. Choose from pottery, stained glass, teddy bears, Christmas crafts, body care products, jewellery, clothing, woodcrafts, ceramics, and more, making Christmas shopping easy.

#### November 9 – 10, 2024 ANNUAL SUGAR PLUM FAIR

Nottawasaga Inn Resort, Alliston www.facebook.com/events/nottawasagainn-resort/sugar-plum-fair-craftshow-2024/1092727508679994

The Annual Sugar Plum Fair is a festive holiday market featuring handcrafted goods, seasonal treats, and unique gifts. Enjoy shopping, live entertainment, and holiday cheer in a magical, family-friendly atmosphere.

#### November 21 – December 8, 2024 FIRST LIGHT

Sainte-Marie among the Hurons, Midland *saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca/ events/first-light* 

Sainte-Marie's First Light is a mustsee holiday event with a great lineup of family-friendly activities, historical



demonstrations, and musical performances, all illuminated by thousands of candles. Get a head start on your holiday shopping at their extensive artisan market. Get cozy and enjoy tasty food by the fire. Experience the joys of the season, wrapped up in history!

#### November 22 – 23, 2024 ORILLIA CHRISTMAS MARKET 2024

Creative Nomad Studios, Orillia www.orilliachristmasmarket.ca

A festive shopping extravaganza featuring exceptional artisans and makers. Enjoy the Friday night tree lighting ceremony at 7 pm, delightful Santa selfies, and stick around for the Santa Claus parade after the market closes.

#### November 23 – 24, 2024 OUR HOMES CHRISTMAS MARKET

Alpine Ski Club, 17-242 Arrowhead Rd. *www.sgbchristmasmarket.ca* 

This market at Alpine Ski Club offers a cozy holiday shopping experience with more than 100 local artisans, handcrafted gifts, festive décor, and seasonal treats, set against a scenic winter backdrop.

#### November 28 – December 1, 2024 CHRISTMAS ON THE BAY™

12 Nelson St East, Meaford *www.christmasonthebay.ca* 

Experience the magic and taste the pleasures of Georgian Bay's largest outdoor Christmas market in the heart of charming historic Meaford.

#### HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS TO THE OTTAWA VALLEY

#### November 23, 2024 | 10 am - 3 pm 5TH ANNUAL HALIBURTON CHRISTMAS MARKET

A.J. LaRue Arena, 728 Mountain St. *myhaliburtonhighlands.com/events/ christmas-market-2* 

The 5th Annual Haliburton Christmas Market brings holiday spirit to life with local vendors, handcrafted gifts, seasonal décor, and festive treats. Enjoy live entertainment, holiday activities, and a warm, welcoming atmosphere in the heart of Haliburton's winter wonderland.

#### HAMILTON, HALTON & BRANT

#### **November 1 – 3, 2024** CHRISTMAS IN PARIS 139 Silver St., Paris

www.christmasinparis.ca

A wonderful unique shopping event which heralds the start of the holiday season, in the pretty town of Paris Ontario. Thousands of visitors look forward to attending year after year. All items are handcrafted and designed by members of Kindred Spirits Artisans of Paris.

Christmas in Paris collects a \$2 admission at the door to support the arts through bursaries for high school students, in Paris, the County of Brant and Brantford.

#### HURON, PERTH, WATERLOO & WELLINGTON

#### November 10, 2024 | 11 am – 6 pm STRATFORD SPARKLES CHRISTMAS MARKET 2024

Stratford Army Navy, 151 Lorne Ave. E. *www.visitstratford.ca/events/stratford-sparkles-christmas-market-2024* 

Explore a magical marketplace with an array of unique handcrafted items perfect for the holiday season.

#### November 14 – 17, 21 – 24, 2024 SPARKLES: A HOLIDAY SHOPPING EVENT

St. Jacobs Village Shops, St. Jacobs *www.stjacobsvillage.com/sparkles* 

Enjoy an annual holiday shopping event amid thousands of twinkling lights in the village – a true holiday experience. Enjoy The Village of St. Jacobs' many unique shops and eateries. Shop into the evening Thursday, Friday and Saturdays and take in the holiday festivities and entertainment.

#### November 29 – 30, 2024 CHRISTMAS MARKET

Wellington County Museum, Fergus wcma.wellington.ca/programmes-events/ christmas-market

Ring the holiday season with handmade market items, live musical entertainment, delicious local food, a visit from Santa Claus and more family fun.

#### December 5 – 8, 2024 CHRISTKINDL MARKET

Kitchener City Hall, Kitchener www.kitchener.ca/en/arts-culture-andevents/christkindl-market.aspx

Canada's original festival of German Christmas. With an emphasis on Old World German themes and flavours, this is the perfect event if you're looking to get in the Christmas spirit.

#### December 14 – 15, 2024 CAMBRIDGE CHRISTMAS MARKET

City Hall, Cambridge www.cambridge.ca/en/parks-recreationculture/cambridge-christmas-market.aspx

This award winning Christmas market offers almost 60 local artisans, crafters and makers. Shoppers will enjoy free live entertainment, a fire pit lounge and food trucks.



Seasons CHRISTMAS SHOW

crafted by MAKE

## **November 15-17, 2024** International Centre, Mississauga

#### KAWARTHAS AND NORTHUMBERLAND

#### November 16, 2024 | 9 am – 2 pm CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Lang Pioneer Village Museum, Keene www.langpioneervillage.ca/see-do/ events/christmas-bazaar

The *Christmas Bazaar* at Lang Pioneer Village Museum offers a charming holiday experience with handcrafted gifts, festive décor, and local treats. Explore unique artisan booths while enjoying the historic village's festive atmosphere.

#### November 24, 2024 | 11 am – 4 pm COTTAGE COUNTRY CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW 2024

The Morrow Building, Peterborough www.bucklenshackle.com/events/ cottage-country-christmas-craft-show-2024-peterborough-the-morrow-building The Cottage Country Christmas Craft Show showcases local artisans offering unique, handcrafted gifts, seasonal decorations, and festive treats. Enjoy a cozy holiday shopping experience in the beautiful setting of Ontario's cottage country.

#### **NIAGARA REGION**

#### November 29 – December 1, 2024 14TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY MARKET

Niagara Falls Convention Centre, Niagara Falls

#### www.handmademarket.ca

Enjoy a festive celebration of local artisans and explore a delightful array of handcrafted gifts, seasonal decorations, and tasty treats. This market is the perfect place to find hand-crafted products created by artisans from across Ontario, Quebec and Canada's East Coast.

#### December 6 – 15, 2024 HOLIDAY MARKET

Niagara Pumphouse Art Centre, Niagara-On-The-Lake www.niagarapumphouse.ca/events/ holiday-market

The *Holiday Market* features a wide range of one-of-a-kind, handmade holiday gifts, ornaments, and decor by artisans. Christmas trees in their spacious Walker Room gallery will be decorated with handmade ornaments and products available for purchase.

#### **OTTAWA REGION**

November 22 - 24, 29, 2024December 1, 6 - 8, 13 - 15, 20 - 22, 26 - 31, 2024January 2 - 5, 2025CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND

#### Aberdeen Square, Ottawa www.ottawachristmasmarket.com

Thousands of Christmas lights and decorations twinkle and sparkle to create that festive atmosphere that is accompanied by holiday entertainment, local flavours, and some holiday shopping.

#### SOUTHEASTERN ONTARIO

#### November 30, 2024 December 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 2024 KINGSTON HOLIDAY MARKET

Malting Tower, Rehearsal Hall, and The Gallery, Kingston

www.kingstonartistevents.com/pages/ kingston-holiday-market-guest-facing-site Established in 2017, the Kingston Holiday Market stands as a pillar event within the creative landscape of Kingston, Ontario. With a legacy of hosting meticulously curated events featuring unique, high quality products.

#### SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO

#### December 14, 2024 | 2 – 9 pm SANTA'S VILLAGE & MARKET

Essex, Ontario

#### www.santasvillageessex.com

Santa's Village & Market is a festive holiday destination featuring local vendors, handcrafted gifts, and seasonal treats. Enjoy holiday activities, meet Santa, and explore a magical winter wonderland perfect for the whole family.

#### YORK & DURHAM REGION

#### October 24 – December 26, 2024 SISTERS TOUCH OF CHRISTMAS

St. Kosmas Aitolos Monastery, 14155 Caledon King Townline S. Bolton *www.thesisterstoc.com* 

The Sisters Touch of Christmas is an exclusive, fundraising, seasonal Christmas store featuring one-of-a-kind, hand painted ornaments by *The Sisters*. In addition to festive, gourmet, holiday bakery, the store is adorned with wreaths, garlands, illuminated décor, seasonal linens, nativities, timeless Christmas keepsakes and a large assortment of ornaments.

#### November 2, 2024 | 10 am – 4 pm ABILITIES CENTRE'S HOLIDAY MARKET

#### Abilities Centre, Whitby www.abilitiescentre.org/support-us/ events-calendar/festival-of-trees

Discover unique gifts and support local vendors. Play games and activities, enjoy the appearances by Santa at *Abilities Centre's Holiday Market* 2024, where community and creativity shine.

#### November 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024 December 1, 8, 2024 HOLIDAY MARKET SERIES

Uxbridge Arena Hall, Uxbridge www.uxbridgefarmersmarket.ca

The Uxbridge Farmer's Christmas Market features local vendors offering fresh produce, artisanal goods, and festive treats. Enjoy a charming holiday atmosphere while supporting local farmers and artisans in the heart of Uxbridge.

#### November 9–10, 2024 | 10 am–5 pm HEINTZMAN HOUSE'S 51ST ANNUAL ARTISAN CRAFT SHOW

## Heintzman House, Thornhill *theheintzmanhouse.ca/2024-craft-show*

The Heintzman House's 51st Annual Artisan Craft Show showcases talented local artisans offering handcrafted gifts, jewelry, and décor. Enjoy a festive atmosphere while shopping for unique, one-of-a-kind holiday treasures in a historic setting.

#### November 15 – 17, 2024 MARKHAM HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Markham Fairgrounds, Markham *www.homefortheholidays.ca* 

Markham Home for the Holidays is not just a place to shop – it's a festive journey. Whether you want to complete your Christmas shopping list, find that unique handcrafted decoration, or soak in the joyous atmosphere, this market has something for everyone and all ages. The True Spirit of Christmas awaits you with the sights, scents and sounds that are sure to warm your heart.

#### November 15 – 16, 2024 **DOWNTOWN WHITBY BIA'S 6TH** CHRISTMAS MARKET

#### Celebration Square, Whitby www.whitbybia.org/

downtown-whitby-christmas-market Experience the magic of the holiday season at Downtown Whitby BIA's 6th Christmas Market, where local vendors, festive entertainment, and holiday cheer await you.

#### November 15 – December 21, 2024 NIEMI'S CHRISTMAS MARKET

#### Niemi Family Farm, Mount Albert www.niemifamilyfarm.ca

Make your way to Mount Albert this holiday season to experience a magical outdoor experience with dozens of local vendors with incredible handmade products. Don't forget to explore Santa's workshop, Christmas land on the Polar Express Train and the farm animals before getting your Christmas shopping started.

#### November 15, 2024 | 5 – 9 pm **BRIGHT AND MERRY MARKET AND** TREE LIGHTING

#### Downtown Oshawa

#### www.oshawa.ca/en/parks-recreation-andculture/bright-and-merry-market.aspx

The holiday season atmosphere is palpable with seasonal decorations, lighting displays, carol singers, live entertainment, buskers, holiday music, Santa Claus in his igloo and a festive hop-on, hop-off trolley that tours the downtown.

#### November 16, 2024 **2ND ANNUAL WINTER MARKET**

86 Colborne St. W., Oshawa www.bit.ly/winter-martket-oshawa

Shop local vendors, check out the donated Christmas trees and wreaths and enter into their promotional raffle draws.

#### December 1, 2024 | 12 - 7 pm TORONTO MADE HOLIDAY MARKET

Bellvue Manor, Vaughan bit.ly/toronto-made-holiday-market

Kick off the holiday season at the Toronto Made Holiday Market with 120 local vendors, live music, interactive activities + more. You are sure to find something special for everyone on your list.■



## Linen Rental & Decor



Happy Holidays and a Joyous New Year!

Head Tables · Tablecloths · Chair Covers · Overlays Napkins · Charger Plates · Candelabras Backdrops · Ceiling Swags

If You Can Dream It, We Can Make It to Reality. 416.745.3971 · @rightchoicelinen

## Holiday Concerts in Southern Ontario

Celebrate the season with Southern Ontario's 2024 Holiday Concerts! Featuring a diverse lineup of talented performers, these concerts offer festive music ranging from classical to contemporary. Join in the joy and cheer as you enjoy heartwarming performances in beautiful venues across the region. Perfect for family outings or a special night out, these concerts are sure to make your holiday season memorable.

#### TORONTO

#### November 22 – 24, 2024 BACH CHRISTMAS ORATORIO Jeanne Lamon Hall.

Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, Toronto tafelmusik.org/concerts-events/concerts/ bach-christmas-oratorio

Ring in the Yuletide season with a jubilant burst of music by Bach. Last performed by Tafelmusik in 2015, Bach's Christmas Oratorio bears the unmistakable hallmark of the composer's genius.

#### November 27 – 39, 2024 TCHAIKOVSKY'S THE NUTCRACKER: LAND OF SWEETS

Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto www.tso.ca/concerts-and-events/events/ tchaikovskys-the-nutcracker-land-ofsweets

Toronto Symphony Orchestra open the doors to the holiday season with a journey to the Land of Sweets in Act II of Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker.

#### December 1, 2024 THE KINGDOM CHOIR

Meridian Arts Centre, George Weston Recital Hall

#### tolive.com/Event-Details-Page/reference/ The-Kingdom-Choir-2024

The Kingdom Choir returns with a special Christmas offering of soulful renditions of traditional gospel classics and popular contemporary music mixed with their own inspirational versions of holiday works.

#### December 3 – 4, 2024 TORONTO MENDELSSOHN CHOIR'S FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, Toronto www.tmchoir.org/event/ festival-of-carols-2024 Celebrate the season with one of Toronto's favourite holiday traditions with the *Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. Sing-A-Long* to your favourite holiday classics led by Maestro Jean-Sébastien Vallée.

#### December 5 – 8, 2024 TSO PRESENTS ELF IN CONCERT (FILM WITH LIVE ORCHESTRA)

Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto www.tso.ca/concerts-and-events/events/ elf-in-concert

This holiday season Buddy travels to New York—with a live symphony orchestra! Celebrate the film's 20th anniversary and experience John Debney's wonderful score as the full film plays on the big screen.

#### December 10 – 12, 2024 TSO HOLIDAY POPS

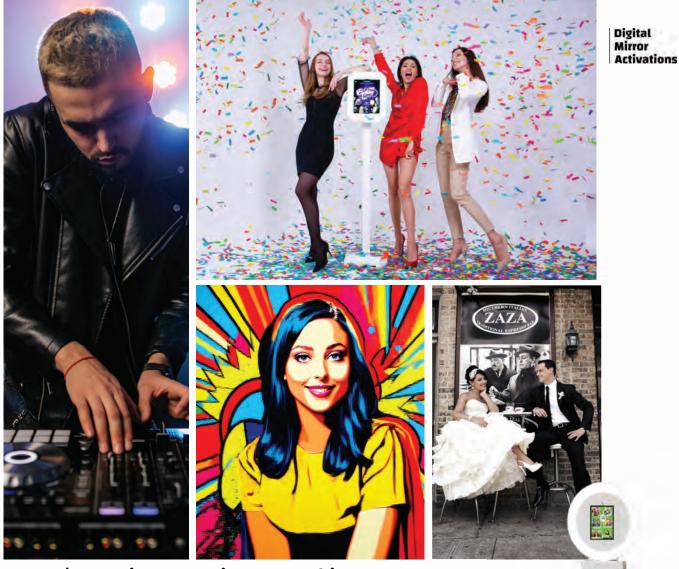
Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto www.tso.ca/concerts-and-events/events/ tso-holiday-pops

Gather the whole family for a celebration of the season with an upbeat jazzy twist! Led by Jeff Tyzik and featuring the smooth vocals of Toronto's own Denzal Sinclaire, an enchanting evening of festive music, delightful carols, and classic holiday tunes performed by world-class musicians. This festive concert is sure to get you into the holiday spirit faster than you can say, "Fa la la!"

#### December 11, 2024 | 7:30 pm THE FITZGERALDS' CHRISTMAS SHOW

#### Dora Keogh Irish Pub, Toronto https://bit.ly/fitzgeralds-toronto

The Fitzgeralds' Christmas show features lively fiddle tunes, energetic step dancing, and festive holiday music, blending traditional Irish and Canadian styles for a joyful celebration.



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#### December 13, 2024 FRIDAY NIGHT JAZZ

Ripley's Aquarium of Canada www.ripleys.com/attractions/ ripleys-aquarium-of-canada/events/ jazz-night

Combines smooth jazz performances with breathtaking aquatic views, offering a unique and vibrant evening experience amidst stunning marine life and an unforgettable atmosphere.

#### December 16, 2024 THE IRISH TENORS: A FAMILY CHRISTMAS

The Danforth Music Hall, Toronto www.ticketmaster.ca/the-irishtenors-a-family-christmastoronto-ontario-12-16-2024/ event/100060F09C7F1233

Bringing their signature blend of traditional Irish music and festive favourites, the Tenors deliver an enchanting performance filled with timeless carols and holiday classics.

#### December 17, 2024 | 12 pm FREE CONCERT SERIES: HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

Four Seasons Centre, Isadore and Rosalie Sharp City Room www.coc.ca/tickets/2425-season/ holiday-celebrations

Steven Taetz and his merry band celebrate the sounds of the season, performing Christmas classics and original hits from his upcoming holiday album.

#### December 17 – 22, 2024 TSO PRESENTS MESSIAH

Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto www.tso.ca/concerts-and-events/events/ messiah

Experience Handel's *Messiah* performed by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, featuring powerful choral and orchestral renditions of this timeless masterpiece. A profound and uplifting concert, perfect for celebrating the holiday season.

#### December 20 – 21, 2024 HANDEL MESSIAH

Koerner Hall, TELUS Centre for Performance and Learning *tafelmusik.org/concerts-events/concerts/ handel-messiah-24*  Handel's Messiah makes the season even brighter. It just wouldn't be the holiday season without Tafelmusik's *Messiah*! *Messiah*'s core message of good will, hope, and humanity resounds as eloquently today as its premiere in 1742.

#### December 21, 2024 CHOIR! CHOIR! CHOIR!

Massey Hall, Toronto masseyhall.mhrth.com/tickets/ ccc-unsilent-night-2

Choir! Choir! Choir! presents a Family Matinee of *Un-Silent Night*, a festive holiday sing-along. Join in for a fun-filled event featuring EPIC holiday hits, perfect for the entire family.

#### December 22, 2024 SING-A-LONG MESSIAH

Massey Hall, Toronto tafelmusik.org/concerts-events/concerts/ sing-along-messiah-24

It's the first Sing-Along in the newly renovated Massey Hall, and you can be among the 2,000 audience members gathered to "raise the roof" in Handel's bracing choruses.

#### December 30, 2024 | 3 and 7:30 pm TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA: THE LOST CHRISTMAS EVE WINTER TOUR Scotiabank Arena, Toronto

www.scotiabankarena.com/events/ detail/trans-siberian-orchestra-the-lostchristmas-eve-winter-tour-2024

The Trans-Siberian Orchestra's *The Lost Christmas Eve* Winter Tour delivers a mesmerizing fusion of rock, classical, and holiday music. This electrifying show features stunning light displays, powerful performances, and an unforgettable journey through a magical Christmas story set to music.

#### December 31, 2024 BRAVISSIMO! NEW YEAR'S AT THE OPERA

#### Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto roythomsonhall.mhrth.com/tickets/ bravissimo-24

*BRAVISSIMO! New Year's at the Opera* presents a spectacular celebration, featuring renowned opera arias performed by world-class vocalists and a full orchestra. Usher in the New Year with timeless classics and breathtaking performances in a grand setting.

#### **BARRIE/ORILLIA**

#### December 21, 2024 BEACHES JAZZ FESTIVAL PRESENTS SOUL OF MOTOWN CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Georgian Theatre, Barrie tprocob.ticketpro.ca/en/pages/ cob\_Soul\_of\_Motown

Beaches International Jazz Festival presents a gift like no other – *the Soul of Motown Christmas Special*. Get ready to be transported to an era of soulful melodies, iconic voices, and timeless classics that continue to move hearts and feet.

#### BRAMPTON

#### December 6, 2024 FRIDAY FOLK NIGHT

Snelgrove Community Centre, Brampton *https://bit.ly/fitzgeralds-music* 

The Fitzgeralds' Christmas show features lively fiddle tunes, energetic step dancing, and festive holiday music, blending traditional Irish and Canadian styles for a joyful celebration.

#### December 6, 2024 WONDERFUL WORLD OF CHRISTMAS

Rose Mainstage, Brampton *bit.ly/3Yb3lkr* 

Featuring internationally acclaimed Elvis Tribute Stylist Steve Michaels, this spectacular showcases the timeless songs and cherished holiday favourites.

#### December 7, 2024 CHRISTMAS AT THE ROSE

Rose Mainstage, Brampton *bit.ly/3WvP6F0* 

Embrace the festive spirit and your favourite holiday hits performed live by one of the oldest community concert bands in Canada

#### December 11, 2024 THE CELTIC TENORS: A CELTIC CHRISTMAS

Rose Mainstage, Brampton *bit.ly/4bSDL7e* 

From classic carols like *O* Holy Night to beloved Celtic holiday favourites, this beautiful blend of Irish roots, classical training, and polished, magnificent music is the can't miss concert of the holiday season.

#### December 14, 2024 THE ROSE ORCHESTRA: YULE SING

Rose Mainstage, Brampton Presented by The Rose Orchestra www.theroseorchestra.org/ gingerbreadjoy

Brampton Children's Chorus and St. Roch Chorale share their holiday favourites to kick off the holiday season.

#### December 21, 2024 A NEXT GENERATION LEAHY CHRISTMAS

Rose Mainstage, Brampton *bit.ly/4cLDhAW* 

From Celtic roots to diverse genres, such as fiddle, cello, French accordion, singing, piano, and step-dancing, their dynamic live shows captivate audiences and leave a lasting impression.

#### **BURLINGTON**

#### December 8, 2024 | 4pm BURLINGTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: A CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

Burlington Performing Arts Centre burlingtonpac.ca/events/ bso-a-christmas-spectacular

A full-length holiday program featuring seasonal favourites, an audience sing-a-long and a special guest direct from The North Pole.

#### December 14, 2024 UN-SILENT NIGHT: AN EPIC HOLIDAY SING-A-LONG!

Burlington Performing Arts Centre burlingtonpac.ca/events/ choir-choir-choir-unsilent-night

Choir! Choir! Choir! presents *Un-Silent Night*, a festive holiday sing-along. Join in for a fun-filled event featuring EPIC holiday hits, perfect for the entire family.

#### December 15, 2024 A CELTIC FAMILY CHRISTMAS WITH MACMASTER AND LEAHY

Burlington Performing Arts Centre burlingtonpac.ca/events/ natalie-macmaster-and-donell-leahy

This captivating performance celebrates family, music, and Celtic traditions, creating a heartwarming holiday experience filled with lively tunes and joyous spirit.

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#### December 18, 2024 HANDEL'S MESSIAH

## Burlington Performing Arts Centre *brottmusic.com/handels-messiah-2*

Experience the grandeur of Handel's *Messiah*, a timeless masterpiece featuring soaring vocals and stirring orchestration. This iconic oratorio captures the essence of the holiday season through its powerful, uplifting music.

#### December 20, 2024 A VERY CHARLIE BROWN CONCERT FEATURING ENCHORUS CHILDREN'S CHOIR

#### Burlington Performing Arts Centre

*burlingtonpac.ca/events/charlie-brown* Delight in "A Very Charlie Brown Concert" featuring the Enchorus Children's Choir. Enjoy a magical blend of classic Peanuts tunes and festive cheer, creating a heartwarming experience for the whole family.

#### December 22, 2024 A FAMILY CHRISTMAS WITH PAVLO & JOHN MCDERMOTT

#### The Burlington Performing Arts Centre burlingtonpac.ca/events/

pavlo-and-john-McDermott

Join Pavlo and John McDermott for "A Family Christmas," a heartwarming concert blending classic holiday favorites with unique musical flair. Celebrate the season with an unforgettable night of festive cheer and joy.

#### HAMILTON

#### December 8, 2024 | 2 pm MUSICAL MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

LR Wilson Concert Hall, McMaster brottmusic.com/

#### musical-magic-of-christmas

Create cherished memories with YOUR family this year. Your loved ones won't soon forget the exhilarating power of a full symphony orchestra performing holiday classics like you've never heard them.

#### December 29, 2024 SALUTE TO VIENNA

FirstOntario Concert Hall, Hamilton www.hamilton-theatre.com/shows/ firstontario-concert-hall/salute-to-vienna

Waltz into the golden era of Viennese music with *Salute to Vienna*, a New Year's Eve celebration that welcomes in the new year in the most spectacular fashion, bringing together talented singers, orchestra members, and ballroom and ballet dancers.

#### MARKHAM/UNIONVILLE

#### November 28, 2024 A VERY MERRY MOTOWN CHRISTMAS

Flato Markham Theatre, Markham *flatomarkhamtheatre.ca/Online/default.asp* Celebrate "A Very Merry Motown Christmas" with a lively tribute to Motown's greatest hits and holiday classics. Enjoy soulful performances and festive rhythms that bring the spirit of Christmas to life.

#### November 29, 2024 THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF CHRISTMAS – GRACELAND EDITION

Flato Markham Theatre, Markham *flatomarkhamtheatre.ca/Online/default.asp* Featuring internationally acclaimed Elvis Tribute Stylist Steve Michaels, this spectacular showcases the timeless songs of Elvis Presley, along with his cherished holiday favourites.

#### November 30, 2024 MICHAEL KAESHAMMER: THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Flato Markham Theatre, Markham *flatomarkhamtheatre.ca/Online/default.asp* Michael Kaeshammer isn't so much a piano player as a piano whisperer, a master musician and songwriter able to coax dazzling, kaleidoscopic sounds from his instrument in a way few can rival.

#### December 6, 2024 HOLLY COLE: A SWINGING CHRISTMAS

Flato Markham Theatre, Markham flatomarkhamtheatre.ca/Online/default.asp Holly Cole's A Swinging Christmas brings fresh faces to well-worn standards, fan favourites and an eclectic selection of inspired holiday material.

#### December 7, 2024 | 8 pm KINDRED SPIRITS ORCHESTRA: IMPRESSIONS OF THE SEA

Flato Markham Theatre, Markham *ksorchestra.ca/2024-2025-season/ impressions-of-the-sea* 

A holiday classic, Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker suite, including the "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy," and the Russian "Trepak", before concluding with the wellknown "Waltz of the Flowers."

#### December 14, 2024 PAVLO & JOHN MCDERMOTT: A FAMILY CHRISTMAS

Flato Markham Theatre, Markham flatomarkhamtheatre.ca/Online/default.asp From the timeless traditions of the Celts to the sun drenched Mediterranean vistas, experience the magical fusion of John McDermott's exquisite tenor and Pavlo's

#### December 18, 2024 NATALIE MACMASTER & DONNELL LEAHY: A CELTIC FAMILY CHRISTMAS

masterful guitar artistry.

Flato Markham Theatre, Markham *flatomarkhamtheatre.ca/Online/default.asp* Join the family and stellar band as they warmly invite you in to share their music, their unique way of life and Christmas traditions still honoured and celebrated.

#### MISSISSAUGA

#### December 8, 2024 THE STRUMBELLAS

Living Arts Centre, Mississauga web.mississauga.ca/artsand-culture/events/thestrumbellas?eventdate=2024-12-08T20%3A00%3A00&schedule=16335

A Canadian indie rock band known for their catchy melodies and heartfelt lyrics. Their music blends folk, rock, and pop elements, creating anthemic and emotionally resonant songs that have garnered them multiple awards and a dedicated fan base.

#### December 15, 2024 WONDERFUL WORLD OF CHRISTMAS

Meadowvale Theatre, Mississauga www.mississauga.ca/eventsand-attractions/events-calendar/ elvis-wonderful-world-ofchristmas?eventdate=2024-12-15T14%3A00%3A00&schedule=16112

With Authentic costumes and powerful vocals this show will deliver an unforgettable experience that honours both the spirit of Elvis and Christmas.

#### NIAGARA

#### December 7, 2024 A NIAGARA CHRISTMAS: A CHRISTMAS CONCERT FOR FRIENDS & FAMILY

680 York Road, Niagara On The Lake *centralniagara.org/christmas* 

Heartwarming musical celebration bringing together loved ones for an enchanting evening of holiday melodies and festive cheer in the Niagara region.

#### OAKVILLE

#### December 7, 2024 HOLLY COLE, A SWINGING CHRISTMAS

Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts www.oakvillecentre.ca/ whats-on/upcoming-events/ holly-cole-a-swinging-christmas/

Holly Cole's A Swinging Christmas brings fresh faces to well-worn standards, fan favourites and an eclectic selection of inspired holiday material.

#### December 12, 2024 THE FITZGERALDS

Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts www.oakvillecentre.ca/whats-on/ upcoming-events/the-fitzgeralds

Each holiday seasons the Fitzgeralds, fiddling and step-dancing siblings, along with guest artists performs an engaging version of their nominated album, *The Fitzgeralds* - A Canadian Christmas!

#### December 31, 2024 OUTERBRIDGE MAGIC, MYSTERIES OF THE KEYHOLE HOUSE

Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts www.oakvillecentre.ca/whats-on/ upcoming-events/outerbridge-magic A show filled with magic and illusions that will amaze and thrill audiences of all ages.

#### PETERBOROUGH

#### November 30, 2024 YULETIDE CHEER 2024

Emmanuel United Church, 534 George St. N., Peterborough www.peterboroughsingers.com/ concerts/yuletide-cheer The holiday season gets a kick start from Yuletide Cheer with the Peterborough Singers and guest musicians, Venabrass.

#### December 16, 2024 HANDEL'S MESSIAH 2024

Emmanuel United Church, Peterborough www.eventbrite.ca/e/handels-messiah-2024-tickets-951049965047?aff=ebdssb destsearch

Immerse yourself in Handel's Messiah, a masterful oratorio renowned for its majestic choruses and profound solos. Experience a timeless musical journey celebrating the spirit of the season with unparalleled beauty.

#### RICHMOND HILL/ NEWMARKET

#### December 13, 2024 WONDERFUL WORLD OF CHRISTMAS

Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts *tickets.rhcentre.ca/Online/default.asp* Featuring acclaimed Elvis Tribute Stylist Steve

Michaels, this spectacular showcases the timeless songs of Elvis Presley, along with his cherished holiday, creating a nostalgic and spirited celebration.

#### December 21, 2024 RHCPA PRESENTS – THE RHPO'S THE SOUND OF MUSIC SING-A-LONG

Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts

rhpo.ca

Join the Richmond Hill Philharmonic Orchestra for an interactive sing-a-long experience of one of the most iconic Hollywood films of all time.St. Catharines

#### December 14 – 15, 2024 NSO: HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Partridge Hall, 250 St Paul St, St. Catharines *niagarasymphony.com/event/ home-for-the-holidays/* Niagara Symphony Orchestra's festive concert tradition returns with holly and mistletoe, and sweet sugar plums. Regardless of where you're from, come home for the holidays with the NSO and celebrate with the familiar sounds of the most enchanting season.

#### December 16 – 17, 2024 NATALIE MACMASTER & DONNELL LEAHY: A CELTIC FAMILY CHRISTMAS

Partridge Hall, 250 St. Paul St. lovestc.ca/event/a-celtic-familychristmas-with-natalie-macmaster-anddonnell-leahy

Join Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy for "A Celtic Family Christmas," a festive celebration blending traditional Celtic music with holiday spirit. Enjoy vibrant performances, enchanting fiddle tunes, and joyful storytelling that capture the warmth and magic of the season.

#### December 23, 2024 | 2 pm & 7 pm THE MUSIC OF A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

Robertson Theatre lovestc.ca/event/the-music-of-a-charliebrown-christmas-2

On the eve of Christmas Eve, enjoy the songs of the holidays with the classic soundtrack of cherished family favourite *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. Created by Vince Guaraldi for the 1965 TV special of the same name and masterfully performed. Celebrate the holidays with the classic soundtrack of this cherished family favourite! ■

## THE NUTCRACKER BALLE A CHRISTMAS TRADITION

he Nutcracker Ballet, a cherished Christmas tradition, captivates audiences with its enchanting story and stunning choreography. Set to Tchaikovsky's timeless score, this beloved ballet follows young Clara as she embarks on a magical adventure through a world of toy soldiers, dancing snowflakes, and the Sugar Plum Fairy. Performed annually by ballet companies around the globe, The Nutcracker celebrates the holiday season with its dazzling costumes, elaborate sets, and unforgettable music.

The Nutcracker Ballet, performed by various renowned ballet companies, is a beloved holiday classic that enchants audiences worldwide. Each troupe brings its unique interpretation and flair to this timeless tale. Whether performed by prestigious companies like the National Ballet of Canada, Ballet Jörgen du Canada, or local troupes, The Nutcracker remains a festive favorite, delighting audiences of all ages with its captivating story and festive spirit.

#### **BALLET JÖRGEN DU CANADA**

Ballet Jörgen du Canada once again presents their very Canadian version of the Nutcracker, an enchanting holiday tradition that captures the magic of the season. Created by acclaimed choreographer and Artistic Director Bengt Jörgen to Tchaikovsky's timeless music, The Nutcracker: A Canadian Tradition is a visual feast that features over 100 costumes, and backdrops designed in collaboration with the McMichael Canadian Art Collection.

This is a beautiful Canadian work, and audiences are taken on Klara's familiar, magical dream journey as she arrives in Canada and experiences winter landscapes filled with snowflakes, lumberjacks, Mounties, and creatures of the woods. Ballet Jörgen's Nutcracker is destined to become a national treasure that will warm the hearts of young and old alike. It is a holiday tradition that has showcased the magic of the season for years.

#### November 20, 2024

Sanderson Centre, Brantford calendar.sandersoncentre.ca/Default/ Detail/2024-11-20-1900-The-Nutcracker

#### November 23, 2024

Algonquin Theatre, Huntsville huntsvillefestival.ca/event/ nutcracker-a-canadian-tradition

#### **December 5, 2024**

The Stephen Leacock Theatre of Performing Art, Keswick www.jorgendance.ca/event/thenutcracker-a-canadian-tradition-inkeswick-on-2

#### December 7, 2024

FirstOntario Concert Hall, Milton www.firstontarioartscentremilton.ca/ en/shows-and-events/the-nutcrackerholiday-spectacular.aspx

#### December 13 – 14, 2024

Centrepointe Theatre, Nepean *meridiancentrepointe.com/en/ nutcracker-canadian-tradition* 

**December 17, 2024** Rose Theatre, Brampton *bit.ly/nutcracker-brampton* 

**December 19 – 20, 2924** River Run Centre, Guelph *riverrun.ca/whats-on/the-nutcracker24* 

**December 22, 2924** Centennial Hall, London *www.londonontariotheatre. com/shows/centennial-hall/ nutcracker-a-canadian-tradition* 

**December 28, 2924** Centre In The Square, Kitchener *centreinthesquare.com/event/ the-nutcracker-a-canadian-tradition* 

**December 30 – 31, 2024** Flato Markham Theatre, Markham *flatomarkhamtheatre.ca/Online/ default.asp* 

#### LES PETITS BALLETS

Experience the magic of *Les Petits Ballets' The Nutcracker*, a timeless holiday classic that enchants audiences of all ages. Watch as talented dancers bring the whimsical story to life with stunning choreography, dazzling costumes, and captivating performances. A perfect family tradition for the festive season!

#### December 6 – 7, 2024

Meridian Theatres @ Centrepointe www.lespetitsballets.com/ performances#upcoming

#### LES GRANDS BALLETS CANADIENS

In Montreal, the holiday season wouldn't be complete without *The Nutcracker*. This timeless classic created by Fernand Nault is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year! Cherished by generations of children, this two-act ballet based on Hoffmann's classic tale is set to Tchaikovsky's enchanting score and brings together over one hundred dancers.

**December 5 – 8, 2024** Southam Hall, Ottawa *nac-cna.ca/en/event/36048*  **December 12 – 30, 2024** Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Montreal grandsballets.com/en/performances/ detail/nutcracker

#### NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA

Experience the wonder of the holidays with James Kudelka's The Nutcracker, a spectacular family production. The adventure begins at a Christmas Eve party in a 19th-century barn and introduces siblings Marie and Misha to delights beyond their wildest dreams, from magical creatures to savoury treats and the glittering land of the Sugar Plum Fairy. Set to Tchaikovsky's famous score and featuring magnificent sets and costumes, The Nutcracker is an unforgettable tribute to the imagination.

**December 6 – 31, 2024** Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts *national.ballet.ca/productions/ the-nutcracker* 

#### STATE BALLET THEATRE OF UKRAINE

The State Ballet Theatre of Ukraine presents *The Nutcracker*, an enchanting holiday tradition that mesmerizes audiences with its exquisite artistry. The State Ballet Theatre of Ukraine brings a unique and captivating interpretation to this classic tale, featuring stunning choreography, elaborate sets, and dazzling costumes. Join the State Ballet Theatre of Ukraine for a festive performance, a celebration of holiday magic that delights audiences of all ages.

Please note, these performances are the Ukrainian Gopak version and does not include the Russian Doll Dance.

#### November 30, 2924

The Burlington Performing Arts Centre *burlingtonpac.ca/events/nutcracker-copy* 

#### **December 1, 2024**

Living Arts Centre, Mississauga *bit.ly/nutcracker-mississauga* 

## Holiday Theatre Productions in Southern Ontario

Celebrate the festive season with the magic of live theatre! From classic holiday tales to contemporary performances, Southern Ontario's 2024 holiday theatre productions offer something for everyone. Enjoy heartwarming stories, spectacular performances, and festive cheer that will create lasting memories for the whole family.

#### November 1 – 24, 2024 HOLIDAY INN

Drury Lane Theatre, Burlington *www.drurylane.ca/shows* 

Irving Berlin's *Holiday Inn* tells the story of Jim, who leaves the bright lights of show business behind to settle down on his farmhouse in Connecticut... but life just isn't the same without a bit of song and dance.

#### November 7 – December 30, 2024 O CHRISTMAS TEA, A BRITISH COMEDY

Various Cities *www.torontoondemand.* 

#### ca/o-christmas-tea-a-british-comedy

From the unbridled imagination of beloved British comedy duo James and Jamesy comes the rollicking holiday comedy *O Christmas Tea*. Reminiscent of classic British pantos, O Christmas Tea is rich in wordplay, comic physicality, and cleverly crafted interactive elements.

#### November 8 – December 22, 2024 A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Royal George Theatre, Niagara-on-the-Lake *www.shawfest.com/* 

#### playbill/a-christmas-carol-2024

Charles Dickens' beloved story is brought magically to life on stage, in this enchanting new production by Tim Carroll. The picturesque settings of Niagara-On-The-Lake, coupled with the annual Candlelight Stroll, and now a chance to experience this play will make the holidays even more memorable!

#### November 9, 2024 | 8 pm DEREK HOUGH: DANCE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Casino Rama Resort, Rama www.casinorama.com/derek-hough

Derek Hough Dance for the Holidays is an all new joyous celebration of the most festive time of the year! With jingle bells and sleigh bells, holiday carols and cheer, Hough's latest dance spectacular is a show stopping event for the whole family. Fans will be thrilled and delighted as Hough and his cast of phenomenal dancers bring your favorite holiday tunes to life through dance.

#### November 26, 2024 THE JINKX & DELA HOLIDAY SHOW

Meridian Hall, Toronto tolive.com/Event-Details-Page/reference/ The-Jinkx-and-DeLa-Holiday-Show-2024 Don't miss The Jinkx and DeLa Holiday Show, where drag superstars Jinkx Monsoon and DeLa are set to dazzle with their signature blend of humor, glamour, and festive cheer. Enjoy a night of unforgettable performances and holiday magic.

#### November 28 – December 8, 2024 MISS BENNET: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY

Palace Theatre, London mytickets.palacetheatre.ca/ eventperformances.asp?evt=448

Step into the enchanting world of Jane Austen's beloved characters in *"Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley."* This heartwarming and humorous play is set two years after the events of Pride and Prejudice.

#### November 29 – December 18, 2024 CHRISTMAS ON ICE

Avalon Theatre, Niagara Falls *bit.ly/christmas-on-ice* 

A thrilling high-paced spectacle of worldclass ice skating and holiday cheer, Fallsview Casino's Christmas on Ice features a winter wonderland of national championship ice skaters, dancers and singers that will fill you with the magic of the season.

#### December 4 – 21, 2024 A CHRISTMAS STORY, THE MUSICAL

Theatre Aquarius, Hamilton theatreaquarius.org/ events/a-christmas-story

30 | https://www.torontoondemand.ca/holiday-live-productions

There's something for everyone in this hilarious love letter to Christmas past. A package of naughty and nice nostalgia to warm your winter!

#### December 4 – 7, 2024 A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Marble Arts Centre, Tweed marbleartscentre.ca/a-christmas-carol

Experience the magic, mystery, laughter, and levity of a holiday classic in a brand new retelling of *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*. This heartwarming classic captures the true spirit of generosity and holiday joy.

#### December 6, 2024 A DRAG QUEEN CHRISTMAS

Meridian Hall, Toronto tolive.com/Event-Details-Page/ reference/A-Drag-Queen-Christmas-2024

For the very first time in Canada, Murray and Peter present *A Drag Queen Christmas* tenth anniversary tour hosted by Brooke Lynn Hytes. Expect high-energy choreography, stunning costumes, and holiday-themed fun in this fabulous, glitter-filled celebration of Christmas spirit.

#### December 6, 2024 – January 5, 2025 THE WIZARD OF OZ: A HOLIDAY MUSICAL PANTO FOR ALL (WORLD PREMIERE)

#### The Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre www.canadianstage.com/shows-events/ season/wizard-of-oz

Following in the illustrious footsteps of Ross Petty's iconic 25-year tradition, Canadian Stage proudly steps up to lead the next chapter of larger-than-life holiday pantomimes for the enjoyment of Toronto audiences of all ages.

#### December 8, 2024 A DRAG QUEEN CHRISTMAS

#### FirstOntario Concert Hall, Hamilton www.hamilton-theatre.com/shows/ firstontario-concert-hall/a-drag-queenchristmas

The all-star queens of Logo TV's *RuPaul's Drag Race* are coming to save your Christmas and this year is even more special, marking the 10th anniversary! Featuring all your favourite stars singing seasonal classics, new and old, A Drag Queen Christmas is guaranteed to get you in the naughty holiday spirit.

#### December 11 – 21 2024 HOLIDAY! AN IMPROVISED MUSICAL

Studio Theatre, Toronto www.factorytheatre.ca/shows/ holiday-an-improvised-musical

Holiday! An Improvised Musical takes its inspiration from Stephen Sondheim's "Company" to bring you the only party you'll need. Based on suggestions from the audience, the cast weaves together a series of improvised vignettes and songs exploring love, relationships, work and the true meaning of the season.

#### December 13, 2024 THE DEBATERS LIVE HOLIDAY TOUR

Living Arts Centre, Mississauga www.mississauga.ca/events-andattractions/events-calendar/the-debaterslive-holiday-tour?eventdate=2024-12-13T20%3A00%3A00&schedule=16390

The Debaters Live Holiday Tour is the comedy stage show where comics go mistletoe to toe in a battle of laughs and logic and the audience picks the winner. This festively funny show features host Steve Patterson and two of Canada's top comics performing stand-up and two holiday-themed debates in everyone's favourite comedy debate format.

18+ Mature Content. May contain mature themes and adult language.

#### January 14 – February 2, 2025 WINTER SOLSTICE

Berkeley St. Theatre, Toronto www.canadianstage.com/shows-events/ season/winter-solstice

A Necessary Angel Theatre Company production in association with Canadian Stage and Birdland Theatre. An insidious encounter with an unexpected guest — Bettina's mother is staying for the holidays. *Winter Solstice* is a comedy of manners with a bite. Starring Canadian legends Diego Matamoros and Nancy Palk, this thrilling play issues a warning: beware the sincere stranger. ■



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Hanukkah 2024

Eight nights of light, joy, and tradition from December 25 to January 2.

anukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights, is an eightday Jewish celebration that commemorates the re-dedication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem during the second century BCE. The festival is rooted in the story of the Maccabean Revolt, when a small group of Jewish fighters reclaimed the temple from Greek-Syrian oppressors. After the temple's liberation, a miracle occurred: a small amount of oil, enough to last only one day, burned for eight days in the temple's menorah. This event is celebrated by lighting a candle on the menorah each night of Hanukkah, symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness and faith over adversity.

Hanukkah is a time for gathering with family and friends, exchanging gifts, and enjoying traditional foods like latkes (potato pancakes) and sufganiyot (jellyfilled doughnuts). It also includes games like spinning the dreidel, a four-sided top, often played by children. Although Hanukkah is a relatively minor holiday in terms of religious significance, it has gained prominence in Jewish culture, especially in the diaspora, where it is often celebrated alongside other winter holidays. The festival serves as a reminder of Jewish resilience and the enduring hope that light will always shine through the darkest of times.

#### **MENORAH LIGHTINGS**

#### December 29, 2024 | 4 pm AURORA'S MENORAH LIGHTING CEREMONY

Aurora Town Square, 50 Victoria St. *www.aurora.ca/en/recreation-arts-andculture/menorah-lighting-ceremony.aspx* Everyone is welcome to attend this ceremony along with the local Jewish community as they celebrate the Festival of Light. The ceremony will include the lighting of the menorah, traditional foods and a Mentalist Performance show.

#### December 30, 2024 2024 MENORAH LIGHTING

Vaughan City Hall, Courtyard, Vaughan www.vaughan.ca/residential/recreationprograms-and-fitness/events/ festive-celebrations/menorah-lighting

#### **ACTIVITIES / CRAFTS**

#### December 7, 2024 JEWISH STORYTELLING WITH EDEN NAMERI

Black Creek Pioneer Village, Toronto events.trca.ca/event/first-saturdaysthrough-their-eyes-with-storyteller-edennameri?instance\_id=20241207000000 As Hanukkah approaches, storytellers illuminate Jewish history, traditions, and celebrations. Eden tells folk tales, epic romances and bible stories from a queer Jewish feminist perspective that simultaneously honours and challenges the traditions behind the tales.

#### December 15, 2024 | 12 – 2 pm FAMILY HANUKKAH PARTY

Beth Tzedec Congregation, Toronto bethtzedec.ca/event/ family-hanukkah-party-2

Celebrate the Festival of Lights with the annual Family Hanukkah Party! Gather your loved ones and enjoy an unforgettable afternoon of joy, laughter, and the spirit of Hanukkah.

#### December 2024 | 12 – 4:30 pm CHANUKAH WONDERLAND

Schwartz/Reisman Centre, Toronto *www.jrcc.org/chanukahwonderland* 

Chanukah Wonderland lights up the season with festive joy, featuring enchanting activities and celebration for the whole family.

#### **CONCERTS**

#### December 1, 2024 | 2 pm A SEASONAL CELEBRATION

Flato Markham Theatre *flatomarkhamtheatre.ca* Get in the holiday spirit with MCB's annual Christmas and Hanukkah celebration. From



The Nutcracker Suite to Rudolph, we'll have something for everyone – including singalongs and maybe a visit from Santa!

#### **SHOWS / EXHIBITIONS**

#### December 12, 2024 | 7:30 pm SAVORING ISRAEL: A CULINARY JOURNEY OF RESILIENCE LED BY ADEENA SUSSMAN

Prosserman JCC, 4588 Bathurst St. www.kulturacollective.com/event/ savoring-israel-a-culinary-journey-ofresilience-led-by-adeena-sussman

With Hanukkah as Adeena's North Star, Adeena will show us how Israel continues to emerge from that fateful day (October 7th, 2023), finding light and meaning emerging from disaster. Ultimately, it's about how food can nurture, heal, and strengthen us as a community during adversity—and the art we can all play in the process.

This event is a fundraiser for the Israeli Respite and Relief Fund at the JCC.

#### **THEATRE PRODUCTIONS**

#### December 15, 2024 | 7 – 10 pm 8 GAYS OF CHANNUKAH – THE MUSICAL

Prosserman JCC, 4588 Bathurst St www.kulturacollective.com/ event/8-gays-of-channukah

Gila, Yan and Sarah have collaborated on 8 Gays of Channukah – The Musical, a fulllength musical comedy special focused on queer Jewish storytelling. This year's show features all-original songs by the trio, as well as eight belly-busting and heart-wrenching personal tales to celebrate the eight days of Channukah. ■



## Bring Joy to a Child's Life This Holiday Season!

Help build your local...

Every toy you donate helps to build a brighter, happier holiday for those who need it most. Visit **https://www.toymountain.ca** to find out how you can contribute and make a difference.

If you have a **HOLIDAY EVENT** you would like us to know about, send the details of your event to HOToronto@rogers.com or submit our form on www.torontoondemand.ca/contact-us.



www.TorontoOnDemand.com

## Creating Memories with your Family

Explore a variety of Christmas family activities in Southern Ontario! Create lasting memories with your loved ones as you experience the magic and joy of the holiday season across the region.

#### **HOLIDAY CONCERTS**

#### November 29 – 30, 2024 DISNEY IN CONCERT: FROZEN

Meridian Hall, Toronto www.tolive.com/Event-Details-Page/ reference/Frozen-2024

TO Live Presents. The concert features composer Christophe Beck's multi-platinum score performed live to the hit Disney film.

#### December 1, 2024 A SEASONAL CELEBRATION

## Flato Markham Theatre, Markham *flatomarkhamtheatre.ca/Online/ default.asp*

Get in the holiday spirit with MCB's annual Christmas and Hanukkah celebration. From The Nutcracker Suite to Rudolph, they will have something for everyone.

#### December 6, 2024 ENCHANTED WONDERS

Georgian Theatre, Barrie tprocob.ticketpro.ca/en/pages/ EnchantedWonders

"Enchanted Wonders" is a unique family friendly show that brings together four of Canada's most in-demand magicians in a spectacular display of imagination come to life.

#### December 8, 2024 | 2 pm BSO: CHRISTMAS IS FOR KIDS Burlington Performing Arts Centre

#### www.burlingtonpac.ca/events/ bso-christmas-is-for-kids

A light, one-hour performance intended for young children and their guests! All the holiday favourites plus an audience sing-a-long.

#### December 10, 2024 | 7 pm CELEBRATE! HOLIDAYS OF THE GLOBAL VILLAGE WITH CHRIS MCKHOOL AND FRIENDS

FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre, St. Catharines

#### bit.ly/holidays-of-the-global-village

Celebrate the songs of the holidays heard around the world and take a glimpse into the different cultures, customs, celebrations and festivities that make up the multicultural mosaic of Canada.

#### December 15, 2024 | 3 pm SONSHINE & BROCCOLI: LIVE FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

19 on the Park, Stouffville tows.ticketpro.ca/en/ pages/19onthePark\_SB

JUNO-nominated duo Sonshine & Broccoli captivate with music that has positive messaging and reassurance at its core.

#### December 21, 2024 RHCPA PRESENTS THE RHPO'S THE SOUND OF MUSIC SING-A-LONG

Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts *bit.ly/RHPO-RHCPA*  Enjoy an interactive sing-a-long experience of one of the most iconic Hollywood films of all time.

#### December 24, 2024 | 2 & 7 pm THE MUSIC OF A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre, St. Catharines

#### lovestc.ca/event/the-music-of-a-charliebrown-christmas-2

Enjoy the songs of the holidays with the classic soundtrack of this cherished family favourite.

#### **HOLIDAY LIGHTS**

Discover **SOUTHERN ONTARIO'S DAZZLING HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOWS**, where vibrant displays illuminate winter nights, creating magical, festive experiences. See page 6 - 7for dates and locations.

#### **HOLIDAYS IN THE MUSEUM**

#### November 14 - December 23, 2024 CHRISTMAS TOWN

2259 Milburough Line, Campbellville www.conservationhalton.ca/ christmas-town

Christmas Town at Mountsberg offers a magical holiday experience, featuring visits with Santa, a scenic wagon ride through twinkling forests, festive crafts, and seasonal treats, perfect for family memories!

#### December 7, 8, 14, 15, 21–23, 2024 SANTA AT THE VILLAGE

#### Black Creek Pioneer Village, Toronto events.trca.ca/event/santa-at-the-village-4?instance\_id=20241207120000

Spend a fun-filled festive time with Santa and his helpers at Black Creek Pioneer Village! Step into a winter wonderland filled with holiday cheer, complete with a visit from the jolly old elf himself.

#### December 7, 14, 21, 2024 FESTIVE NIGHTS AT THE VILLAGE

#### Black Creek Pioneer Village, Toronto events.trca.ca/event/familychristmas-weekends-4?instance\_ id=20241207180000

Enjoy a frosty frolic through the Village and take part in a heartwarming and picture-perfect exploration of the joys of the season. Enjoy live entertainment while sampling scrumptious holiday treats – from mouthwatering roasted chestnuts to delectable gingerbread cookies.

#### December 8, 2024 | 10 am – 12:30 pm ELF CLUB: A CHILDREN'S COOKING WORKSHOP

Dundurn Castle, Hamilton www.hamilton.ca/things-do/ festivals-events/events-calendar/ elf-club-childrens-cooking-workshop

Join the Elf Club and help make cookies for the season. This fun children's cooking workshop includes a boiled pudding demonstration and hands-on cookie making in the historic kitchen.

#### December 8 & 15, 2024 | 10 am – 4 pm CHRISTMAS IN THE WOODS

#### Westfield Heritage Village, Rockton www.westfieldheritage.ca/event/ christmas-in-the-woods-241215

Gather together with family and friends for a winter wonderland of fun for Westfield Heritage Village's Christmas in the Woods. The Village will be decorated for the season with swags, greenery and old-fashioned decorations, and offers delightful activities inside and out.

#### **SHOWS / EXHIBITIONS**

#### SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN:

See pages 14 - 15 for dates, times and locations.

#### November 12 – December 18, 2024 'TIS THE SEASON ART EXHIBITION

#### Assembly Hall, Etobicoke www.toronto.ca/explore-enjoy/historyart-culture/exhibits-events/?id=YBRMu5 qsCiZVhvLaP4wKUA

Created by students from local schools, the works in this exhibition speak to the seasonal changes from autumn to winter, like snowfalls and long periods of darkness, and the cultural traditions they help shape.

#### November 23, 2024 – January 7, 2025 RBG EXPRESS

#### Hendrie Park, Burlington www.rbg.ca/events/rbg-express

All Aboard! Don't miss a ride on the RBG Express during your day visit of Hendrie Park's stunning gardens, offering a scenic and festive holiday experience. Purchase tickets at the door to take a round-trip train ride through beautiful Hendrie Park to round out your RBG experience.

#### November 30 – December 22, 2024 CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM

#### 13682 Heart Lake Road, Inglewood www.downeysfarm.com/downeys-farmmarket-santa.htm

Visit Downey's Farm Market for a magical Santa experience! Enjoy festive activities, photos with Santa, and seasonal treats. Perfect for holiday family fun.

This is an outdoor event. Please dress appropriately to be outside.

#### **December 19 – 22, 2024 WINTER BLOOMS | CIRCUS** Toronto Botanical Garden

www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca/enjoy/ events-at-the-garden

A one-of-a-kind immersive holiday experience at the Garden. This captivating high-flying circus show brought to life by Toronto's top aerial artists from Artists' Play Dance and Circus Arts Performances will take place indoors with general admission seating. Suitable for all ages.

#### **THEATRE PRODUCTIONS**

#### THE NUTCRACKER BALLET, A CHRISTMAS TRADITION: See pages

28 – 29 for dates and locations.

#### November 12 – December 30, 2024 ROALD DAHL'S CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY – TYA CANADIAN PREMIERE

Young People's Theatre, Toronto www.youngpeoplestheatre.org/showstickets/charlie-and-the-chocolate-factory

Grab your golden ticket and join Charlie Bucket on this delectable adventure into Willy Wonka's world-famous chocolate factory! A world of pure imagination awaits as Charlie, Grandpa Joe and four golden ticket-winners embark on a journey brimming with chocolate rivers and cocoa-loving Oompa Loompas.

#### November 13, 2024 – January 4, 2025 DECK THE HALLS: NEW MUSICAL!

Famous PEOPLE Players, Toronto *www.famouspeopleplayers.com/shows* 

Experience the magic of *Deck the Halls: New Musical!* by Famous PEOPLE Players. This heartwarming holiday show combines black-light puppetry, festive holiday music, and dazzling visuals, perfect for all ages. Celebrate the season with this festive family-friendly performance!

#### November 28 – December 1, 2024 DISNEY'S NEWSIES JR.

Lester B. Pearson, Brampton *bit.ly/46nDoAj* 

Join the Brampton Music Theatre Youth Troupe for an exciting production of *Disney's Newsies Jr.* This high-energy musical tells the inspiring story of a group of young newsboys who fight for justice. With unforgettable songs and dynamic choreography, it's perfect for families and theater lovers of all ages!

#### December 6, 2024 – January 5, 2025 THE WIZARD OF OZ: A HOLIDAY MUSICAL PANTO FOR ALL (WORLD PREMIERE)

The Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre www.canadianstage.com/shows-events/ season/wizard-of-oz

Don't miss the world premiere of Ross Petty's The Wizard of Oz: A Holiday Musical Panto for All! This hilarious, family-friendly production reimagines the classic tale with witty humor, musical numbers, and audience interaction. Perfect for the holiday season, it runs at The Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre!

#### December 6 – 8, 12 – 15, 19 – 21, 2024 THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES

Scarborough Village Theatre, Toronto www.theatrescarborough.com/ scarborough-theatre-guild/productions/ the-emperors-new-clothes

This pantomime is the age-old story of the emperor who gets taken in by a fraudster. Add in a hero who has a change of heart in order to win the girl of his dreams, a villain and his two imbecilic side-kicks, and of course, the pantomime horse and all the makings are there for a fun time.

#### December 6 – 15, 2024 BEAUTY & THE BEAST: A CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

Drury Lane Theatre, Burlington *www.drurylane.ca/shows* 

Beauty and the Beast is the story of a handsome but arrogant Prince who falls foul to an Enchantress whose spell dooms him to spend his life hiding in his castle in the guise of a grotesque Beast.

#### December 12 – 29, 2024 ALLIGATOR PIE: A SOULPEPPER HOLIDAY SHOW!

Baillie Theatre, Toronto www.soulpepper.ca/performances/ alligator-pie

Alligator Pie brings the celebrated children's poems of Dennis Lee to vibrant theatrical life. Full of invention and imagination, it's a show that is joyous, musical, and fun for all members of the family.

#### December 20 – 28, 2024 FREEZING: A HOLIDAY PANTOMIME

AEG Liebherr Auditorium, Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts www.oakvillecentre.ca/whats-on/ upcoming-events/botg-freezing For the past 10 years, the BurlOak Theatre Group has entertained sold-out crowds of all ages with a twist on a traditional Pantomime. Pantomime (informally known as a panto), is a type of musical comedy stage production, designed for family entertainment.

#### WORKSHOPS

#### December 14, 2024 |10:30 am – 12 pm CHRISTMAS SUGAR COOKIE DECORATING CLASS

Toronto Public Library, Leaside Branch *bit.ly/christmas-sugar-cookiedecorating-class* 

Rabbit Lake Baking Company class will cover the basics to sugar cookies, do some piping practice with Royal Icing, talk about how to strategize the best ways to decorate sugar cookies, and cover the general concepts around dough and icing.

#### December 15, 2024 CHRISTMAS CRAFTS WORKSHOP

Erskine Presbyterian Church, Hamilton *erskine.ca/events/* 

#### christmas-craft-workshop-2024

This workshop offers a festive hands-on experience where participants create holiday decorations, ornaments, and gifts.

## December 21, 2024 | 9 and 11:30 am KIDS CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

Watering Can Flower Market, 18 James St., St. Catharines thewateringcan.ca/product/ kids-christmas-workshop-2

Child(ren) will immerse themselves in the magic of the season as they craft their very own winter wonderland scape, a masterpiece they will be eager to display with pride.

#### TORONTO ATTRACTIONS

#### Ongoing | 9:30 am to 9:30 pm CN TOWER

301 Front St. West ( & John St.) www.cntower.ca

Offering breathtaking panoramic views, thrilling glass floors, and the EdgeWalk experience, it's a must-visit attraction for locals and tourists alike.

**NOTE:** Every Low Sensory Morning will take place for 90 minutes after opening. Visit www.cntower.ca for dates.

#### Ongoing | 9 am – 7 pm HIGH PARK ZOO

#### Deer Pen Rd., Toronto

www.highparkzoo.ca/visit-the-zoo

Since 1893, High Park Zoo has been entertaining people with domestic and exotic animals such as bison, llamas, and reindeer, as well as the famous capybaras, Bonnie and Clyde. *Admission is free*.

#### Ongoing | 9 am – 5 pm RIVERDALE FARM

#### 201 Winchester St., Toronto

*www,riverdalefarmtoronto.ca* Visitors can enjoy nature trails, meet farm animals, and experience rural life in the heart of the city. *Admission is free*.

#### Ongoing | 9 am – 11 pm RIPLEY'S AQUARIUMS

288 Bremner Blvd., Toronto www.ripleys.com/attractions/ ripleys-aquarium-of-canada

Visitors can explore vibrant aquatic life, touch tanks, and immersive jellyfish displays.

**NOTE:** Sensory Sunday Morning, on the first Sunday of every month, experience the aquarium with special accommodations for an enjoyable experience for all.





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