

December 1 - 31, 2011

Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre of Toronto, 1001 Queen St. West, Toronto
Phone Hours: M – F from 9 – 5 / Drop-in Hours: M – F from 9 – 4
Tel: 416-595-2882 csinfo@camh.net <http://www.csinfo.ca/>

C/S Info Centre's Holiday Happenings



Your 2011 Guide to Holiday Fun in Toronto

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Art Exhibits

Until Dec 11. **Twelve Trees of Christmas.** Toronto's top designers and architects decorate extravagant Christmas trees in this annual holiday exhibit. This year the trees will be decorated under the theme "All Creatures Great and Small". Gardiner Museum, 111 Queen's Park Crescent 416-586-8080 mail@gardinermuseum.com Every Friday from 4 - 9 pm tickets are half price (includes admission to special exhibits): Adult \$6, Seniors \$4, Children 12 and under free

Until Dec 4. Noon - 6 pm. **Museum of Indulgence.** A multimedia collaboration by Montreal-based visual artist Shelley Miller and hip hop MC, DJ and producer 'More or Les'. Explores stereotypes and tackles themes of excess and indulgence. Harbourfront Centre, York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay West 416-973-4000 <http://www.harbourfrontcentre.com/> FREE

Until Dec 16. Mon - Sun from 8 am - midnight. **Lumina Three by Scott M2.** Ambient digital images weave in fields of illumination and shadow in this video installation. 416-538-3997 <http://weseeinc.com> Roadside Attractions, 911 Davenport Road FREE

Wed nights until Wed 21 from 6 - 8 pm you can see **Chagall and the Russian Avant-Garde** for \$12.50 (half price). Entry to the AGO's Permanent Collection is always free on Wednesdays from 6 pm - 8:30 pm but does not include admission to special exhibits. Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas Street West 416-979-6648 www.ago.net

Until Sat 31. Tues through Sun from 11 am to 6 pm. Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art. **Ineffable Plasticity.** Looks at nature as an unstoppable force that governs and defines us, challenging the notion that anything, whether psychological or physical, could be construed as unnatural. Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Main Space, 952 Queen Street West 416-395-0067 www.mocca.ca PWYC

Until Feb 12, 2012. **Veiled: Andrew McPhail, Grace Ndiritu & Tazeen Qayyum.** Includes McPhail's lace-like veil made out of thousands of Band Aids, Qayyum's contemporary miniature paintings on mass-produced objects, and Ndiritu's 'video paintings' of multiple interpretations of a small piece of cloth wrapped around herself. Textile Museum of Canada, 55 Centre Avenue 416-599-5321 <http://www.textilemuseum.ca/about/> Wednesdays from 5 - 8 pm are PWYC (includes special exhibits)

Arts and Crafts Shows

Thurs 1 from 5:30 - 8 pm and Fri 2 from 1:30 - 6 pm. **Toronto Treasures.** Creative Works Studio Annual Art Exhibit and 2012 Art Calendar launch. The Creative Works Studio is an arts-based occupational therapy community program which helps individuals living with mental health challenges and addictions heal and cope through the power of artistic expression. Creative Works Studio, 793 Gerrard Street East (West of Logan, South Side) 416-465-5711 www.creativeworks-studio.ca FREE

Fri 2 from noon - 6 pm. Sat 3 and Sun 4 from noon - 5 pm. **Inspirations Studio Holiday Studio Show and Sale.** Inspirations Studio teaches ceramic art and business skills to women in Toronto who have been affected by poverty, homelessness and trauma. 761 Queen St. West, Suite 201 416-367-2728 www.inspirationsstudio.ca FREE

Dec 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18 from noon - 6 pm. **The Artisans Gift Fair.** Browse and shop from local crafters offering unique gifts. The Tranzac Club, 292 Brunswick Avenue www.ArtisansGiftFair.com FREE

Sat 3 from 11 am - 6 pm. **Kid Icarus' Handmade Holiday Arts + Crafts Show.** Crafters from all parts of the city come to sell and swap goods. St. Stephen-in-the-Fields, 103 Bellevue Avenue (College and Bellevue) \$2 (for \$5 you can buy a mystery bag with admission) Kids 12 and under FREE

Dec 4 from 10 am - 7 pm. **Trade Holiday Sale For Guatemala** (El Triunfo Education Project) Guatemalan weaving, jewellery, fair trade coffee and more. 416-946-3818 Rotman School of Management Fleck Atrium, 106 St George FREE

Tues 6 from 3 - 7 pm. **VanDuzer Holiday Season Show & Sale.** Paintings, pottery, sculpture, greeting cards, and more. VanDuzer Art Studio, Eden Community Homes, 196 Beverley Street 647-280-4931 www.edencommunityhomes.org FREE

Wed 7 and Thurs 8 from 10 am - 3 pm. **Dodem Kanonhsa' Arts & Crafts Open House.** Featuring local artists. 55 St. Clair Avenue East, 6th Floor 416-952-9272 Water, Coffee & Tea provided FREE



Thurs 8 from 5 - 9 pm. **Touched by Fire Art Exhibition and Sale.** Features works by artists living with depression, anxiety or bipolar disorder. Meet and mingle with the artists, enjoy tasty hors d'oeuvres and take home a free commemorative program featuring works from the Touched by Fire artists. Coopers Fine Arts Gallery, 111 Bathurst Street (Bathurst and Adelaide St. West) RSVP by calling 416-486-8046 x 222 or 1-888-486-8236. <http://www.mooddisorders.ca/event/touched-by-fire-art-exhibition-and-sale> Admission is \$10. We will waive the fee for people living with a low income. Please let us know when you call to RSVP.

Sat 10 from 11 am - 4 pm. **MAD Pride Holiday Market Fundraiser.** Support the work of Mad Pride 2012. (Calling crafters, artisans, and artists: If you would like to sell your wares at the MAD Holiday Market please contact madnessmarket@gmail.com. Raging Spoon, 761 Queen Street West FREE

Sat 10 from 11 am - 6 pm. Sun 11 from 11 am - 5 pm. **City of Craft.** While not Christmas-themed, City of Craft is still well-timed for gift-seekers. The Theatre Centre, 1087 Queen Street West cityofcraft.com \$2

Dec 10 from 11 am - 5 pm. **Wandering Winter Holiday Craft Show.** Gladstone, 1214 Queen West <http://www.shopcats.ca/> FREE

Sat 10 from 10 am - 4 pm. **Textile Temptations 2011**. Discover a fabulous selection of beads, buttons, sewing and decorator fabric. Come early for the lovely collection of lace! The Textile Museum of Canada, Volunteer Workroom, 401 Richmond St West, Suite 1-B 416-599-5321
<http://www.textilemuseum.ca/> FREE

One kind word warms three winter months. — Japanese Proverb

🎄 Bazaars 🎄

Local Community holiday bazaars are great places to find inexpensive gifts and treats. Typical features include handmade crafts, really good bake sales, silent auctions, raffle baskets, elephant sales, tea rooms, and inexpensive lunches.

Thurs 1 from 10 am - 4 pm and Sat 3 from 10 am - 2 pm. **Keele Street Women's Group Fundraising Raffle and Holiday Craft Sale**. Sandwiches, baked goods, sock monkeys, and other hand-crafted gifts. Raffle (\$2 or 3 tickets for \$5) on Saturday. CMHA Social Resource Centre. 2700 Dufferin Street, Unit 56 (3 stops north of Eglinton on the Dufferin Bus). Stacey Roebotham 416-573-9813 or Amy Wakelin 416-573-9687. All proceeds to the KSWG Outings/Events and our annual Holiday Luncheon FREE

Thurs 1 and Fri 2 from 11 am to 6 pm. **Friends and Advocates Bake and Craft Sale**. Support this local Consumer/Survivor Initiative and buy some delicious baked treats and hand made crafts. Friends & Advocates, 2340 Dundas Street West, Suite G27 (in the Crossways Mall directly across from the Dundas Street West Subway Station) www.friendsandadvocates.org/ 416-234-9245 FREE

Sat 3 from 11 am - 5 pm. **Parkdale Bazaar Vintage and Craft Market**. Over 60 local vendors, a hot chocolate station, Christmas card portrait studio and prize giveaways. Masaryk-Cowan Community Center, 220 Cowan Avenue 416-516-8301 www.parkdalecdg.com FREE

Sat 3 from 10 am - 1 pm. **Curran Hall Community Centre - Craft, Bake Sale & Tea**. Curran Hall Community Centre, 277 Orton Park. Kathy Thomas 416-431-4170 www.curanhall.ca FREE

Sat 3 from 11 am - 3 pm. **Annual Candy Cane Tea and Bazaar**. Tea room, bake sale, crafts and gifts. Lucky draws throughout the day. Presteign-Woodbine United Church, 2538 St. Clair Avenue East, (4 blocks west of O'Connor Drive) 416-755-8352 <http://www.presteignwoodbineuc.com/> FREE

Sat 3 from 11 am - 2 pm. **Pointsettia Bazaar**. Baked goods, jams, crafts, books, toys, white elephant table, tombola, and more. Clairlea Presbyterian Church, 3236 St Clair Ave E. 416-759-3901 FREE

Sun 4 from 10 am to 4 pm. **Christmas Bazaar**. Ukrainian Canadian Care Centre. 60 Richview Road. 416-243-7653 x 313 or fundraising@stdemetrius.ca FREE

Dec 4 from 8:30 am - 2 pm. **Bazaar And Bake Sale** (proceeds to Kidney Fdn/SickKids Camp Oki) Transfiguration of Our Lord Church, 45 Ludstone 416-247-0513



CAMH Holiday Events



Thurs 1 from 9 am - 2 pm. **Holiday Arts & Crafts Sale.** Support the artistic talents of CAMH clients and community partners - unique jewelry, photography, hand-crafted pottery, unique cards, art, holiday decorations, hats, scarves, and more. CAMH, The Mall, 1001 Queen St. West. Contact Bharati Singh 416-535-8501 x 6718 FREE admission

Mon 5 at 7 pm. **Memorial Service for Clients and Staff.** Join Religious and Spiritual care for a service to remember people from the CAMH Community who have passed away in 2011. CAMH, 1001 Queen Street West, The Mall. Shawn Lucus, Religious and Spiritual Care at 416-535-8501 x 2189 or 2175 FREE

Wed 7 from 1 pm - 3 pm. **Client Holiday Party.** Sponsored by the Greek Orthodox Church. Food, drink and gifts for all clients of CAMH. The Mall, 1001 Queen St. West 416-535-8501 x 2995 FREE

Thurs 8 from 1 to 2 pm. **Christmas Candlelight Service in Celebration of the Birth of Christ.** Hosted by Spiritual and Religious Care. Light refreshments after the service. 1001 Queen Street West, Training Room A. Spiritual Care at 416-535-8501 x 2189 or 2175 FREE

Wed 14 from 6 - 8 pm. **Client Holiday Party hosted by CAMH Recreation Therapists.** Dancing, prizes, refreshments, music, games and a visit from Santa. Cafeteria, 1001 Queen Street West. Hosted by CAMH's Recreation Therapists. FREE

When you find peace within yourself, you become the kind of person who can live at peace with others.
—Peace Pilgrim



Carols and Pageantry



Sun 4 from 10:30 to 12:30 am. **Nativity at the Zoo/White Gift Sunday.** Please join our Sunday School and adult actors as "Nativity at the Zoo" at our annual seasonal presentation. During the service non-perishable food items will be collected for our food bank. We ask that food items remain unwrapped. Birchcliff Bluffs United Church, 33 East Road 416-694-4081 FREE

Sun 4 from 2 - 3 pm. **Carols United.** Sing favourite carols accompanied by the Metropolitan Silver Band and organ. Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen Street East (2 blocks east of the Queen Street Subway Station) 416-363-0331 x 51 www.metunited.org

Dec 4 at 7:30 pm. **Carols and readings for Christmas.** 7:30 pm. Leaside United Church, 822 Millwood (proceeds to Out of the Cold) 416-425-1253 By Donation

Fri 9 - Sat 24. Multiple showings. **The Christmas Story.** A dramatization of the nativity story featuring a volunteer cast, professional choir, and organ accompaniment. Throughout the past 6 decades,

The Story has played faithfully each season in the historic little church behind The Eaton Centre in Toronto. In Toronto, even when the church was ravaged by a terrible fire in 1975, the production went on inside The Eaton Centre! Holy Trinity, 10 Trinity Square, 416-598-4521 Book your free ticket now at <http://www.holytrinitytoronto.org/wp/> FREE (freewill offering only if you can afford it)

Sun 11 from 7 to 8:30 pm. **Community Christmas Carol Service.** Meet your neighbours, sing traditional carols, hear the Christmas story, enjoy hot apple cider and Christmas treats. Runnymede Community Church, 60 Colbeck Street 416-767-1401 info@runnymedechurch.org FREE

Dec 17. Doors open at 1 pm. Singing starts at 2 pm. **Annual City Carol Sing** in collaboration with City TV in support of Food Banks across Canada. Featuring Richard Margison, tenor, Lauren Margison, soprano, the High Park Children's Choir, members of a brass band, the Larkin Singers, and the choirs of YPBC and Christ Church Deer Park. Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge Street (2 blocks north of St. Clair Avenue) 416- 922-1167 FREE (collection will be taken for the Daily Bread Food Bank).

Sat 17 at 2 - 3 pm. **Canada Sings!** Toronto-Riverdale Christmas Carol Singalong with Organ and Brass. Special guest choir: The St. John's Presbyterian Church Choir and Friends - Eileen Best, Conductor. Come alone, with a friend, or bring the whole family. All ages welcome. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 415 Broadview Ave 416-778-0796 www.canadasings.ca FREE

Christmas Carolling at The Library Come and sing the holiday classics. Everyone is welcome.

- Sat 10 from 9 am - 5 pm at the Cliffcrest Branch, 3017 Kingston Road 416-396-8916 FREE
- Sat 10 at 2 pm at the Wychwood Branch, 1431 Bathurst St. 416-393-7683 FREE
- Wed 14 at 7 pm at Don Mills Branch, 888 Lawrence Ave. East 416-395-5710 FREE
- Tues 20 at 10 am at Pape/Danforth Branch, 701 Pape Ave. 416-393-7727 FREE
- Fri 23 at 1 pm at Jane/Sheppard Branch, 1906 Sheppard Avenue West FREE

Sun 18 from 10:30 - 11:30 am. **Harpist with Christmas Carols.** Sunday service of lessons and carols. 416-694-4081 www.birchcliffbluffsUC.org Birchcliff Bluffs United Church, 33 East Road FREE

Dec 18 at 7 pm. **Carols by Candlelight.** Trinity St. Paul's United Church and Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts, 427 Bloor West 416-922-8435 <http://www.trinitystpauls.ca/> FREE

Three Wise Women would have . . .

*Asked directions, Arrived on time,
Helped deliver the baby,
Cleaned the stable,
Made a casserole,
Brought practical gifts,
... And there would be peace on earth.*

— Unknown



Comedy



Tues 6, 13, 20, 27 at 6:30, 8 & 10 pm. Wed 7, 14, 21 28 at 7 and 10 pm. Impatient. Improv Comedy. 1720 Queen St. West 416-238-7337 <http://www.impatient.ca/shows/calendar/> The Tuesday shows are \$5 and Wed shows are FREE.

Mon 19. Doors open at 7 pm. Show starts at 7:30 pm. Laughing Like Crazy Holiday Show. Treat the December blues with an extra strength dose of standup comedy about mental health at the Laughing Like Crazy Holiday Sidesplitter. The Supermarket, 268 Augusta Ave (near College/Spadina) \$10 or Pay What You Can

This dog really knows how to have fun.

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=cqxTUxzOceE&feature=youtube_gdata_plaJ

It is time to let go of the judging voices and to let yourself feel the joy and humour that was silenced within you but wants to break free. — Gay Hendricks

Dance

Wed 7 from 9 pm - 1 am. **A Very Boylesque XXXMas.** Boylesque TO celebrates the holiday season with other special guests from the Toronto burlesque community. Holiday drinks, strip dreidel, and more! Gladstone Hotel, Melody Bar, 1214 Queen Street West 416-531-4635
<http://www.boylesqueto.com> Cover: PWYC (\$5 suggested donation)

Sat 10 from 2 - 6 pm. **The Dance Migration.** Toronto's leading Afro-Brazilian dance company. Exhilarating performances combining Afro-Brazilian dance, Capoeira, and contemporary Silvestre technique. Harbourfront Centre, Brigantine Room and Marilyn Brewer Community Space, 235 Queens Quay West thedancemigration.com FREE

Dec 31 and ongoing. 9 pm. **Tam Tam Drum Circle.** Open drum circle and dance, bring your own percussion. Xing Dance Studio, 452 College myspace.com/torontotamtam \$5

Every day brings a chance for you to draw in a breath, kick off your shoes, and dance. — Oprah Winfrey



Festival

Until Sun 18. Every Sat and Sun from noon - 2 pm. **Winter Magic Buskertainment 2011.**

Illusionists, mimes, human statues, jugglers, stilt walkers, and more perform throughout Downtown Yonge at the following locations: Queen Street/James Street (northeast corner); Yonge Street/Shuter Street (southeast corner); Yonge Street between Alexander Street and Wood Street (east side); Yonge Street/Walton Street (north side); Yonge Street/College Street (southwest corner); Yonge Street/Elm Street (north side); Yonge Street/Dundas Square Street <http://www.wintermagic.ca/home> FREE (donations accepted for Raising the Roof)

Fri 2 from 5 - 9 pm. **Christmas in Highland Creek Village.** Carollers, musicians, artists, tree lighting, Santa, and more. Old Kingston Rd. and Morrish area of Highland Creek. 416-287-2025 FREE

Fri 2 - Sun 18. Daily from 10 am - 8 pm. **Toronto Christmas Market at the Distillery Historic District.** A Christmas market is a street market which celebrates the traditional sights, sounds and scents of Christmas during the weeks leading up to Christmas. They originated in Germany in the early 1400's, and are held in countries all over the world. Choirs, bands, amazing array of Canadian singer/songwriters, carolers, folk dancers, holiday-themed stage presentations, Rudolph's Reindeer Zoo, Santa Claus, the Christmas Angel, and more. Distillery District (55 Mill St @ Parliament) Free shuttle bus every 30 minutes from Union Station (noon - 7:30 pm) 416 364 1177

<http://www.torontochristmasmarket.com/index.html> FREE (food item for the Daily Bread Food Bank appreciated)

Sat 3 from 5 - 7 pm. **Christmas in the Park - Tree Lighting.** Toronto Beaches Lions Club presents a community event with music, family entertainment, candlelight caroling, tree lighting, Mr. & Mrs. Claus, and more. Alex Christie Bandshell in Kew Gardens www.beacheslions.com \$1

Mon 5 from 7 pm. **Thistletown Tree Lighting Ceremony.** We will light the 60 foot tree, sing Christmas carols, and enjoy refreshments and magician Mike D'Urzo. Everyone Welcome! Thistletown Community Centre, 925 Albion Rd. 416-394-8717 or 416-392-8972 kmcalist@toronto.ca FREE

Sun 11 from noon - 4 pm. **JCCC Winter Family Festival.** Catered towards the younger generation. Whether you're new to Canada or third generation Canadian there will be activities to enjoy, including a voucher for a photo with Santa Claus. Japanese Culture Centre of Canada, Kobayashi Hall, 6 Garamond Court 416-441-2345 jccc@jccc.on.ca Adults: \$5 Children 3 - 15: \$3 children under 3: Free

Sat 17 at 3 pm. **Gifts For Strangers.** Bring an inexpensive or home-made gift and hand it out to a passerby. Nathan Phillips Square, (Queen and Bay) <http://www.giftsforstrangers.org/> FREE

There is no duty we so much underrate as the duty of being happy.

Robert Louis Stevenson



Flower Shows

The Christmas Flower Shows run from December 4 until January 8. There is a grand opening at each Conservatory where there are horse & wagon rides, carollers, hot apple cider & cookies and a visit from Santa Claus. Allan Gardens also has activities for children planned. Centennial Park Conservatory will have a bonfire with roasted chestnuts.

- Grand opening - Sun 4. **Allan Gardens Christmas Flower Show**. Regular hours are 10 am - 5 pm. Hours extended to 7 pm on December 11, 12, 18 & 19. Candle lighting is from 5 pm until 7 pm. 19 Horticultural Avenue 416-392-7288 FREE
- Grand Opening: Sun 11. **Centennial Park Christmas Flower Show**. Candle lighting is from 5 - 7 pm. 151 Elmcrest Road 416-394-8543 FREE



Food and Cooking

Daily Bread Food Bank. Call for a referral to a member food bank near you. 416-203-0050. Call 2-1-1 to find a local drop-in or shelter that is hosting a free holiday meal.

Thurs 1 at 2:15 pm. **Sweet Talk.** Recipe sharing for people age 50 and up. Central Eglinton Community Centre, 160 Eglinton Ave East 416-392-0511 x 0 \$5

Mon 5 from 1 - 5 pm. **Social Support Outing: Hands-on Baking Workshop.** Free Monthly Social Outing for all people living with HIV. 490 Sherbourne St. (at Wellesley), 1st floor Community Room Register at 416-340-8484 x283 kmurzin@actoronto.org FREE (refreshments provided)

Sat 10 at 12:30 pm. **Terra Madre.** Celebrated in 120 countries as an expression of gratitude towards Mother Earth. Celebrate a local perspective on food through storytelling, music and hands-on activities. Meet farmers, fishers, cooks and food artisans. Buy ingredients and prepare food for the holiday season. Rediscover Slow Food (as an alternative to fastfood). Harbourfront Centre, 235 Queens Quay West slowfood.to FREE

- 2 - 6 pm. **Interactive Sensory Workshop.** Participants move through a series of stations that focus on one particular sense. West Arcade, York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay West
- 2:30 - 5:30 pm. **Children's Food Workshops.** Children create their very own culinary treats. Lakeside Terrace. York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay West FREE

Tues 13 1:00 pm. **The Shortbread Variations.** Food guru Mary McGrath shares her vast repertoire of shortbread recipes and introduces us to surprising combinations and festive touches. Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St. 416-395-5577 FREE

For Children



Write a letter to Santa Claus. Canada Post's annual Letters to Santa program. Last year, more than one million letters were answered in 30 languages, including Braille, by more than 11,000 of Santa's elves working or retired from Canada Post. Each letter should have a clear and correct return mailing address and a stamp. Canada Post asks parents to make sure letters to Santa do not include treats for Santa, like cookies. The elves remind parents to get their children writing as soon as possible so Santa has time to read them all and respond before Christmas. Letters can be mailed to Santa Claus, North Pole, Canada HOH OHO FREE

Until Dec 24 starts at 9 am. **Readings with Santa.** Children gather to hear Santa reading classic holiday stories. Eaton Centre, 250 Yonge St. 416-598-8560 FREE (registration required)

Thurs 1 from 7 - 9 pm. **Tree Lighting and Children's Choir.** Performances by TC3 Children's Choir (spirituals to hip hop) and the Bach Children's Chorus. Plus a visit from Santa. Scarborough Civic Centre (Rotunda), 150 Borough Drive (McCowan & Ellesmere) 416-396-7766 dtrench@toronto.ca FREE

Mon - Sat until Wed 21. Various times. **The Santa Experience.** Santa leads children aged two to six in 30-minute play sessions that include singalongs, dancing, magic tricks, and stories. Take a picture of your child with Santa. Registration required at the holiday information booth at Sherway Square. A 30 foot high everlasting Alaskan Pine tree decorated with over 17,500 low energy LED lights is on display until January 6. Sherway Square, 25 The West Mall (Hwy 427 & the QEW) 416-621-1070 \$5 (all proceeds to the charity Sleeping Children Around the World) www.scaaw.org
<http://www.sherwaygardens.ca/en/Pages/default.aspx>

Sat 3 from 8 am - 10 am. **Breakfast with Hamper the Reindeer & Santa.** Pancake breakfast, crafts, and a visit from Santa. Community Centre 55, 97 Main Street 416-691-1113 www.centre55.com \$3 per person (registration not required)

Sat 3, 10, 17 from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Joined by our Village Carolers, **Santa makes his annual visit to the Yonge-Lawrence Village** to meet and greet shoppers and hand out treats to the kids. Bring your cameras and take pictures. Ask Santa for a free, reusable shopping bag. Yonge-Lawrence Village district, Yonge St. from Lawrence Ave. West to Donwood Dr. 416-657-4313
<http://www.yongelawrencevillage-bia.com/index.asp> FREE

Sat 3 from 10 am. **Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade.** 10 Marching Bands, 15 professionally-built floats, including a Choir of Mice, MadHatter Tea Party, Penguin Fantasy, The Flintstones, Sylvester & Tweety, Dudley The Dragon, Bugs Bunny, Yosemite Sam, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Cinderella & her carriage, bigger than Life Snowmen and Polar Bears, a Christmas Train, and more. Parade begins at Dwight Avenue (1 block west of Royal York), travels west along Lakeshore Blvd West and ends at Thirty Sixth St. (just before Browns Line). 416-910-5203 info@lakeshoresantaclausparade.com FREE

Fri 9 at 10:30 am. **Jingle Bell Time.** Sing your way into the festive season with music, bells, dance and bubbles. Featuring jolly holiday favourites and other action-filled tunes plus a solo performance of

Christmas classics. [Toronto Public Library](#), Taylor Memorial Branch, 1440 Kingston Road 416-396-8939 FREE (register in person or by phone)

Sat 10 from 11 am to 1 pm. **The Light Fantastic Children's Party at The 519**. Come together as we celebrate several seasonal traditions in a fantastic 2 hour party! Kwanzaa, Solstice, Hanukkah, Christmas. There'll be music, games, entertainment, food and drinks. This event is for all families. Special guests: Counterpoint Orchestra & more. 519 Church Street 416-392-6874 www.the519.org/programs/Queer_Parenting FREE

Dec 10 at 1 pm. **Songs, Stories And Snowflakes Suitcase**. Theatre family concert with singer/poet Moe McGuinty, storyteller Hildy Stollery, and others. 647-654-7529 High Park Family Fun Place, 2968 Dundas West \$10 for 2 tickets, \$20 for 5 tickets

Dec 11 at 3:30 - 5:30 pm. **Kids Discover Starfall**. A magical afternoon for the kids including reading from the book and performances based on characters from the children's book by Diana Kolpak and Kathleen Finlay. Centre of Gravity, 1300 Gerrard East www.starfallbook.com FREE

Christmas Movies for Kids presented by The Toronto Public Library

All movies are free and held at [Toronto Public Library](#) branches across the city.

- Thur 15 at 4 pm. Weston Branch, 2 King St. 416-394-1016
- Fri 23 and Wed 28 at 4 pm. [Flemington Park Branch](#), 29 St. Dennis Drive 416-395-5820
- Wed 28 at 1 pm. [York Woods Branch](#), 1785 Finch Ave West 416-395-5980
- Wed 28 at 2 pm. [Parkdale Branch](#), 1303 Queen St. West 416-393-7686
- Wed 28 at 2 pm. [Morningside Branch](#), 4279 Lawrence Ave. East 416-396-8881
- Fri 30 at 2:00 pm [Toronto Public Library](#), [Albion Branch](#), 1515 Albion Road 416-394-5170

More Free Holiday Fun at the Toronto Public Library

Get into the spirit with holiday stories and a simple fun craft. Call the branch for details.



- Sat 3 at 10:30 am. [S. Walter Stewart Branch](#), 170 Memorial Park Ave. 416-396-3975
- Sat 3 at 2 pm. [St. Lawrence Branch](#), 171 Front St East 416-393-7655
- Tues 13 at 2 pm. [Goldhawk Park](#), 295 Alton Towers Circle 416-396-8964
- Sat 17 at 10:30 am. [Goldhawk Park](#), 295 Alton Towers Circle 416-396-8964
- Sat 17 at 11 am. [Victoria Village](#), 184 Sloane Avenue 416-395-5950
- Thurs 29 at 9:25 am. [Pape/Danforth Branch](#), 701 Pape Avenue 416-393-7727
- Fri 30 at 1 pm. [York Woods Branch](#), 1785 Finch Ave. West 416-395-5980

Christmas Puppet Shows at The Library

- Tues 6 at 7 pm. [Long Branch](#), 3500 Lake Shore Blvd. West 416-394-5320 FREE
- Sat 10 at 10:15 am. [Forest Hill Branch](#), 700 Eglinton Ave West 416-393-7706 FREE
- Sat 10 at 10:30 am. [S. Walter Stewart Branch](#), 170 Memorial Park Avenue 416-396-3975 FREE

Fri 16 noon to 1 pm. **Christmas with Markus!** Children's Cushion Concert. The Kingsway Conservatory of Music presents award winning children's entertainer Markus in a concert brimming with snappy songs and Christmas cheer. A special surprise guest and a sack of takeaway treats included. The Great Room, Kingsway Conservatory of Music, 2848 Bloor Street West 416-234-0121 x 222 www.kingswayconservatory.ca \$5 (advance tickets only)

 Dec 22 at 2:30 pm. **Hanukkah Party**. Stories, songs and more to celebrate Hanukkah. Toronto Public Library, Wychwood Branch, 1431 Bathurst St. 416-393-7683 FREE

Sun 25 from 10 am - 2 pm. **Hanukkah Family Fun Day**. Beth Tzedec hosts our third annual Family Fun Day. This year it falls on the fifth day of Hanukkah. Activities for children of all ages: dreidle-making, latke-eating, crafts, storytelling, a drumming circle, and more. Beth Tzedec, 1700 Bathurst Street 416-781-3511 x 239 www.beth-tzedec.org \$10 per person (lunch available at extra cost)

Lights in the City

Ends Jan 1, 2012. **Urban Lights**. Yonge St. Aglow. Take an evening stroll through downtown Yonge and enjoy the 40 foot sculptural light tree, trio of three-dimensional polar bears, sleigh and reindeers, and cross-street displays suspended above the street. Lights continue along Yonge St. from Queen St. to College St.

Hudson's Bay Christmas Windows. Along the outside of the store along Yonge St., and along Queen St. The Bay, Queen & Yonge (south end of Eaton Centre)

Ends Jan 7, 2012. **Holiday Magic in Bloor-Yorkville**. Stroll through Bloor-Yorkville and take in the animated storefront windows, enchanting displays and charming decorations. 416-928-3553 x 27 www.bloor-yorkville.com/holiday_magic/

There are four locations for viewing lights along **Toronto's Waterfront**: the fully restored and enhanced Tall Ship on the Amsterdam Bridge (at Simcoe) — using a new generation of animated super bright LED lights, the Music Garden, the Firehall, and Westin Harbour Castle.

Neighbourhoods participating in the **Cavalcade of Lights** this year include: Albion Islington BIA (16 foot tall violet Canadian Thistle), [Bloor Yorkville BIA](http://Bloor%20Yorkville%20BIA), [Bloor West Village](http://Bloor%20West%20Village%20BIA), [Church Wellesley Village BIA](http://Church%20Wellesley%20Village%20BIA), [Downtown Yonge BIA](http://Downtown%20Yonge%20BIA) (45 foot-high sculptural tree that features over 52,000 LED lights), [Emery Village BIA](http://Emery%20Village%20BIA) (30 ft blue LED light Christmas Tree with Red LED Maple Leafs), [Korea Town BIA](http://Korea%20Town%20BIA) (Tiger Lighting), [Little Italy](http://Little%20Italy) (3 illuminated angels), [Rosedale BIA](http://Rosedale%20BIA) (signature blue tree), [Waterfront BIA](http://Waterfront%20BIA), [Yonge Lawrence BIA](http://Yonge%20Lawrence%20BIA)

Ends Jan 31, 2011. The **St. Lawrence Market** is always decked out in traditional Victorian Christmas garlands and wreaths.



Movies



Rainbow Cinemas still has \$5 Tuesdays. All ages. All day. www.rainbowcinemas.ca

Weekend Screenings in December. Every Sat & Sun at 2 pm. (except Dec 24 & 25). Daily Screenings from Tues Dec 27 to Sun Jan 8 at 2 pm. (except Jan. 1). **HOLIDAY SCREENING PROGRAM with MEDIATHEQUE ON ICE**. Visit us over the holidays to watch new releases, classics, wintery and holiday-themed animated movies — all for FREE! Titles include: The Sweater, Log Driver's Waltz, Lights for Gita, The Cat Came Back, Cinderella Penguin, It's Snow, Island, Blackberry Subway Jam, The Danish Poet, My Grandmother Ironed the King's Shirts, Noel Noel, The Legend of the Flying Canoe, Leon in Wintertime and Snow Cat. NFB Mediatheque, 150 John St. (at Richmond St. West) 416-973-3012 www.nfb.ca/mediatheque FREE

Sat 17 at 11 am. **Ruffus The Dog's Christmas Carol** - Premier Screening. A holiday video special with comedy, puppets and songs! After the show there will be a Q&A with Ruffus The Dog! Revue Cinema, 400 Roncesvalles Avenue 416-531-9959 <http://indiegogo.com/ruffus-christmas-carol-completion> PWYC (\$5 suggested) Proceeds go to the Toronto Public Library Foundation.

Music



Thurs 1 - 2 from 7:30 pm - 10 pm. **York University Jazz Festival**. Rising talent directed by leading lights of the Canadian jazz scene. Department of Music, Martin Family Lounge, 219 Accolade East Building, 4700 Keele St. 416-736-2100 x 22926 www.yorku.ca/finearts/music/events FREE

Sat 3 from 9 pm. **Cherry Bomb Live**. Queer Concert Series. Featuring Amai Kuda, Masia One, MC Jazz, DJs Denise Benson, Loversun and Luke Perry. An event for queers and friends. The Garrison, 1197 Dundas St. \$5 before 10 pm. \$10 after 10 pm.

Dec 4 at 7 pm. **Holiday Breakout** (Friends of Music Therapy Endowment Fund at SickKids). Entertainment by Good Rats Radio, the Gentlemen Thieves, and others. Rockpile, 5555 Dundas West holidaybreakout@gmail.com \$4

Tues 6 from 12:10 - 1 pm. **Songs of the Season**. Tuesday performance class for singers with Che Anne Loewen, undergraduate and graduate singers and pianists. University of Toronto Faculty of Music, Walter Hall, 80 Queen's Park 416-978-3740 www.music.utoronto.ca FREE

Wed 7 from noon - 12:45 pm. **20th Annual Christmas Tuba Festival and Choir Sing-a-long**. Presented by Coalition for Music Education. Nathan Phillips Square 416-298-2871 www.weallneedmusic.ca FREE

Tues 6 at 7 pm. **Barry Shainbaum's Sing Along** of holiday songs and, this year, a magician too. Friends & Advocates. 2340 Dundas Street West, Suite G27 in the Crossways Mall across from the Dundas West Subway Station. 416-234-9245 FREE and open to non-members

Sat 10 from 7:30 to 9 pm. **Choral Christmas Concert.** Celebration of Christmas Music. St. Joseph's Highland Creek, 200 Moorish Road and Old Kingston Road, Scarborough. Contact Barbara Sullivan at 416-283-4116. Collection will be taken for refugees.

Toronto Mass Choir Appearances:

TMC is on the cutting edge of the Canadian gospel music scene. Contemporary gospel, traditional gospel and Caribbean music influences. www.tmc.ca

- Sat 10 at 2 pm. **Toronto Christmas Market** - Mill Street, Distillery District 416-364-1177 info@torontochristmasmarket.com FREE
- Tues 13 at noon. Doors open 11 am. First-come, first-served. **Roy Thomson Hall**, 60 Simcoe Street. For more info visit [Event Details](#). FREE

Dec 11 at 11 am. **Latkes & Light.** Community Chanukah celebration with musicians David Wall and Josh Engel. 918 Bathurst 416-789-5502 <http://www.918bathurst.com/> \$5 individual \$10 per family

Tues 13 from noon - 1 pm. Canadian Opera Company Free Concert Series. **Holiday Blend.** Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen St. West 416-363-8231 www.coc.ca FREE

Thurs 15 from 7 - 8 pm. **The Junction Trio: Celebrating the Season with Sound!** Join Jamie Thompson, flute, Alekxa Toskov, violin & Lucas Tensen, cello for a concert featuring the music of Bach, Handel & Mozart...and Seasonal Surprises! Call 416-395-5639 to register for this FREE concert.

Thurs 15 from 5:30 am - 6 pm. **Sounds of the Season.** Attend CBC Radio One's live broadcast of shows including Metro Morning and Here & Now with live music, personalities, and more. CBC Broadcasting Centre, 250 Front Street West 416-205-3311 Visit www.cbc.ca/toronto for schedule updates. Free with donation of a non-perishable food item

New Year's Eve

Watch the news as we get closer to the New Year. The TTC, GO Transit and connecting routes such as Mississauga Transit and the YRT/VIVA usually offer free rides during various hours of New Year's Eve. GO Transit: 416-869-3200 YRT/VIVA 905-762-2100 (watch the news for updates on YRT strike).

Fri 31. **Citytv New Year's Eve Bash at Nathan Phillips Square.** Citytv presents this free, annual outdoor concert and New Year's Eve event, with some of Canada's top Canadian musical talent and midnight fireworks. This has traditionally been one of Toronto's best family-oriented New Year's Eve extravaganzas. Join thousands of others at Nathan Phillips Square. Nathan Phillips Square, 100 Queen St. West FREE

Fri 31 from 7 pm - midnight. **New Year's Eve Celebration.** Scarborough Civic Centre (Rotunda), 150 Borough Drive (McCowan & Ellesmere) 416-396-7766 dtrench@toronto.ca FREE



Parties & Open Houses

Dec 3 at 6 pm. **Winter Sangha Day & Potluck Dinner.** Convivial time for fellowship and relaxation. Bring your favorite dish, dessert or fruits and nuts. All are welcome. Zen Buddhist Temple, 297 College St. <http://www.zenbuddhisttemple.org/index.html> FREE

Dec 8 from 5 - 10 pm. **Jewel Envy Holiday/Anniversary Party.** Jewel Envy is turning 5! Join us for a celebration of our anniversary and the festive holiday season. There will be drinks, nibbles, prizes and of course our latest jewellery creations. 647 436-6709 www.jewelenvy.ca Jewel Envy, 101 Spadina Ave, Suite #214 FREE

Dec 9 from 8 - 11 pm. Winter 2011-12. **Opening Party at The Power Plant for the Winter Exhibitions** 416-973-4927 www.thepowerplant.org The Power Plant, 231 Queens Quay West FREE

Sat 10 from 4 - 7 pm. **Sparkle 2011.** Entertainment, refreshments, prizes. Presented by OUTNPOZ Toronto. 465 Church St. www.actoronto.org FREE (cash bar)

Mon 19 from noon - 5 pm. **Holiday Drop-In afternoon.** The Older LGBTTQ Resource Centre, The 519 Church Street Community Centre, 519 Church Street. 416-355-6787 FREE

Thur 22 from noon - 4 pm. **North York Women's Centre Holiday Party.** Snacks, holiday craft making, small gift give-away. NYWC, 2446 Dufferin St. 416-781-0479 www.nywc.org FREE

Sat 24 from noon - 4pm **Holiday Turkey Luncheon.** Krasman Centre, Richmond Hill location: 10121 Yonge Street 905-780-0491 www.krasmancentre.com FREE

Sun 25 from 1 - 4 pm. **Gerstein Centre Christmas Day Open House.** Turkey dinner, Christmas gifts. Everyone Welcome. 100 Charles Street East 416-929-0149 FREE

Wed 28 at 6 pm. **Meditation Toronto's Annual Christmas / New Years Party.** We will have an enlivening meditation, a delicious vegan meal and a thought provoking talk from internationally renowned Yoga Master Balakilya das who will speak on "Meditation, Karma and Reincarnation". Bloor Street United Church, 300 Bloor Street West 416-539-0234 FREE (Please register so we can know how much food to prepare.) http://meditationtoronto.com/christmas_party.html

Self-Care

Tues 6 from 7 to 9 pm. **Holiday Dread.** Find peace to help make the holiday season an enjoyable one. You must pre-register to attend. No walk-ins. Scarborough Women's Centre, 2100 Ellesmere Road, Suite 245 Tracy Lytle 416-439-7111 adminassist@scarboroughwomenscentre.ca \$5 or PWYC

*Always wear your hat and a scarf. Don't forget your mitts. And do your coat up!
Love Mom xxx 000*

Skating

Daily from 10 am - 10 pm. **Skate The Natrel™ Rink.** Enjoy Canada's largest artificially-cooled outdoor rink while skating to music and taking in the beautiful surroundings of Lake Ontario. Toronto's hottest DJs put the bass in your blades every Saturday night. The Natrel™ Rink has an indoor change room with lockers and washrooms. Harbourfront, Queen's Quay, 235 Queens Quay West (Lower Simcoe St. & Queens Quay West). The 509 Union/Exhibition and 510 Union/Spadina streetcars drop you off there. The Natrel™ Rink hotline: 416-973-4866 www.harbourfrontcentre.com FREE

City of Toronto Skating Rinks The City of Toronto has 50 or so outdoor skating rinks! Most open between the last week of November and the first week of December weather permitting. In addition to pleasure skating, many rinks host shinny for different age groups, women and girl groups and parent/child groups. "Shinny is an informal type of [hockey](#) played on ice or the street. There are no formal rules or specific positions, and generally, there are no [goaltenders](#).... Shinny is a game that all levels of hockey enthusiasts can play because it requires no rink, requires no skills except ability to hold a stick and at the very least to try to touch the puck or ball when it goes by." (Wikipedia) Call 311 or visit <http://cityrinks.ca/wiki/wiki.php?n=ListOfRinks.FrontPage> for schedules. FREE

Dufferin Grove Park is a public neighbourhood park. The Dufferin Rink has two outdoor skating pads. One side is used for pleasure skating (every day from 9 am - 9 pm), and the other for shinny hockey. You can borrow a pair of skates for \$2. You can borrow a stick and gloves for \$1 each. Helmets available free of charge. To borrow these you must leave a government issued ID card as collateral. There is a public clubhouse to warm up in and campfires on the weekends. The café has very reasonably priced fare. Dufferin Park (just south of Bloor, on the east side of Dufferin) 416-392-0913 staff@dufferinpark.ca <http://www.dufferinpark.ca/skating/wiki/wiki.php> 2010-2011 schedule FREE

Sat 17 from noon - 6 pm. **Winter Festival.** Bring your skates to the launch of a new skating rink with music, cooking workshops, and more. Evergreen Brick Works, 550 Bayview www.evergreen.ca FREE

TO's Historic Museums

Runs until January 8. Tuesdays to Sundays, from 12 to 4 pm. December 24 and 31 from 12 to 3 pm.

Christmas in the Park. Discover the magic of Christmas in the winter wonderland surroundings of High Park and enjoy a tour of Colborne Lodge, the picturesque home of the founders of High Park, decorated for a Victorian Christmas. Toast the season with a glass of hot mulled cider by the wood stove and nibble on special holiday treats. Colborne Lodge (south end of the High Park, just north of The Queensway) 416-392-6916 <http://www.facebook.com/colbornelodge> Adults \$5.71, Seniors/Youths \$3.81, Children \$3.33 (plus tax).

Mackenzie House, 82 Bond Street 416-392-6915

- Until Jan 8, 2012. Tuesdays to Fridays from noon to 4 pm. Saturdays & Sundays from noon to 5 pm. December 24 and 31 from noon to 3 pm. Closed Dec 25, 26, and Jan 1. **A Victorian Toronto Christmas.** Take a step back in time to Victorian Toronto and experience the magic

of a traditional Christmas in an 1859 row-house. Saturday mornings you can print a seasonal greeting card on the 1845 printing press in the printshop (10 - noon). Adults: \$5.71 Seniors/Youth: \$3.81 Children: \$3.33 (plus HST)

- Sat 31 from 10 am to 3 pm. **"Here's to the Year that's Awa!"**. See the old year out at Mackenzie House! Print a souvenir copy of "Auld Lang Syne," hear about Scottish traditions regarding the passing of the old year and ringing in the new. Enjoy mulled cider and biscuits in the warmth of the historic kitchen. Adults: \$5.71, Seniors /Youth: \$3.81, Children: \$3.33 plus tax.

December 3 & 4, 10 & 11, 17 & 18 from noon to 4 pm. **Festive Christmas Weekends.** Tour the festively decorated McCowan Log House and Cornell House and enjoy the aroma of hearth baking. Scarborough Museum, 1007 Brimley Road (in Thomson Memorial Park) 416-338-8807 (by donation)

Sat 3. **Christmas at Riverdale Farm. Home for the Holidays.** Riverdale Farm, 201 Winchester Street (east of Parliament, south of Wellesley, north of Carlton/Gerrard) 416 961-8787 info@friendsofriverdalefarm.com

- 3:30 - 6 pm. Meeting House. Visit with Santa, quilters craft, pine cone bird feeders, carolling and wool spinning. FREE
- 6:30 - 7 pm. Simpson House. Carolling and tree lighting with special guests. FREE (Donations of non perishable food items or new unused toiletries for local shelter welcomed.)

Dec 4, 24, 27 and 31. Jan 2 - 8. Various times. **A Regency Christmas in the Valley.** Early 19th-century historic homes decorated with evergreen garlands, the "kissing bough" hanging in the Helliwell parlour, apples, candles and mistletoe. Enjoy festive desserts such as "Whim-Wham" and "Hedgehog Tipsy Cake." Todmorden Mills Museum, 67 Pottery Road 416-396-2819 Adults: \$5.24 Children: \$2 Youth/Seniors: \$3 (plus tax) (Read about the little hedgehog who was found in an orchard drunk on fermented apples and had to be taken to a vet for care <http://www.shortnews.com/start.cfm?id=81475>.)

Sat 17 from 1 - 4 pm. **Christmas Open House Drop-in.** Go back to school, way back, by exploring Zion's 1910 schoolroom. Try out turn of the century school activities like writing on a slate or participating in a spelling bee and enjoy hot chocolate and biscuits while singing carols around the schoolroom piano. Historic Zion Schoolhouse, 1091 Finch Avenue East 416-395-7435 FREE

Walking in a Winter Wonderland



Sun 18 at 2 pm **Toddle down the Taddle.** Lost River Walks is a joint of project of The Toronto Green Community, The Toronto Field Naturalists and Hike Ontario. Lost River Walks is an official Ontario Legacy Trail, and has been voted one of the twenty-four best walking programs/trail systems in the province. The walks are led by knowledgeable naturalists. All walks are held rain or shine. Starts at the Bedford exit of the St George Subway station and ends at the Eaton Centre. <http://www.lostrivers.ca/index.htm> FREE

Rouge Park Guided Nature Walks. Not too far from the skyscrapers of downtown Toronto, urban dwellers can see a different landscape where historic farms, century-old trees, peaceful meadows

and lush wetlands await you at your transit stop. Rouge Park is over 47 km², protecting two **National Historic Sites** and a variety of ecosystems joining the post-glacial Oak Ridges Moraine, roughly 50 km north of Toronto, and the City's biggest wetland, where the Rouge River empties into Lake Ontario. Much of the park is accessible by public transit and there are several wheelchair accessible paths. Call TTC Info at 416-393-INFO or York Region Transit at 1-866-668-3978 for route and schedule information. Free group hikes are held regularly but you can also hike alone or with a friend. So take a walk in the forest and soothe your soul. For the full schedule and meeting points, visit www.rougepark.com/hike FREE

December Schedule of Walks:

- Sun 18 at 9:30 am. **Holiday Spirits. Woodland Trail.** Easy. 2 hours. Let's share the good things about the year we've had, what plans we have for the Holidays, all the **GOOD** things we like about being able to take a winter walk. FREE
- Sun 18 at 2 pm. **Filling the Forest with Song.** Mast Trail. Easy-Moderate. 2 hours. Ring out the old, ring in the new! Join us for an afternoon of carol singing as we enjoy the sights and sounds of a winter wonderland in Rouge Park. Let's get into the holiday spirit and at the same time rejuvenate our mind, body and soul. FREE
- Wed 21 at 9:30 am. **Winter Solstice.** Orchard and Vista Trails. Easy-Moderate. 2 hours. They're here, the shortest days of the year, but let's get the most out of it! How do various plants and animals adapt to less light? How do the shorter days and longer shadows change the way we look at the Rouge Valley? We will also do a before and after shadow comparison if the sun allows us. FREE
- Sat 24 at 9:30 am. **The Winter Forest.** Wetland and Meadow. Woodland Trail. Easy. 2 hours. As we follow the Woodland path and take in the different habitats it offers, let's talk about what's happening to the trees, vegetation and animals. How are they all making it through the cold? FREE
- Sat 24 at Noon. **Holiday Spirits.** Cedar Trail. Easy. 2 hours. FREE
- Dec 31 at 9:30 am. **Old Year's Fitness Walk.** Mast, Orchard and Vista Trails (9 km). Challenging and moderately fast. 3 hours. Expect a faster pace than usual, but also expect wonderful views along the way. FREE
- Dec 31 at noon. **Cedar Trail. The Fun and Friendly Holiday Wildlife ID Challenge.** Easy and easy pace. 2 hours. Come on out for a fun, friendly trail challenge. Everyone's a winner! We'll use a mix of tools to spur on wildlife ID in addition to what we see and hear. FREE
- Dec 31 at 2 pm. **Happy New Year!** Woodland Trail. New Year's Eve day hike. FREE

High Park Walking Tours. Moderately paced, naturalist-led walking tours. Meet at the benches just south of Grenadier Café and Teahouse in High Park. 416-392-0729 walkingtours@highpark.org Free (donations always welcome)

- Dec 4 from 10:30 am - noon. **The Park Readies for the Winter** with Terry Fahey
- Dec 18 from 10:30 am - noon. **Holiday Hike and Brunch** with Walking Tours Committee

Sat 31. 1 - 4 pm. **New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk.** A labyrinth is a pattern with a single winding path that leads from the entrance to the centre. All labyrinths are unicursal, that is, they have only one path and are not a puzzle like a maze. You may enter the labyrinth with a question or a special intention in mind. Follow the path of the labyrinth from its entrance to the centre. Walk at a pace that feels comfortable to you. Pass others on the path if you need to and move around walkers coming toward you. Stay in the centre as long as you wish. Follow the path back to the entrance of the labyrinth. Timothy Eaton Church, 230 St. Clair Ave. West susan1800@gmail.com For other labyrinth walks held regularly in Toronto at various locations: <http://www.labyrinthnetwork.ca/index.htm> FREE

Still round the corner there may wait, a new road or a secret gate. — J.R.R. Tolkien

Winter Solstice

Wed 21 from 6:30 - 8 pm. Parade starts at 6:30 pm. **Kensington Market Winter Solstice.** Festival and Lantern Parade. Celebrate the return of light on the longest, darkest night! The Kensington Market Solstice is a participatory event. Make a lantern (details below), bang a drum, wear a costume or carry a puppet. Gather at Oxford and Augusta St. (in front of Exile). Lantern-making on Sun 12 from 11 am - 5 pm at Steelworkers Hall, 25 Cecil St. (Workshop is PWYC with suggested \$10 to cover cost of materials) 416-598-3729 <http://redpepperspectacle.wordpress.com/festival-of-lights/> FREE

Dec 21. Lantern and Peace Flag Procession 6:30 pm sharp! Potluck Dinner at 7 pm. Concert at 8 pm. Social gathering at 9 pm. **The Longest Night: Winter Solstice Concert and Celebration.** Featuring guitarist Mark Battenberg, Shakuhachi flute master Debbie Danbrook, Sirellist Mark Korven, with narration by Pep Duhaime. People from every race, religion and background are invited to hold all peoples in their heart during the heightened energy of the Solstice. The Children's Peace Theatre, 305 Dawes Road 416-752-1550 <http://www.yelp.ca/events/east-york-the-longest-night-winter-solstice-concert-and-celebration> Lantern workshops will take place at Children's Peace Theatre on Sat 17 and Sun 18 from noon - 4 pm. \$5 a lantern. RSVP for lantern making at 416-752-1550 FREE

The urge to control others is very strong, but the desire for freedom and the ability to show compassion will always survive. Darkness is everywhere, but Light still appears.
—John Twelve Hawks

To subscribe call the Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre of Toronto at 416-595-2882 or email us at csinfo@camh.net.

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Disclaimer: The views expressed in articles, opinions and announcements published in the Bulletin do not necessarily reflect those of C/S Info Staff, Volunteers or Board Members.

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