

Meeting the information needs of Consumer/Survivors in the Toronto Area

BULLETIN

Dec 1st – 31st 2012

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
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C/S Information Resource Centre of Toronto's Holiday Happenings



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Free and Low-Cost Events

For TTC information call 416-393-4636 (INFO) or visit the TTC website.



Art and Crafts Shows



Saturday December 1st from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. **Holiday Bazaar and Craft Sale**. Come out and support the **Keele Street Women's Group**. Some of the fabulous crafts include gift baskets for every occasion, hand-sewn stuffed toys, knitted items, holiday ornaments and knick-knacks, hand crafted jewelry, luxurious bath salts and more. They will also have a food table selling cappuccino, chili and home made baked goods. This event is located at the CMHA's Social Resource Centre 2700 Dufferin Street, Unit # 56. For any further information please do not hesitate to call Stacey 416-573-9813 or Amy 416-573-9687. Free

Friday November 30th until Sunday December 2nd from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm. **Woodlawn Pottery Studio Annual Show and Sale**. Come and check out the fabulous show and sale. The Woodlawn Studio is a women's co-operative which began as an adult education program of the YWCA. There are 18 members throwing on seven wheels and firing their work into two large kilns. This event is located at The Gladstone Hotel, 1214 Queen Street West (near Queen and Dufferin). Free

Saturday December 1st, 8th and 9th from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm. Shop Cats present: **The 3rd Annual Wandering Winter Craft Show**. This year we are featuring over 30 local artists showcasing their one of a kind goods, including jewelry, fashion, prints and unique artworks, there's sure to be something for everyone on your holiday shopping list. This event is located at Dec 1st Cameron House, 408 Queen Street West in Toronto and Dec 9th at The Gladstone Hotel, 1214 Queen St. West in Toronto. Free

Starting on Saturday December 1st and ending on December 9th the Thompson Landry Gallery presents: **Magnétisme by Marie-Josée Roy**. This exhibition is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11:00 am until 6:00 pm and Sundays from 12:00 pm until 5:00 pm. For this exhibition, metal etching, ink transfers, welding with metal rods and bronze and chrome plating. These mediums, combined with a little chance, evolve into exquisite figural forms and representations. It is Magnétisme that pulls Roy's work into existence, and the same force that effortlessly draws the viewer in. Roy and collaborator Jerome Prieur's new series, raises questions, causing us to consider what our connection is to each other, nature, and the universe. This event is located at Thompson Landry Gallery Cooperage Space, 6 Trinity Street (Front Street and Parliament Street) in Toronto. Free

Monday December 3rd from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. This year CAMH (the Centre for Addictions and Mental Health) celebrates the **United Nations Day of Recognition of People with Disabilities by hosting a Crafts Fair**. Come out and support CAMH artists and their unique products. Items include pet clothing, ceramics, art/oil paintings, knitted goods, jewelry, cards, etc. This event is located in The Mall at the Queen Street, 1001 Queen Street West. Free

Wednesday December 5th from 3:00 pm until 7:00 pm. **VanDuzer Art Studio's Holiday Season Show and Sale**. Pottery, jewelry, sculpture, paintings, art prints, greeting cards, buttons and photography. Come out and support our artists and provide materials for the studio. This event is located at 196 Beverley Street in Toronto. For any further information please do not hesitate to call Tamara at 647-280-4931. Free

Thursday December 6th from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. Mental Health Program and Participants Council at North York General Hospital present: **Art and Craft Show**. Featuring a wide range of paintings, photography, jewelry and much more! Join us and pick up a one of a kind item for yourself or someone you care about, and support the recovery of patients and clients at NYGH. This event will be located at North York General Hospital's Main Campus at 4001 Leslie Street. Free

Starting Friday December 7th and ending Sunday December 9th. Open on December 7th from 3:00 pm until 9:00 pm, Saturday December 8th from 10:00 pm until 8:00 pm and Sunday December 9th from 10:00 am until 8:00 pm. Members of Toronto Potters announce their annual show and sale at ARTA Gallery, presenting **Toronto Potters**. This is a wonderful opportunity to purchase one of a kind works of art. Toronto Potters, founded in 1979, is an internationally acclaimed, non-profit organization with approximately 120 members: potters and/or clay enthusiasts. The Toronto Potters create hand-made ceramic items via an array of techniques, such as raku and maiolica, in both functional and sculptural styles. This event is located at ARTA Gallery, 14 Distillery Lane in Toronto near Parliament Street and Lake Shore Blvd East. For any further information please do not hesitate to call 416-458-2786. Free

Saturday December 8th from 10:00 am until 6:00. **Art and Craft Sale/Children Clothing Swap**. This is an opportunity to buy unique, original gifts made by local artists. Also clothing swap or baby and children's clothes (no toys or books). This event is located at 663 Greenwood Avenue in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-461-7936. Free

Saturday December 8th and Sunday December 9th from Saturday 11:00 am until 6:00 pm and Sunday from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm. **City of Craft – Two-day Indie craft fair**. Now in its sixth year, we bring over 5000 shoppers to Queen West. Shoppers are given the chance to shop directly from the artists and makers, both local and international. There are also free workshops, pop-up events and craft-based installations. This event is located at 1087 Queen Street West in Toronto. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call us at 416-538-0988. Adults \$2.00 and Children are free.

Thursday December 13th from 8:30 am until 5:30 pm. CBC presents: **18th Annual CBC Charity Craft Sale**. There will be over 60 vendors coming selling handmade items like baking, sewing, knitting, jewelry, soap, and holiday décor. CBC is pleased to announce that our event will continue to support UNICEF, with all proceeds from vendor fees and day of donations going directly to Child Survival around the world. Come by and get all your holiday shopping done in one spot! This event is located at CBC, 250 Front Street West in Toronto. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email Amy Moylan at amy.moylan@cbc.ca. Free

Christmas is not as much about opening our presents as opening our hearts.
~ Janice Maeditere



Friday November 30th until Sunday December 16th from Monday thru Friday 12:00 pm until 9:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 am until 9:00 pm. **Toronto Christmas Market 2012** sponsored by Lowe's. This holiday season Toronto will once again celebrate the romance and magic of a rational Christmas at Lowe's Toronto Christmas Market. Inspired by the Old World and influenced by the New, this free annual event captures all of the tradition, heritage and charm of a European Christmas Market, while showcasing hundreds of unique and local handcrafted products. Family friendly entertainment includes musicians, carolers and children's choirs. There will be a massive Christmas tree, magical lighting and seasonal décor, Santa's Lane, story telling, South Pole rides, and complimentary gift wrapping. This event will be located at The Distillery Historic District, Queen St. west to Parliament then south on Parliament to Mill St.; the Distillery will be on your left hand side. Free

Saturday December 1st from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm. Queen West Art Crawl presents: **Parkdale Holiday Bazaar**. This unique Bazaar featuring 30+ artisan and vintage vendors will be selling unique, handcrafted and vintage goods. Everything from jewelry to crafts to preserves to vintage clothing and accessories and much more. A family portrait studio is available for you and friends or family to enjoy. We will be serving hot chocolate and cider. This makes for a great opportunity to shop locally for unique and special holiday gifts. This event is located at St. John's Polish National Catholic Church, 186 Cowan Avenue (Dufferin Street and Queen Street West) in Toronto. Free

Saturday December 1st from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. **Holiday Bazaar and Craft Sale**. Come out and support the **Keele Street Women's Group**. Some of the fabulous crafts include gift baskets for every occasion, hand-sewn stuffed toys, knitted items, holiday ornaments and knick-knacks, hand crafted jewelry, luxurious bath salts and more. They will also have a food table selling cappuccino, chili and home made baked goods. This event will be located at the CMHA's Social Resource Centre 2700 Dufferin Street, Unit # 56. For any further information please do not hesitate to call Stacey at 416-573-9813 or Amy at 416-573-9687. Free

Saturday December 1st from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. **Christmas Bazaar & Bake Sale benefitting the animals at the Toronto Humane Society**. 100% of proceeds to the animals at the shelter! We're selling baked goods for pets and people, loads of gift items which include hand crafted knits and crafts, X-mas gifts, books, home decor items, toys, games, pet items. Please spread the word about this fantastic family event, and join us at the Toronto Humane Society (and bring your pet if you'd like to have a photo of him/her with Santa - only \$20). This event will be located at Toronto Humane Society, 11 River Street in Toronto. Free

Friday December 7th from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. **Central Eglinton Community Centre Bazaar**. Fabulous gift items, unique crafts, snowflake cafe, holiday treasures, silent auction, door prizes, bake table and more. This event is located at Central Eglinton Community Centre, 160 Eglinton Ave. East in Toronto. For further info please do not hesitate to call Nancy Lyon at 416-392-0511 or email info@centraleglinton.com. Free

Saturday December 8th beginning at 11:00 am. **Annual Holiday Bazaar**. Come and join us for our Holiday Bazaar featuring one of a kind crafts, silent auction, holiday gift boutique, tea room and \$5.00 homemade lunch. All welcome! This event is located at True Davidson Acres Home for the Aged, 200 Dawes Road in Toronto. For further information please do not hesitate to call 416-397-0364 or email Carly Wolf at cwolf@toronto.ca. Free



CAMH Holiday Events



Monday December 3rd from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. This year CAMH (the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health) celebrates the **United Nations Day of Recognition of People with Disabilities by hosting a Crafts Fair**. Come out and support CAMH artists and their unique products. Items include pet clothing, ceramics, art/oil paintings, knitted goods, jewelry, cards, etc. This event is located in The Mall at the Queen Street, 1001 Queen Street West. Free

Monday December 3rd beginning at 1:30 pm. Clients and staff are invited for a time of fun filled community gathering to **"Trim the Tree"**. Bring your special decoration/ornament to adorn the tree. This event will be located at 100 Stokes Street, Bell Gateway Building. In the front lobby of the Sacred Space. Free

Tuesday December 4th from 12:00 pm until 3:30 pm. **Greek Orthodox Holiday Party for Clients**. Please join us for another year of festive fun. The ladies always bring yummy food, and gifts for all clients. All clients welcome to the mall for a great feast. This event will be located at the Queen Street Site, The Mall 1001 Queen Street West. Free

Wednesday December 12th beginning at 3:30 pm. Spiritual Care Services proudly presents: **The Young Carolers** (The Peer Ministry Team) from Father John Redmond Catholic Secondary School and Regional Art Centre. This event will be located in the Mall, Queen Street Site. Free

Wednesday December 19th beginning at 1:00 pm. Spiritual Care Service invites everyone to: **Christmas Candlelight Service**. There will be refreshments afterwards. This event will be located at 100 Stokes Street, The Bell Gateway Building. Free

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.

~ *Calvin Coolidge*



Carols and Pageantry

Wednesday December 5th beginning at 7:30 pm. **Weston Historical Society's 32nd Annual Christmas Carol and Hymn Sing**. Come and join us for a night of song and recollection. Refreshments will be served. This event will be located at Saint John's Anglican Church, 2125 Weston Road in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call Mary Louise Ashbourne at 416-249-6663 or email westonhistoricalsociety@rogers.com. Free

Saturday December 8th beginning at 11:00 am. Toronto Public Library presents: **Jingle Bell Time**. Come and celebrate the season and sing along with well-known holiday songs. This event will be located at Don Mills Library, 888 Lawrence Avenue East in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-395-5710. Free

Saturday December 8th beginning at 2:00 pm. Toronto Public Library presents: **Jingle Bell Time**. Come and celebrate the season and sing along with well-known holiday songs. This event will be located at Wychwood Library, 1431 Bathurst Street. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-393-7683. Free

Sunday December 9th beginning at 4:30 pm. Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. Presents: **Carols by Candlelight**. This is a historic candlelight choral presentation featuring choirs and musicians of Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. Child care for children 5 years and under. This event will be located at 1585 Yonge Street, Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-922-1167. Free

Tuesday December 11th from 7:30 pm until 8:30 pm. **Caroling in the Park**. The 24th year! Join us to sing carols and contemporary songs with the Salvation Army Band and the Beach United Church choir. Santa Claus will hand out candy canes to the children and there will be hot apple cider and hot chocolate to keep you warm. A collection will be taken for the Salvation Army. This event is located at Glen Stewart Park (on Glen Manor Drive, south of the wooden bridge). If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Dave Breach at 416-759-9997. Free

Saturday December 15th beginning at 2:00 pm. Toronto Public Library presents: **Jingle Bell Time**. Come and celebrate the season and sing along with holiday songs. This event will be located at York Woods Library, 1785 Finch Avenue West in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call us at 416-395-5980. Free

I will hold Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year.
Charles Dickens

Saturday December 15th from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. Toronto Public Library presents: **Family Christmas Caroling**. Come and sing holiday classics. Everyone is welcome. This event will be located at Cliffcrest Plaza, 3017 Kingston Road in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-396-8916. Free

Saturday December 15th beginning at 2:00 pm. Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. Presents: **City Carol Sing**. Featuring Richard Margison, Russell Braun, Lauren Margison and Fiona Reid with Choirs of Yorkminster Park Baptist Church and Christ Church Deer Park Anglican Church, The True North Brass, Larkin Singers and the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus. All proceeds to the Churches on the Hill Food Bank and the Daily Bread Food Bank. This event will be located at 1585 Yonge Street in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-922-1167. Free

Tuesday December 18th beginning at 10:30 am. Toronto Public Library presents: **Family Christmas Caroling**. Come and sing holiday classics. Everyone is welcome. Tickets required for this event, which are free and available 30 minutes before the program starts. This event will be located at Pape/Danforth Branch, 701 Pape Avenue in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-393-7680. Free

Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas-time.

~ Laura Ingalls Wilder



Comedy

Tue Dec 4th, 11th, and 18th. **Impatient Improv Comedy**. This show features students from the Impatient Improv Comedy Training Centre performing short, fast-paced improve comedy sets. This event is located at 319 Spadina Ave in Toronto. For further information please do not hesitate to call 416-238-7337 or go to www.impatientcomedy.com. Free.

Tue Dec 4th, 11th, and 18th. The Sketch Comedy Lounge Brought to you by the same folks who produce Monday night stand-up at the Rivoli, the Sketch Lounge presents three to five different troupes, including a few regulars. This event is located at 332-334 Queen St. West @ Spadina in Toronto. (Pay What You Can)



Dance

Friday December 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th from 9:00 pm until 10:00 pm. Shall We Dance Studio presents: **Free Social Dance Practices Fridays**. If you love Ballroom, Latin & Argentine Tango dance styles, then join us every Friday. All practices are instructor supervised and include a mini dance lesson, so no matter your dance level, you will have fun and improve your dancing! No partner or experience required! Plus: every practice includes a 50/50 draw. This event will be located at 511 McNicholl Ave, Suite 205. Free

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



Festival

Saturday December 1st from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm. Long Branch BIA presents: **Lakeshore Christmas Parade**. This is the 22nd Annual Christmas parade has been ranked the 4th best parade in Ontario. Highlights of the parade are 10 marching bands and 15 professionally built floats, including a "Choir of Mice", "Madhatter Tea Party", "Penguin Fantasy", "The Flintstones", "Dudley the Dragon", "Bugs Bunny", "Yosemite Sam", "Snow White & the 7 Dwarfs", "Cinderella & her Carriage", "Bigger than Life Snowmen" & "Polar Bears", a "Christmas Train" and "the Grinch" + entries from schools, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Businesses, Service Clubs and Corporate neighbours... and of course Santa. The parade is filmed by Rogers Television and can be seen on Cable 10 several times over the Christmas season. This event is located at Dwight Avenue & Lake Shore Boulevard West. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-910-5203. Free

Saturday December 1st, Sunday December 2nd, Saturday December 8th, Sunday December 9th, Saturday December 15th and Sunday December 16th from 12:00 pm until 4:00 pm. Queen's Quay Terminal and the Waterfront presents: **Celebrate the Holiday Season with Santa's Workshop during Winterfest on Toronto's Waterfront**. Santa will be making a special stop at Winterfest this year. Come and join us for free arts and crafts where children can create holiday ornaments and greeting cards or decorate an elf hat with our elves from Artbarn School. For more information visit www.waterfrontbia.com. This event is located at Queen's Quay Terminal, 207 Queen's Quay West in Toronto. Free

Sunday December 2nd from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm. Weston Village presents: **The Weston Santa Claus Parade**. Parade will start at Weston Road and St. Phillips at 2:00 pm and finish at Weston and Dennison around 4:00 pm. The event is an annual Santa Claus Parade which is in its 30th year. It features, marching bands, cartoon characters, decorated floats put together by the local businesses and local resident groups. Location: Weston Road between St. Phillips and Denison. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-249-0691

Friday December 7th beginning at 10:30 am. Toronto Public Library presents: **Happy Chanukah Party**. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate with stories, songs and fun for all ages. This event is located at Wychwood Library, 1431 Bathurst Street in Toronto. If you have any further question please do not hesitate to call 416-393-7683. Free

Saturday December 8th from 12:00 pm until 4:00. **PawsWay** presents: **Winterfest**. Have your pets photo taken with Santa during winterfest for only \$10.00 (\$2.00 from each photo is donated to the Lions Foundation of Canada Guide Dogs). PawsWay is open daily from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm and admission is free. This event is located at 245 Queens Quay West in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-360.7296 or email info@pawsway.ca. Free

Saturday December 8th, 15th and 22nd from 11:30 am until 2:30 pm. The Yonge Lawrence Village Business Improvement Area presents: **Holiday Shopping with Santa & Chorus**. Joined by our Village Carolers, Santa makes his annual visit to the Village to meet and greet shoppers and hand out treats to the kids. Bring your camera and take pictures with Santa. When you see Santa on the street, don't forget to ask him for your free, reusable Yonge Lawrence Village enviro-friendly Shopping Bag. This event is located at Yonge Lawrence Village, Yonge Street and Lawrence Avenue in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call us at 416-657-4313. 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

Sunday December 9th from 12:00 pm until 4:00 pm. **Winter Family Festival at Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre**. In addition to the many activities which were popular last year at our first ever Christmas Festival, such as the Christmas ornament craft booth, gingerbread cookie decorating table, and of course the photos with Santa Claus, we're also bringing back the popular magician. In order to accommodate everyone, we've also expanded our space to not only Kobayashi Hall, but also the Shokokai Court. This way we can offer more booths and food stands, with more room for the kids to play. To find out what other exciting activities we have in store, grab a friend and come on out to this year's festival and join in the fun. Everyone is sure to go home with some warm memories and lots of great crafts and goodies. Cost is adults \$5, children \$3, under 3 years old free. We look forward to seeing you there! This event is located at Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, 6 Garamond Court in Toronto. If you have any further questions please call us at 416-441-2345.

Toronto Public Library presents: Winter Festival. Come and celebrate winter festivals from around the world with performances. Free

- ♪ Dec 15th at 10:30 am. Albert Campbell Library. 496 Birchmount Road. Call 416-396-8890.
- ♪ Dec 21st at 4:00 pm. Bamburgh Gardens Shopping Plaza, 375 Bamburgh Circle. Call 416-396-8975.
- ♪ Dec 22nd at 1:00 pm. Bridlewood Mall, 2900 Warden Avenue. Call 416-396-8960.

Saturday December 15th at 1:00 pm. **Gifts for Strangers**. Bring an inexpensive or home-made gift and hand it out to a passerby. This event will be located at Nathan Phillips Square, (Queen and Bay). For more information please go to <http://www.giftsforstrangers.org/>. Free

Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding."
— Albert Einstein



Flower Shows



Sunday, December 2nd until January 9th daily from 12:00 pm until 7:00 pm. The annual Christmas Flower Show opens at the **Allan Gardens Conservatory** downtown, with carolers, horse and carriage rides and activities for children. Admission is free with food bank donations (accepted at the door). This year's show will feature a polar-bear-shaped topiary and polar-bear-theme crafts, as well as a new flower variety called the polar bear poinsettia - referring to its white colour. The Allan Gardens Conservatory display will also showcase Christmas rose poinsettias and carousel poinsettias, as well as cyclamens, Jerusalem cherries and azaleas. Candlelight hours offer a spectacular holiday experience from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm on December 11th, 12th, 18th and 19th. This event is located at Allan Gardens Conservatory, 19 Horticulture Avenue in Toronto. Free

The **Centennial Park Christmas Flower Show** will open on December 12th until January 9th daily from 12:00 pm until 7:00 pm. This event will feature a family carol sing, Victorian carolers, refreshments and horse-and-buggy rides. The Centennial Park display will feature a spectacular fireplace topiary made up of hundreds of individual plants and will showcase many of the latest varieties of poinsettias. Candlelight hours offer a spectacular holiday experience from 5:00 until 7:00 pm on December 12th, 18th and 19th. This event is located at Centennial Park, 151 Elmcrest Rd in Toronto. Free

Whenever you're in conflict with someone, there is one factor that can make the difference between damaging your relationship and deepening it. That factor is attitude."
Author Unknown



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 or 3-1-1 to find a local drop-in or shelter that is hosting a free holiday meal.

December 3rd beginning at 7:00 pm. Toronto Public Library presents: **Healthy Holiday Eating**. Nutrition Practitioner Lucille Poulin provides you with "healthy information" so that you may enjoy the holidays without putting on those extra pounds. This event will be held at Woodside Square Mall, 1571 Sandhurst Circle in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-396-8979. Free

Wednesday December 5th from 7:30 pm until 9:00 pm. Swansea Historical Society December Meeting: **Feasting and Fasting Canada's Heritage Celebrations**. From first nations to newcomers, food brought families and communities together to remember, to pay tribute, to honour, to celebrate, to mourn and be comforted. What was on their tables in the past and what are the traditions that we still celebrate today? Visitors Welcome! Light Refreshments! This event will be located at Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Avenue in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call Kathleen Kriscuinas at 416-859-3901 or email swancnews@gmail.com. Free

*A Christmas candle is a lovely thing;
It makes no noise at all,
But softly gives itself away;
While quite unselfish, it grows small.*

Eva. K. Logue



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. Letter can be mailed to Santa Claus, North Pole, Canada HOH OHO. Free

Saturday December 1st from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm. Downtown Yonge Business Improvement Area presents **Kidzfest**. Kidzfest offers entertainment, rides, activities and more! The full-day event will also feature appearances by Strawberry Shortcake and Puss and Boots. The event is part of Downtown Yonge's Winter Magic festival. This annual festival transforms the heart of downtown into a winter playground with five unique, seasonal events. This event will be located at Yonge-Dundas Square, 1 Dundas Street East in Toronto. For more information, visit www.wintermagic.ca Free

Winter's Tale and Craft at the Library. **Snowy stories and craft for children.**

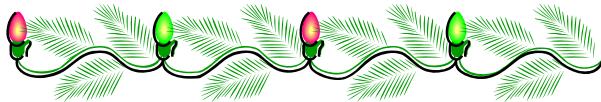
- ♪ Sat Dec 8th at 2:00 pm. Woodview Park Library, 16 Bradstock Road. 416-395-5960. Free
- ♪ Tues Dec 18th at 6:30 pm. Humberwood Library, 850 Humberwood Blvd. 416-394-5210. Free

Christmas Crafts for Children at the Library. Make a special craft for the season. Space may be limited.

- ♪ Sat Dec 8th at 2:00 pm. Bloor/Gladstone Library, 1101 Bloor Street West. 416-393-7674. Free
- ♪ Sat Dec 15th at 1:00 pm. Jane/Sheppard Library. 1906 Sheppard Ave West. 416-395-5966. Free
- ♪ Sat Dec 15th at 2:00 pm. Humber Summit Library, 2990 Islington Ave. 416-395-5840. Free

Christmas Puppet Shows at the Library. These puppet shows are based on various children's books or Christmas stories. Space may be limited. Check with the branch to see if tickets are required.

- ♪ Sat Dec 1st at 1:00 pm. Perth /Dupont Library, 1589 Dupont Street. 416-393-7727. Free
- ♪ Sat Dec 8th at 10:15 am. Forest Hill Library, 700 Eglinton Ave West. 416-393-7706. Free
- ♪ Sat Dec 15th at 11:00 am. Don Mills Library, 888 Lawrence Ave East. 416-395-5710. Free
- ♪ Fri Dec 21st at 4:30 pm. Dawes Road Library, 416 Dawes Road. 416-396-3820. Free



Lights in the City

Starting on December 1st until January 30th from 7:00 pm until 2:00 am. Church Wellesley Village presents **Village of Lights**. Join us in Toronto's premiere LGBT Village for a winter stroll through our Village of Lights! Located in the heart of Downtown Toronto, the Village offers a variety of cafes, clubs, restaurants and bars to enjoy the holiday season! Come on down to Church Wellesley Village, Church Street and Wellesley Street East in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-393-6363. Free

Saturday December 1st until Monday Dec. 31st come and see the **Cavalcade of Lights**. This festival spans citywide, illuminating 20 neighbourhoods. The 46th annual Cavalcade of Lights sets Toronto aglow with spellbinding events, sparkling lights, and a one-of-a-kind tour of Toronto's picturesque neighbourhoods. This event starts at Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto City Hall. Info: go to toronto.ca/cavalcade.

Saturday December 1st from 5:30 until 7:00 pm. **Christmas in the Park - Tree Lighting**. A community event with music, family entertainment, candlelight caroling, tree lighting, Mr. & Mrs. Claus, etc. Don't forget to bring "Loonies for the Lions". This event is located at Alex Christie Bandshell in Kew Gardens. Info: go to www.beacheslions.com.

Saturday December 8th from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm. **Light up the Beach!** Along the Boardwalk in The Beaches. The event starts at the foot of Leuty and continues to the foot of Beech Ave. It's the perfect way to get into the holiday spirit; following Santa as he walks the Boardwalk from the foot of Leuty Avenue to the foot of Beech Avenue, lighting 20 trees in sequence along the way! Join in as Santa counts down the lighting of each tree. Music will be provided by a choir and full band that will entertain one and all with Christmas Carols and selections of the Season! Enjoy free hot chocolate while taking in the festivities. Please bring a non-perishable food item. This event is located at The Beaches Boardwalk. Please do not hesitate to call Rick DeClute for any further information 416-686-9618. Free



Mind Games for Christmas

Guess the Christmas Carol from the clues provided

1. Bleached Yule.
2. Singular Yearning for the Twin Anterior Incisors
3. Array the Corridors
4. Bantam Male Percussionist
5. Give Attention to the Melodious Celestial Beings
6. Red Man / Enroute to Borough
7. Frozen Precipitation Commence
8. The Quadruped with the Vermilion Proboscis
9. Delight for this Planet
10. Monarchial Triad

Answers on the last page of The Bulletin



Movies

Toronto Public Library presents **Family Christmas Movies**. Drop in to watch movies suitable for the whole family. Space is limited. Tickets are required for admission but they are free and can be picked up 30 minutes before the show.

- ↗ Fri Dec 7th at 10:00 am. Malvern Library, 30 Sewells Road. 416-396-8969. Free
- ↗ Fri Dec 7th at 2:00 pm. Woodside Square Mall, 1571 Sandhurst Circle. 416-396-8979. Free
- ↗ Fri Dec 7th at 2:00 pm. Morningside Library, 4279 Lawrence Ave East. 416-396-8881. Free
- ↗ Fri Dec 7th at 2:00 pm. Pape/Danforth Library, 701 Pape Ave. 416-393-7727. Free
- ↗ Sat Dec 8th at 11:00 am. Bamburgh Gardens Plaza, 375 Bamburgh Circle. 416-396-8975. Free
- ↗ Sat Dec 8th at 2:00 pm. Sanderson Library, 327 Bathurst Street. 416-393-7653. Free
- ↗ Sat Dec 8th at 2:00 pm. McGregor Park, 2219 Lawrence Ave East. 416-396-8935. Free
- ↗ Sat Dec 15th at 2:00 pm. Woodside Square Mall, 1571 Sandhurst Circle. 416-396-8979. Free
- ↗ Sat Dec 15th at 2:00 pm. Eglinton Square Mall, 1 Eglinton Square #126. 416-396-8920. Free
- ↗ Sat Dec 22nd at 2:00 pm. McGregor Park, 2219 Lawrence Ave East. 416-396-8935. Free
- ↗ Thurs Dec 27th at 2:00 pm. Don Mills Library, 888 Lawrence Ave East. 416-395-5710. Free
- ↗ Thurs Dec 27th at 2:00 pm. Palmerston Library, 560 Palmerston Ave. 416-393-7680. Free
- ↗ Fri Dec 28th at 6:00 pm. Parkdale Library, 1303 Queen Street West. 416-393-7686. Free
- ↗ Sat Dec 29th at 2:00 pm. Woodside Square Mall, 1571 Sandhurst Circle. 416-396-8979. Free
- ↗ Sat Dec 29th at 2:00 pm. S. Walter Stewart Library, 170 Memorial Park Ave. 416-396-3975. Free

Friday December 21st beginning at 2:00 pm. Toronto Public Library presents: **“Tea and Movies”**. Come and enjoy a variety of films in the auditorium followed by refreshments. This event is located at North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge Street in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-395-5535. Free



Music



Tuesday December 4th from 12:00 pm until 1:00 pm. Canadian Opera Company presents: **Grimm Fest: Happily Ever Opera**. Six inspiring series offer concerts, dance performances and engaging presentations that feature up-and-coming young artists and established international stars. As part of Grimm Fest, artists of the Canadian Opera Company weave a spell of musical enchantment with a series of famous and lesser-known operatic arias and duets inspired by the timeless tales of the Brothers Grimm. This event is located at Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen Street West in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-363-8231. Free

Wednesday December 5th from 12:00 pm until 12:45 pm. Coalition for Music Education in Canada presents: **the 21st Annual Christmas Tuba Festival and Choir Sing-a-long**. Low brass players and singers are invited to join where Christmas carols and seasonal music will be performed. This annual event attracts over 300 performers to Nathan Phillips Square. Orin Isaacs will be the Master of Ceremonies. Professional and amateur school musicians join together for this celebration of the power and influence of music in our lives. Music can freely be downloaded from our website. Instrumentalists should come with a music stand, wind clips, and a cushion on which to sit. Come and join in the fun! This event is located at Nathan Phillips Square, 100 Queen Street West (Queen Street and Bay Street) in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-485-6061. Free

Wednesday December 5th from 12:00 pm until 1:00 pm. Canadian Opera Company presents **GrimmFest: Fairy Tales from Faraway Lands**. Acclaimed Egyptian-Canadian vocalist Maryem Tollar performs in the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre. Together with Roula Said (vocals/dance/percussion), Naghmeh Farahmand (percussion/vocals) and Waleed Abdulhamid (bass/percussions/vocals), she explores fairy tales, legends & myths from around the world. This event will be located at Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen Street West. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-363-8231. Free

Thursday December 6th from 7:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Canadian Opera Company presents: **Talk # 2: "The Brothers Grimm"**. Talk #2: Celebrate the 200th anniversary of the first published book of fairy tales by the Brothers Grimm! Join Canadian composer Dean Burry as he explores "The Brothers Grimm," his opera for children inspired by the tales collected by the famous duo, and sheds light on how it came to be the most performed Canadian opera of all time. Please call to register at 416-395-5639. This event is located at the North York Central Library Auditorium, 5120 Yonge Street in Toronto. Free

Thursday December 6th from 12:15 pm until 12:45 pm. Music at Metropolitan, Metropolitan United Church presents: **Noon at Met**. Organ recital by Conrad Gold played in the lovely sanctuary of this 19th century church at the corner of Church and Queen. Go shopping, take a break, bring a lunch if you're short of time, and relax. Metropolitan has the largest pipe organ in Canada with over 8,000 pipes and also boasts one of only 11 tuned carillons in Canada. This event is located at the Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen Street East (Queen Street East and Church Street) in Toronto. Free

Saturday December 8th from 5:00 pm until 6:00 pm. **Young Nak Orchestra Christmas Concert**. This is the 3rd Annual Christmas concert by the orchestra of this Korean Presbyterian Church. This event is located at Hope United Church, 2550 Danforth Avenue in Toronto (near the main subway station) . If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-756-4709. Free

Tuesday December 11th from 12:00 pm until 1:00 pm. The Canadian Opera Company presents: **Creative Explorations**. Artists of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra premiere a jointly composed work based on their experiences as artist-educators through the TSO's Adopt-A-Player program. Blurring the lines between music and theatre, this original composition offers fun and fascinating insights into the process of creative composition. This event is located at Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen Street West in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-363-8231. Free

Wednesday December 12th from 5:30 pm until 6:30 pm. Canadian Opera Company presents: **The Night is Cold but the Music's Hot**. Alex Pangman performs songs from her much-lauded album 33. Though she takes her cues from the great songstresses of the 1930's and 40's, her performances are living proof of the vitality and relevance this music still has today. For her appearance in the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre she will be joined by her long-time quartet The Alleycats. This event is located at Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen Street West in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-363-8231. Free

Wednesday December 12th beginning at 7:00. Toronto Public Library presents: **Chanukah Concert Live**. Come and experience the legacy of the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir. Since 1925, the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir has been active in Yiddish cultural music. This year's concert includes songs from their current repertoire including traditional Chanukah songs sung in both English and Yiddish. This event is located at Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington Road in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-395-5440. Free

Thursday December 13th from 12:00 pm until 1:00 pm. Canadian Opera Company presents: **Drums, Strings and Ribbons**. Korean drum and dance ensemble Jeng Yi is joined by zither player Joo Hyung Kim in an exciting program featuring traditional rhythms and original compositions that breathe new life into Korean traditions. The troupe will also perform their much-talked-about ribbon hat dance. This event is located at Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen Street West. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-363-8231. Free

Thursday December 13th from 12:00 until 12:45 pm. Music at Metropolitan, Metropolitan United Church presents: **Noon at Met**. Organ recital by Conrad Gold played in the lovely sanctuary of this 19th century church at the corner of Church and Queen. Go shopping, take a break, bring a lunch if you're short of time, and relax. Every Thursday there is a recital but the musicians and instruments change. Metropolitan has the largest pipe organ in Canada with over 8,000 pipes and also boasts one of only 11 tuned carillons in Canada. You can visit the organ after the recital. Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen Street East (Queen Street East and Church Street). Free

Thursday December 20th from 12:15 pm until 12:45 pm. Music at Metropolitan United Church presents: **Noon at Met**. Organ recital by Dr. Patricia Wright played in the lovely sanctuary of this 19th century church at the corner of Church and Queen. Go shopping, take a break, bring a lunch if you're short of time, and relax. Every Thursday there is a recital but the musicians and instruments change. Metropolitan has the largest pipe organ in Canada with over 8,000 pipes and also boasts one of only 11 tuned carillons in Canada. You can visit the organ after the recital. Come visit the church during Doors Open Toronto next year. This event is located at Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen Street East (Queen Street East and Church Street). Free

Sunday December 9th, 16th and 23rd beginning at 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm. Come and see **Holiday Big Bands**. Put a spring in your step this holiday season! Join us Sunday afternoons throughout December for live performances by your favourite swing bands. This event is located at Lakeside Terrace, York Quay Centre 235 Queens Quay West. Free

Everyday brings a chance for you to draw in a breath, kick off your shoes, and dance.
- Oprah Winfrey



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.

Monday December 31st beginning at 10:00 pm. **CityTV's Traditional New Year's Eve Bash.** Join thousands of others this New Year's Eve 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. One of the biggest New Year's celebrations in Canada. The event is always broadcast on Citytv and features a heap of celebrities, live musicians and fireworks. This event is located at Nathan Phillips Square, 100 Queen Street West. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call 416-519-7400 ext. 8380. Free

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Your Presence is Requested Downtown Brampton on **Monday, December 31, 2012.** In tribute to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, Brampton will ring in the New Year in regal style! Free entertainment for all ages from 7:00 pm until 12:30 am. Featuring Ice skating in Gage Park , fire pits and marshmallow roasting, Jellybeanz craft station, stilt walkers and fire eaters, magicians, jugglers, carnival rides and games. Family Entertainers: The Magic Family, Rapunzel, Captain Jack, Princess Belle and Mad Hat. This event will be located at the Main Stage in Garden Square: Opening Act (TBA) - 9:30 pm with Headliner Down With Webster at 10:45 pm. Fireworks at 9:00 pm and 12:00 am!



Parties and Open Houses

Saturday December 15th from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Zen Buddhist Temple presents: **Winter Sangha Day Potluck.** Come and join us to Chant for peace, engage in some Dharma discussion then join us for a Vegetarian Potluck supper. All welcome. This event is located at the Zen Buddist Temple, 297 College Street. www.zenbuddisttemple.org/index.html. Free

Saturday December 15th beginning at 10:00 am. Toronto Public Library presents: **Christmas Tree Trimming get together.** Come and enjoy Christmas stories, a festive film, decorations, and lots of fun for everyone. This event will be located at Leaside Library, 165 McRae Drive. If you have any further questions please call 416-396-3835. Free

Friday December 21st beginning at 10:30 am. Toronto Public Library presents: **Mrs. Claus' Christmas Party.** Come and enjoy fun stories and songs to celebrate the Christmas season. This event is located at Wychwood Library, 1431 Bathurst Street in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-393-7683. Free

December 28th beginning at 10:30 am. Toronto Public Library presents: **Frosty the Snowman's Snowy Day**. Come and enjoy wonderful winter stories, songs and lots of fun for the whole family. This event is located at Wychwood Library, 1431 Bathurst Street in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-393-7683. Free

Monday December 24th from 12:00 pm until 4:00 pm. The Krassman Centre will be holding a **Holiday Turkey Luncheon**. This event will be located at 10121 Yonge Street in Richmond Hill. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 905-780-0491. Free

Tuesday December 25th from 12:00 pm until 5:00 pm. **Friendly Spike's Pot Luck Christmas Party**. Everyone is welcome. Come and celebrate the festivities. This event will be located at 20 Westlodge Avenue in Toronto. We are accessible and will be having lots of fun. Free

Tuesday December 25th from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm. Gerstein Centre **Christmas Day Open House**. We will be having a turkey dinner and Christmas gifts. Everyone is welcome. This event will be located at 100 Charles Street East in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-929-0149. Free



Self-Care

Wednesday December 5th beginning at 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Toronto Public Library presents: **Decluttering Your Mind and Spaces**. This workshop is designed to clear your mind and give you new perspectives on personal spaces both inside and out. Learn some very Zen ways to overcome being overwhelmed by clutter so you can work effectively. Enjoy an energetic, interactive workshop on how to identify self delay and escape mechanisms, and using your mind to overcome stress. This event will be held at Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington Road. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-395-5440. Free

Saturday December 8th beginning at 11:00 am. Toronto Public Library presents: **Yoga and Meditation**. Try some basic meditation techniques and simple exercise to help manage stress and anxiety, restore your sense of well-being. Bring a mat or towel please. This event will be located at Main Street Library, 137 Main Street in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-393-7700. Free

Monday December 17th beginning at 2:00 pm. Toronto Public Library presents: **Laughter Yoga**. Find out the physical, emotional and social benefits of laughter exercises and yoga breathing and how they can transform your life. This event will be held at Eatonville Library, 430 Burnhamthorpe Road. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-394-5270. Free

Thursday December 6th and Thursday December 13th from 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm. Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services presents: **Beautiful Girl**. This initiative gives teenage girls an opportunity to meet in a safe and friendly environment, in person and on-line, to discuss issues and challenges that come along their paths. During our on-site sessions, we use different arts to facilitate artistic exploration and self-understanding and to increase awareness of how our habits, thoughts, beliefs and imagination create our reality. We use visual arts, writing, drama, movement, as well as discussion. If you don't consider yourself to be an artist don't be afraid. No professional experience is required! It is impossible that you will not find an artistic expression within yourself! This event is located at Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services, 3363 Bloor Street West in Etobicoke. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-233-0055. Free

Tuesday Dec 4th from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. **Holiday Dread Workshop**. As we approach the holiday season, we are often filled with a mix of hope and dread. Stress levels run high as we try to make preparations while ensuring everyone gets along. In this workshop, we will discuss how to practice self care, and explore ways of finding peace and calm to help make the holiday season an enjoyable one. For further information please do not hesitate to call 416-439-7111 or email adminassist@scarboroughwomenscentre.ca. Free (\$5 suggested, or donate what you can).

Monday December 10th from 1:30 until 3:30 pm. **Surviving the Holidays... and the Financial Aftermath**. Join the Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre of Toronto for another of our popular info sessions. Richard Haggins from Credit Canada will present on important topics like:

- Working out if the planned Christmas (holiday) spending is/has been at a sustainable level.
- What can be done about overspending that's already taken place (and is most likely on credit cards)?
- What happens to finances? Creditworthiness? Credit report?
- What happens if people can't keep up with their payments and start to fall apart financially? What options do they have?

Location change alert: B-40 was needed, so we'll be in Room 1123, 101 Stoke Street, in the Doctors Association Building. Stokes Street is one south of Queen Street and runs east – west from White Squirrel Way to Workman Way. The easiest way to get there is to just walk straight down Ossington south of Queen Street. As usual, we'll have lots of signs. Call 416-595-2882 or email csinfo@camh.ca to register. People who attend the workshop and who have pre-registered will receive one TTC token to support their attendance and to help us keep count of numbers. Free



Skating



City of Toronto Skating Rinks. **The City of Toronto has 50 or so outdoor skating rinks!** Most rinks 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. For more information please visit <http://cityrinks.ca> for schedules. Free

Daily from 10:00 am until 10:00 pm. **Skate The Natrel Rink**. Enjoy Canada's largest artificially-cooled outdoor rink while skating taking in the beautiful surroundings of Lake Ontario. On weekends in December Toronto's hottest DJ's put the bass in your blades every Friday and Saturday night! The Natrel Rink has an indoor change room with lockers and washrooms. This event is located at Harbourfront, 235 Queens Quay West in Toronto. The 509 Union/Exhibition and 510 Union/Spadina streetcars drop you off there. If you have any further questions please call 416-973-4866. Free

Daily from 9:00 am until 9:00 pm. **Dufferin Grove Park is a public neighbourhood park**. The Dufferin Rink has two outdoor skating pads. One side is used for pleasure skating, and the other for shinny hockey. There is a rink change area: Rink house converted to "clubhouse" (open to all Toronto residents, visitors welcome, too). Wood stove, games, toys, lots of lockers, snack bar with 25 cent slices of bread from park outdoor bread ovens, soup, mini-pizzas, organic hot chocolate, Fair Trade organic coffee. Friday night suppers with emphasis on families. Skate loans (\$2). Live music at times. Rink house unavailable for changing during weekly organic farmers' market (Thursdays 1pm-8pm), but lots of benches set up outside. Groups can book to have campfires beside the rink house (no indoor birthday permits available). Call rink at 416-392-0913 for more information.



Toronto's Historic Museums

Saturday December 1st until Sunday January 6th from 12:00 pm until 4:00 pm. Toronto's Historic Sites presents: **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, which is decorated for a Victorian Christmas. You will discover festive traditions, decorations and foods enjoyed during the 19th-century in Toronto. Toast the season with a glass of hot mulled cider by the wood stove and nibble on special holiday treats. Holiday admission prices apply: Adults \$7.08, Seniors \$4.42, Youths \$3.81, Children \$4.42 (plus tax). This event will be located at Colborne Lodge - High Park, 11 Colborne Lodge Drive in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-392-6916.

Saturday December 1st until January 6th from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm. Toronto's Historic Sites presents: **A Victorian Christmas**. This festive season take a step back in time to Victorian Toronto and experience the magic of a traditional Christmas in a 1859 row-house. Escape from the hustle and bustle while you enjoy a sample of mulled cider and a biscuit in the warmth of the historic kitchen. The cost of this event is Adults: \$7.08, Seniors \$4.52 and Youth/Children \$4.42 plus tax. This event will be located at Mackenzie House, 82 Bond Street East in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-392-6915.

Being happy doesn't mean that everything is perfect. It means that you've decided to look beyond the imperfections.

Author Unknown



Walking in a Winter Wonderland

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 square kms, 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 1-866-688-3978 for route and schedule information. Free group hikes are held regularly but you can also hike alone or with a friend. For the full schedule and meeting points, visit www.rougepark.com/hike. Free.

Saturday December 1st from 1:00 until 3:00 pm. High Park Centre is having a **Family Nature Walk**. Come find your way through our orienteering course using a map and compass. Each station is an activity that teaches you about the natural ecology of the park. Bring your own compass or borrow one of ours. There will be a cost of \$2.00 per person or donate what you can. This event is located at High Park Nature Centre, 440 Parkside Drive. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-392-1748 x 2.

Sunday December 2nd from 10:30 am until 12:00 pm. High Park Walking Tours is having **Free Walking Tours**. Walks may go on wooded trails, so please wear appropriate foot wear. Walks are led by volunteer scientists, historians, and local naturalists who will help you to understand and explore High Park's many significant features. This event is located at 440 Parkside Drive in Toronto. Please meet at the benches, across the road from the south side of Grenadier Restaurant in the middle of High Park. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-392-1748 x 2. Free

Saturday December 8th from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm. High Park Nature Centre is having a **Getting Ready for Winter – Family Nature Walk**. Plants and animals are prepared for winter. Search for busy squirrels, sheltered insects, friendly chickadees and sleeping oak trees to learn their survival strategies. This event is located at High Park Nature Centre, 440 Parkside Drive in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-392-1748 x 2. There will be a cost of \$2.00 per person or donate what you can.

Sunday December 16th from 10:30 am until 12:00 pm. High Park Walking Tours is having **Free Walking Tours**. Walks may go on wooded trails, so please wear appropriate foot wear. Walks are led by volunteer scientists, historians, and local naturalists who will help you to understand and explore High Park's many significant features. Walking Tours are volunteer-led with the support of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation. This event is located at 440 Parkside Drive in Toronto. Please meet at the benches, across the road from the south side of Grenadier Restaurant in the middle of High Park. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-392-1748 x 2. Free

Saturday December 22nd from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm. High Park Nature Centre is having **Christmas Bird Count for Kids**. Round up your birding pals and help us count birds. We will be hiking the trails to find the winter birds who are toughing it out this winter including chickadees, nuthatches and cardinals. The data we collect will be submitted and will help bird conservation. Please bring binoculars and field guides, if you have them! There will be a cost of \$2.00 per person or donate what you can. This event is located at High Park Nature Centre, 440 Parkside Drive in Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call 416-392-1748 x 2. Free



Winter Solstice



Friday December 21st. The winter solstice occurs exactly when the axial tilt of a planet is farthest away from its star, depending on the polar hemisphere of reference. Earth's maximum axial tilt to our Sun during a solstice is 23° 26'. More evidently from high latitudes, a hemisphere's winter solstice occurs on the shortest day and longest night of the year, when the sun's daily maximum position in the sky is the lowest. Since the winter solstice lasts only a moment in time, other terms are often used for the day on which it occurs, such as midwinter, the longest night or the first day of winter.

Saturday December 15th from 4:00 pm until 9:00 pm. Evergreen Brick Works presents: **Winter Solstice Festival**. The Winter Solstice is very special – it's the year's longest night and the shortest day. Come down to the valley and play with us into the night as we celebrate the coming solstice. Lace up as we launch the winter season with the opening of our family friendly outdoor skating rink, groove to some hot tunes and chill by the warm fire. Plus join Native Child and Family Services of Toronto in partnership with Evergreen for the Traditional Winter Round Dance. This event is located at 550 Bayview Avenue, Toronto. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us at 416-596-7670. Free



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from Everyone at the
Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre of Toronto

Arabic: Milad Majid

Chile: Feliz Navidad

Cree: Mitho Makosi Kesikansi

English: Merry Christmas

French: Joyeux Noel

Greek: Kala Christouyenna!

Italian: Buone Feste Natalizie

Lithuanian: Linkssmu Kaledu

Portuguese: Feliz Natal

Chinese (Cantonese): Gun Tso Sun Tan'Gang Haw Sun

Eskimo (inupik): Jutdlime pivdluarit ukiortame pivdluaritlo!

Czech: Prejeme Vam Veselé Vánoce a stastný Nový Rok

Farsi: Cristmas-e-shoma mobarak bashad

Hungarian: Kellemes Karacsonyi unnepeket

Irish: Nollaig Shona Dhuit, or Nodlaig mhaith chugnat

Japanese: Shinnen omedeto. Kurisumasu Omedeto

Peru: Feliz Navidad y un Venturoso Año Nuevo

Polish: Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia

Answers to Mind Games Riddles:

1 White Christmas

4 Little Drummer Boy

7 Let it Snow

10 We Three Kings

2 All I want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth

5 Hark The Herald Angels Sing

8 Rudolph the Red-Nosed reindeer

3 Deck the halls.

6 Santa Claus is Coming to Town

9 Joy to the World.

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

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How about converting to email and doing a favour for our planet? Call the C/S Info Centre at 416 595-2882 or email us at. csinfo@camh.ca. Your Mother Earth will thank you.