

HOLIDAY EVENTS & SHOWS

OBT's *The Nutcracker*

Through Dec 26, 7:30pm (Tue, Wed & Sat), 2pm (Wed), noon (Thu), Keller Auditorium (SW Third Ave & SW Clay St, Portland). Watch the Oregon Ballet Theatre's presentation of George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker*, featuring dancers Ansa Deguchi, Xuan Cheng, and others. Popular with young and old, the work is both a paragon of classical ballet and a fun fantasy for all. For info, or to buy tickets, call (503) 2-BALLET (222-5538) or visit <www.obt.org>.

Winter Wonderland at PIR

Through Dec 27, 5-9pm (Sun-Thu), 5-11pm (Fri-Sat), Portland International Raceway (1940 N Victory Blvd, Portland). Enjoy the annual Winter Wonderland drive-through holiday lights extravaganza at Portland International Raceway (PIR). Illuminating the skies are Toyland, the Poinsettia Arch, Candy Cane Lane, Reindeer Road, and 250 display pieces featuring animated designs. Winter Wonderland benefits the Portland Police Bureau Sunshine Division, an organization that provides food and clothing to those in need. For info, call (503) 823-7223, e-mail <winterwonderland@sunshinedivision.org>, or visit <www.winterwonderlandportland.com>.

Festival of Lights

Through Dec 30 (except Dec 25), 5-10pm, The Grotto (NE Sandy Blvd & NE 85th Ave, Portland). Walk through the annual Christmas Festival of Lights at The Grotto, featuring a million colorful holiday lights as well as music performances, a puppet show, a petting zoo, and more. Indoor concerts are held each evening at 5:15pm, 6:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, and 9:00pm. Visitors are asked to bring canned or dry food donations for SnowCap Community Charities, a local nonprofit organization that provides food, clothing, advocacy, and other services to those in need. For info, call (503) 261-2400 or (503) 254-7371, or visit <www.thegrotto.org>.

Peacock Lane

Through Dec 31, 6-11pm (daily except Dec 24 & 31), 6pm-midnight (Dec 24 & 31), Peacock Lane (between SE Stark & SE Belmont St, one block east of SE César Chávez Blvd, Portland). Experience all the holiday warmth that 110 volts of AC power can provide as Portland's famous Christmas-light display illuminates the night. The free event is presented by homeowners, who encourage visitors to view the display on foot and enjoy hot cocoa. Donations are accepted. For info, visit <www.peacocklane.org>.

ZooLights

Through Jan 3, 5-9pm (daily except Dec 24-25), Oregon Zoo (4001 SW Canyon Rd, Portland). Ring in the holiday season with the annual ZooLights display at the Oregon Zoo. The family tradition features music and more than 1.6 million lights illuminating life-size animal silhouettes, trees, buildings, walkways, and the zoo train. Popular returning displays include trumpeting elephants, swinging siamangs, a 35-foot-long Chinese dragon, leaping reindeer, tobogganing polar bears, playful penguins, and more. For info, call (503) 226-1561 or visit <www.oregonzoo.org>.

The Nutcracker

Dec 21-22, 2pm & 7pm, Lake Oswego High School, Auditorium (2501 Country Club Rd, Lake Oswego, Ore.). Enjoy a performance of Portland Festival Ballet's *The Nutcracker*.



FESTIVE ACTIVITIES. Ansa Deguchi (center) dances in Oregon Ballet Theatre's presentation of George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker*. Performance are scheduled through December 26 at the Keller Auditorium in downtown Portland. (Photo/Blaine Truitt Covert, courtesy of the Oregon Ballet Theatre)

Popular with young and old, the show is both a paragon of classical ballet and a fun fantasy for all. This year's production features new costumes, sets, and choreography led by creative director Victor Ursabia, a world-renowned choreographer and master teacher from the Philippines. For info, or to buy tickets, call (503) 977-1753 or visit <www.portlandfestivalballet.org>.

"The Gingerbread Man"

Dec 22, 1-1:45pm, Fairview-Columbia Library (1520 NE Village St, Fairview, Ore.). Enjoy a mini-musical adventure and modern-day twist on the endearing folktale, "The Gingerbread Man," in which granny gets lonely and decides to make a gingerbread man with a magic cookie recipe. For info, call 988-5655 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

Polar Express

Dec 22, 6:30-7:30pm, Woodstock Library (6008 SE 49th Ave, Portland). Take an imaginary ride to the North Pole and back at a *Polar Express* event featuring a story and reindeer-face-making. For info, call (503) 988-5399 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

"An Appalachian Christmas"

Dec 22, 7:30pm, Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall (SW Broadway & SW Main St, Portland). Attend "An Appalachian Christmas," a festive holiday concert by Mark O'Connor & Friends. For info, call (503) 943-5828 or visit <www.allclassical.org>. To buy tickets, call (503) 248-4335 or visit <www.portland5.com>.

"Joy to the World: A Holiday Spectacular"

Dec 22 & 24, 9pm (Tue), 7pm (Thu), Oregon Public Broadcasting Radio (OPB Radio). Enjoy "Joy to the World: A Holiday Spectacular," a new holiday concert from NPR Music and Pink Martini. The hour-long program features timeless classics to rarely heard gems, as well as multi-denominational holiday songs from around the globe, including "Congratulations — A Happy New Year Song," a traditional Chinese New Year song. To verify airtimes, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>. To listen to the show via on-demand audio streaming, visit <www.npr.org/pinkmartini>.

Family Craft Hour

Dec 23, 4-5:30pm, Rockwood Library (17917 SE Stark St, Portland). Make festive cards, snowflakes, and easy tree decorations with

paper, stickers, and paint at Family Craft Hour. For info, call (503) 988-5396 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

"Yule Log"

Dec 24, 9pm-2am, Oregon Public Broadcasting Plus (OPB Plus). Get all the benefits of a holiday fire in the hearth without the trouble of hauling logs and cleaning up ashes. On Christmas Eve, OPB plays seasonal music while televising a roaring fire at Timberline Lodge. Viewers should not attempt to toast marshmallows at the screen. To verify showtime, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.

Union Gospel Mission Christmas Day meal

Dec 25, 10am-2pm, Union Gospel Mission (15 NW Third Ave, Portland). Those in need and the homeless are invited to join Union Gospel Mission for a Christmas Day meal with ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, fruit salad, and dinner rolls. As part of this year's event, the organization is distributing hats, gloves, socks, blankets, and sleeping bags to attendees. The Union Gospel Mission is also seeking donations of sleeping bags and weather-resistant gloves. For info, or to make or drop off a donation, call (503) 274-4483 or visit <www.ugmportland.org>.

Free Christmas dinner

Dec 25, 11:30am-1:30pm, Congregation Beth Israel, Goodman Hall, Schnitzer Family Center (1972 NW Flanders St, Portland). Join Lift Urban Portland for a free Christmas dinner featuring live music as well as turkey, stuffing, vegetables, and dessert. Attendees are able to pick from a selection of hats, scarves, and gloves and also receive a gift bag with toothbrushes, dental floss, and soap. All are welcome. For info, call (503) 221-1224 or visit <www.lifturbanportland.org>.

Potluck in the Park

Dec 25, noon-3pm, Portland Art Museum (1119 SW Park Ave, Portland). Enjoy or volunteer at a free Christmas dinner. The dinner — featuring turkey with all the trimmings — is available to anyone in need or alone on Christmas. The event, which takes place on Park Avenue between S.W. Main & Madison Streets, includes jazz musicians playing dinner music, free phone calls to loved ones, photos with Santa, and gifts. Potluck in the Park also serves a free meal to anyone in need at 3:00pm every Sunday of the year, rain or

shine, at O'Bryant Square (SW Ninth Ave & SW Washington St, Portland). For info, to arrange transportation, or to make a donation, call (503) 255-7611 or visit <www.potluckinthepark.org>.

Kwanzaa celebration

Dec 27, 2-3pm, North Portland Library (512 N Killingsworth St, Portland). Learn about the seven principles of Kwanzaa at an event celebrating the second principle, *Kujichagulia* (self-determination). For info, call (503) 988-5394 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

"Noon Year's Eve Party for Preschoolers"

Dec 31, 11am-1pm, Northwest Library (2300 NW Thurman St, Portland). Families are invited to ring in the New Year with dancing, balloons, activities, and snacks at "Noon Year's Eve Party for Preschoolers." The free event is for children younger than six years old with an accompanying adult. For info, call (503) 988-5560 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

New Year's at noon

Dec 31, 11am-3pm, Portland Children's Museum (4015 SW Canyon Rd, Portland). Young people are invited to ring in the New Year hours before the grownups with festive noisemakers, countdowns, a dance party with DJs from Greasy Kid Stuff, and more. Countdowns are held at 11:00am, 11:30am, noon, 12:30pm, and 1:00pm. For info, call (503) 223-6500 or visit <www.portlandcm.org>.

New Year's Eve celebration

Dec 31, 7pm-1am, Heart of Wisdom Zen Temple (6401 NE 10th Ave, Portland). Let go of last year's errors and renew commitments to live ethically in the upcoming year at a New Year's Eve celebration. The free event includes a vegetarian potluck (attendees are asked to bring a dish to share), meditation accompanied by 108 strikes of the bell, and sacred dancing. For info, call (503) 894-8891 or visit <www.zendust.org>.

"Jai Ho! NYE"

Dec 31, 8pm-2am, Hawthorne Theatre (1507 SE César Chávez Blvd, Portland). Enjoy "Jai Ho! NYE," a Bollywood New Year's Eve party for persons age 21 and older featuring DJ Prashant and special guests. For info, call (971) 344-2022 or visit <www.bollywoodpdx.com>.

DJ Anjali & The Incredible Kid New Year celebration

Dec 31, 9pm-3am, Melody Ballroom (615 SE Alder St, Portland). Ring in the New Year with DJ Anjali and The Incredible Kid, who drop the latest electronic sounds emerging from South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, Jamaica, and the U.K. The event, which is for persons age 21 and older, marks the 15th anniversary of the beatmasters performing for Portland crowds. For info, call (503) 281-3918 or visit <www.anjaliandthekid.com>.

First Run & Walk

Dec 31, 10pm (festivities), midnight (run & walk), World Trade Center Plaza (121 SW Salmon St, Portland). Start the New Year in a healthful manner by taking part in the annual walk or run along the waterfront and across two bridges. The event features music, food, dancing, and more beginning at 10pm. For info, or to register, call (503) 644-6822, e-mail <events@asportsltd.com>, or visit <www.asportsltd.com/firstrun>.

New Year's Eve
RIDE
FREE
after 8 p.m.
Plus, late-night MAX
service until about 3 a.m.

trimet.org/nye

TRI MET

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