

HOLIDAY EVENTS & SHOWS

Christmas Ship Parade

Through Dec 21, Willamette & Columbia Rivers (Portland). Watch two fleets of colorfully decorated ships ply the Willamette and Columbia Rivers. The Christmas Ship Parade has been a Portland tradition since 1954. The combined fleets average 50 to 60 boats. For route schedule, viewing locations, or to make a donation, visit <www.christmasships.org>.

Omiyage museum store

Through Dec 24, 11am-6pm (Tue-Sat), noon-4pm (Sun), Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center (121 NW Second Ave, Portland). Shop for unique Japan-inspired gifts and crafts by local artists, designers, and authors at *Omiyage*, the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center's holiday shop. Featured items for sale include jewelry, fashion and home accessories, cards, origami creations, anime-inspired merchandise, art objects, books, a selection of curated vintage items, and more. For info, call (503) 224-1458 or visit <www.oregonnikkei.org>.

Winter Wonderland at PIR

Through Dec 26, 5:30-9:30pm (Mon-Thu), 5-11pm (Fri-Sun), 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 and animated scenes. 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, ext. 1, or visit <www.winterwonderlandportland.com>.

Peacock Lane

Through Dec 31, 6-11pm, 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 or hot cider. For info, e-mail <pdxpeacocklane@gmail.com> or visit <www.peacocklane.org>.

"Gingerbread Adventures"

Through Jan 1, 9:30am-5:30pm, Oregon Museum of Science & Industry (OMSI), Auditorium (1945 SE Water Ave, Portland). View "Gingerbread Adventures," a display of gingerbread sculptures by five architectural firms paired with bakeries highlighting the food science, biology, technology, engineering, architecture, and physics involved in creating the artistic creations. Exhibit activities include do-it-yourself gingerbread workshops, cookie lab experiments, holiday-themed illusions, brain teasers, and more. Visitors also have an opportunity to vote for their favorite sculpture. The event theme is "illusion," in honor of "Illusion: Nothing Is As It Seems," an exhibit currently on view at OMSI. For info, call (503) 797-4000 or visit <www.omsiedu>.

ZooLights

Through Jan 7, 5-9pm (except Dec 24-25 & Jan 1-4), 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, animals, 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, or to buy tickets, call (503) 226-1561 or visit <www.oregonzoo.org/zoolights>.

"How Does the Cookie Crumble?"

Dec 19, 6:30-8:30pm, Oregon Museum of Science & Industry (OMSI), Auditorium (1945



30 YEARS OF ZOOLIGHTS. This winter features the 30th year of ZooLights at the Oregon Zoo. The family tradition includes visiting animals, listening to music, and viewing more than 1.6 million lights illuminating life-size animal silhouettes, trees, buildings, walkways, and the zoo train. ZooLights remain on view through January 7.

SE Water Ave, Portland). Learn how buildings are designed to withstand earthquakes at "How Does the Cookie Crumble?" The workshop, which is for adults, gives participants a chance to design, build, and test their own earthquake-proof gingerbread house. For info, or to register, call (503) 797-4000 or visit <www.omsiedu>.

OBT's The Nutcracker

Dec 20-24, 2pm & 7:30pm (Wed-Sat), noon (Sun), Keller Auditorium (SW Third Ave & SW Clay St, Portland). Watch the Oregon Ballet Theatre's presentation of George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker*. 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) 222-5538 or visit <www.obt.org>.

Potluck in the Park

Dec 24, 1-4pm, Portland Art Museum, Mark Building (1119 SW Park Ave, Portland). Enjoy or volunteer at a free Christmas Eve dinner. The dinner — featuring turkey with all the trimmings — is available to anyone in need or alone this holiday. 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. Pet food and kennels are available during the meal. 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 its current temporary site located under the Hawthorne Bridge at Tom McCall Waterfront Park on S.W. Naito Parkway in Portland (except Christmas Eve 2017). For info, to arrange transportation, or to make a donation, call (503) 255-7611 or visit <www.potluckinthe.park.org>.

"Yule Log"

Dec 24, 10pm-1am, Oregon Public Broadcasting Plus (OPB Plus). Enjoy all the benefits of a holiday fire in the hearth without the trouble of hauling logs and cleaning up ashes. On Christmas Eve, Oregon Public Broadcasting plays seasonal music while televising a roaring fire. 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-1pm, 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, potatoes, vegetables, and dinner rolls. As part of this year's event, the organization is distributing hats, gloves, socks, and blankets to attendees. For info, or to make or drop off a donation, call (503) 274-4483 or visit <www.ugmportland.org>.

"Christmas Rocks!"

Dec 27, 7:30pm, Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall (1037 SW Broadway, Portland). Enjoy "The Brian Setzer Orchestra Christmas Rocks!" tour, a performance by Brian Setzer and his 19-piece orchestra, who whip up a huge dose of retro holiday cheer. For info, or to buy tickets, call (503) 248-4335 or visit <www.portland5.com>.

Whale watching on the Oregon coast

Dec 27-31, Oregon Coast. Brave the winter weather for a sight of some of the estimated 20,000 gray whales expected to pass by Oregon's

coast during the last week of the year. Between 10:00am and 1:00pm each day, volunteers are stationed at 24 overlooks and parks along the Oregon coast designated as "Whale Watching Spoken Here" sites to provide information about the marine mammals and help spot them in the surf. Spring whale watching takes place March 24 to 31, 2018. For info, call (541) 765-3407 or visit <www.whalespoken.wordpress.com>.

Kwanzaa celebration

Dec 30, 10:30am-noon, North Portland Library (512 N Killingsworth St, Portland). Learn about the seven principles of Kwanzaa. The event includes a family storytime (10:30am), candle ceremony (11:00am), and craft (11:30am). For info, call (503) 988-5394 or visit <events.multicolib.org>.

Pink Martini New Year's Extravaganza

Dec 30-31, 7:30pm (Sat), 7pm & 10:30pm (Sun), Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall (1037 SW Broadway, Portland). Enjoy the Pink Martini New Year's Extravaganza, a holiday concert with Portland's own "little orchestra" featuring pianist Thomas Lauderdale. The performance also features the Oregon Symphony led by conductor Norman Huynh, the Portland Symphonic Choir, Ari Shapiro, China Forbes, and others. For info, or to buy tickets, call (503) 228-1353 or visit <www.orsymphony.org>.

New Year's at noon

Dec 31, 11am-2pm, 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, multiple countdowns, a dance party, dry-ice experiments, craft activities, and more. For info, call (503) 223-6500 or visit <www.portlandcm.org>.

New Year's Eve sangha event

Dec 31, 7pm-midnight, Heart of Wisdom Zen Temple (6401 NE 10th Ave, Portland). Attend a New Year's Eve celebration, a sangha event featuring a vegetarian potluck (7:00pm), sacred dancing, a fire ceremony, meditation, and 108 tolls of the bell. No reservations are necessary and attendees are asked to bring a vegetarian dish to share. For info, call (503) 894-8891 or visit <www.zendust.org>.

"Bollywood Masquerade"

Dec 31, 9pm-2am, Hawthorne Theatre (1507 SE César Chávez Blvd, Portland). Attend "Bollywood Masquerade," a New Year 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-2am, 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 is for persons age 21 and older. For info, call (503) 281-3918 or visit <www.anjaliandthekid.com>.

Free "First Day Hikes"

Jan 1, 9am, 10am, 11am, 1pm & 2pm, Oregon State Parks. Join the "First Day Hikes" tradition on January 1, when the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) joins America's State Parks for the annual free event. Twenty-four hikes in 22 Oregon state parks are available and guided by park rangers or volunteers who share stories about each park's geology, history, wildlife, and plants. OPRD advises visitors to plan for inclement weather, dress in layers, wear sturdy shoes, bring water, and remember to carry binoculars for viewing wildlife. For info, call 1-800-551-6949 or 1-800-452-5687. To view hike start times or to register in advance, visit <<http://bit.ly/ParkStoreEvents>>. (Online registration is not required, but assists park staff plan for the hike and allows contact information in case hike details change.)

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