

## **Durham Museum**

### **Holiday Cultural Festival**

*December 6, 4-9 PM*

Learn how the world celebrates this joyful time of year during the Holiday Cultural Festival! More than 40 local cultural organizations proudly display their crafts and traditional dress, while musicians and dancers perform throughout the evening. Hard-to-find ethnic foods and gifts will be available for purchase.

### **Family Night with Santa**

*December 10 & 17, 5-8 PM*

During the busy holiday season, The Durham Museum makes it easy for families to create special memories. Santa and his reindeer visit the museum for two Tuesday nights in December. Families can also take part in creating holiday crafts at the David M. Mangelsen's Craft Corner and enjoy live performances by local choirs and ensembles.

### **A Log Cabin Christmas**

*Saturdays 10 AM-2 PM & Sundays 1-3 PM in December*

The Durham will be decorating their historic log cabin for Christmas, and we invite you and your family to enjoy it! A docent will be present to show guests the cabin and share pioneer holiday traditions.

### **Holiday Concert Series**

*Saturdays 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM, Sundays 1:30 – 3:30 PM & Tuesdays 5:30 – 7:30 PM in December*

Enjoy some of the area's most beautiful holiday music under the glow of The Durham's Christmas tree. Talented local entertainers, school musicians and choirs perform as part of The Durham Museum's Holiday Concert Series.

### **Holiday Cultural Trees Display**

*December – Jan. 5, 10AM – 5PM*

A holiday favorite returns to The Durham's galleries during Christmas at Union Station. The exhibition is one of the enduring fixtures of the season and showcases how cultures from around the world celebrate the holiday season. Each tree is decorated by a local Omaha cultural society and is accompanied by interpretative text explaining the meaning behind the various decorations and unique traditions of each culture.

### **Noon Year's Eve Celebration**

*December 31, 10 AM-2 PM*

3-2-1, Happy New Year! Children of all ages will enjoy this fun-packed party with live music by Dino O'Dell and the T-Rex All-Stars, special crafts and activities. Ring in the noon year in your handmade party hats while enjoying the celebratory bubble wrap stomp and the spectacular balloon drop at noon in the Suzanne and Walter Scott Great Hall.

### **Voice Your Choice with the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame**

*January 14, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM, Reservations required*

Who would you choose to be in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame? This fun, interactive program breaks down the induction process – from nomination to voting to induction – while providing YOU with the chance to choose the artist you feel deserve to be inducted. Defend your decision and voice your choice

with special host, Jason Hanley, Vice President of Education and Visitor Engagement at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. **Reservations are required and regular museum admission applies; free for members.** Reserve your seat online, then pay when you arrive at the event. (Select the burgundy ticket icon above to register. Please note: your online reservation is not complete until you've clicked the "Check Out" button.)

## **Joslyn Art Museum**

### **Holiday Under Glass**

*Wednesdays & Fridays, December 6–20, Noon*

Enjoy sounds of the season during *Holiday Under Glass*, Joslyn's annual holiday concert series featuring area musical groups, now in its 25th year.

### **Young Artist Exhibition – Opening Reception**

*December 13, 6-9 pm*

This multidisciplinary exhibition showcases individual works from young artists and their mentors. Artwork sales will benefit both the artist and Joslyn's Kent Bellows Mentoring Program. The exhibition will remain on view through January 10. Location: Kent Bellows Studio, 3303 Leavenworth Street

### **Teen Salon**

*December 15, 2-3 pm*

Featuring music, fashion, and animations by students from Joslyn's Kent Bellows Mentoring Program (KBMP) and Fashion Arts program at Yates, the Teen Salon is an opportunity for the next generation of creatives to showcase their work to a live audience. A light reception will follow. Location: Kent Bellows Studio, 3303 Leavenworth Street

### **Show Me a Story**

*December 19, 10:30 – 11:30 AM*

Explore art from several cultures in relation to types of storytelling: myth and legend, biography, documentation, instruction, beliefs, and mystery. Develop stories using elements of character, plot, and setting.

## **Omaha Symphony**

The Omaha Symphony is offering a discount to members of the UNMC community to its 2019-2020 season, which includes the following winter shows:

### **Physicians Mutual Omaha Symphony Christmas Celebration**

*December 19-22*

### **Rhapsody in Blue & Rachmaninoff**

*January 17 & 18*

The promotional code "UNMC" offers a 20 percent discount to the shows. To order tickets, go to [Ticket Omaha](#), stop by in person or call 402-345-0606.

## The Omaha Community Playhouse

### Gingerbread Building Parties

*December 8, 15, 22, 12:45 – 1:45 PM, \$15 per Gingerbread house*

Turn up the holiday magic with a fun-filled hour of confectionery creativity. Budding gingerbread architects and candy lovers will enjoy crafting the edible holiday homes of their dreams using graham crackers, icing, colorful sprinkles, glittery sugars, candies, gumdrops, peppermints, sprinkles, marshmallows and more!

### A Christmas Carol

*December 6-23, Varying Times*

It just isn't Christmas without *A Christmas Carol*. Experience Omaha's favorite holiday tradition as Ebenezer Scrooge takes us on a life-changing journey filled with lovely costumes, exquisite music, beautifully crafted sets and special effects second to none. Perfect for the whole family!

The Omaha Community Playhouse is offering UNMC employees and students a discount to its upcoming show, "A Christmas Carol." The special rate is offered for three performances only:

- 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 17;
- 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 24; and
- 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 1.

Discounted prices are:

- Adult: \$25 (regular price \$40)
- Student: \$18 (regular price \$26)

To order tickets, call (402) 553-0800 or visit the OCP box office at 6915 Cass St. Please Note: **Children under the age of 3 are not permitted to attend. This offer is not available online and seating is subject to availability. This offer is not valid on previous purchases and may not be combined with other offers.**

## Fontenelle Forest

### Winter Wonderland: Trail of Lights Opening Celebration

*December 1 6:30-8:30 PM, \$5 members / \$15 for non-members*

Come visit Fontenelle Forest as they celebrate the arrival of winter. They are lighting one of the trails with thousands of holiday lights for visitors to get a truly awe-inspiring experience this time of year. Enjoy the Forest after hours to see the holiday lights in their full glow. Hike down the boardwalk where children can meet Santa in the woods and create a lasting holiday memory.

### Gingerbread Habitats

*December 7, 10 AM-5:00 PM, \$20 member/\$30 non-member*

What makes a habitat a home? Participants at this reimagined annual event learn about local forest habitats and then, using their imagination create their one-of-a-kind gingerbread habitats and homes.

Five sessions are available; please register in advance [here](#). Please note the first session of the day is **peanut-free**.

## The Rose Theater

### **“Elf: The Musical”**

*Dec 1 - December 22 (varying times)*

Buddy the Elf has always been a little different. Even among his professionally festive Christmas coworkers Buddy really stands...TALL! When Buddy learns from Santa that he is a human, the enormous former elf embarks on a quest to the sparkling city of New York during the holidays to find his father. His unusually upbeat, childlike cheer has a powerful effect on everyone he encounters—with sometimes-disastrous results. Will Buddy be able to charm his stressed-out dad who long ago lost his seasonal spirit and wants nothing to do with a son he did not know he had? This fun-filled musical adaptation of the favorite holiday film that became an instant classic is a stuffed stocking full of song and dance that your family will most definitely want on your Christmas Wish List! Tickets are \$27 main floor, \$22 balcony.

## Lauritzen Gardens

### **Merry & Bright: Holiday Poinsettia Show**

*December through January 5, 9 AM – 5 PM, \$10 for adults, \$5 children, members free*

Thousands of poinsettias bursting with rich, vibrant color fill the floral display hall in a glowing tribute to the holidays during the spectacular holiday poinsettia show. In the center of it all, a magnificent and majestic 20-foot-tall poinsettia tree stands tall. Surrounded by a cascade of twinkling white lights, glittering ornaments and the whir and whistle of model garden trains, this show evokes the warmest greetings of goodwill and cheer. To help families make more holiday memories, they can visit the *Family Chill Zone* on the festival garden patio to participate in a variety of fun, family-friendly activities.

### **Bright Nights**

*Dec. 7, 8, 14 -23, 26-30, Jan. 2-5, \$10 for adults, \$5 children, members free*

Once again, Lauritzen Gardens is making the holiday season merry and BRIGHT! The holiday poinsettia show and the Marjorie K. Daugherty Conservatory will be adorned and enhanced with light as the garden extends its hours to celebrate the beauty of the season. The garden will glow with the holiday spirit from the twinkling trees to the falling snowflakes, and will be transformed into a winter wonderland filled with unique and festive decor, a magnificent and majestic 20-foot-tall poinsettia tree, the whir and whistle of the holiday express, and other illuminated displays.

These enchanted evenings are sure to become a holiday tradition. As you tour the glistening indoor gardens, gather around the crackling fire, write letters to Santa, shop for thoughtful holiday gifts in the gift shop, enjoy holiday music (on select nights), and more.

### **National Poinsettia Day**

*December 12, 9 AM -5 PM*

Celebrate this national holiday, commemorating this gorgeous holiday plant, while visiting the poinsettia show. The first 100 households receive a free poinsettia (*while supplies last*). Included with garden admission.

### **Holiday Cheers – Festive Night for 21+**

*December 12, 6-9 PM, \$20*

Get into the holiday spirit at this ultra-merry event for adults only! Explore the holiday poinsettia show, enjoy the lights of Merry & Bright, play games on the patio, create a festive masterpiece on our Lite-Brite trees, buy a S'mores kit and roast a marshmallow by the fire, and listen to live music by Tracy Skretta. Perfect for a date night or an evening with friends. Admission includes one drink ticket and cash-only bars will be set with a selection of beer, cider and wine, as well as a signature cocktail available for purchase. The cafe will be open for dinner service and [Coneflower Creamery](#) will be onsite with some sweet treats for sale. MUST BE 21 TO ATTEND.

### **Holiday Harmony**

*Varying Dates and Times – click [here](#) for schedule*

Join us for a series of live seasonal music amid the festive garden surroundings performed by local choirs and musicians throughout the holiday season. Visitors are invited to stroll through the holiday poinsettia show or cozy up next to the fireplace and enjoy lunch or a snack.

### **Read and Grow at the Garden**

*December 13, 10 – 11:30 AM, Pre-registration required*

In order for curious minds to bloom, it is essential to plant a love of reading at a young age. Join the Omaha Public Library in the garden each month for stories that celebrate gardens, plants, insects and more, and discover the joys of nature, movement, music, and literature. Programs are presented one Friday per month and are geared towards preschool aged children, but all ages are welcome. This is a free program, but [pre-registration](#) is requested. Programs will be held outdoors and will be moved indoors if necessary.