

Welcome to
BOSTON

WINTER 2013/2014

WINTER 2013/2014





Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

From my family to yours, I extend our most fond wishes for a Joyous Holiday Season and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston



THE
FREEDOM
TRAIL®

Walk the Freedom Trail® through history.

Experience more than 250 years of history—and 16 of Boston's most significant sites—along the Freedom Trail. To book an 18th century costumed guided tour, download an audio guide or learn about exhibits and events, visit TheFreedomTrail.org or call 617.357.8300.

WALK INTO HISTORY TOURS

November – April, Daily: 11:00 am & 12:00 noon

HISTORIC HOLIDAY STROLL

November – January, Thursday – Sunday: 3:30 pm

Reservations required 24 hours in advance

AFRICAN-AMERICAN PATRIOTS TOUR

February, Saturday and Sunday: 12:45 pm

All tours run 90 minutes

Tickets available at: TheFreedomTrail.org
or by calling 617.357.8300



Events in November

November 1st – February 28th Daily

Freedom Trail® Foundation Walk Into History Tours

Led by 18th century costumed guides, Walk Into History Tours are the official walking tours of the Freedom Trail®. Historical facts and anecdotes on colonial life and Boston history are told as one follows the Freedom Trail, a 2.5 mile red brick or painted red path, and stop at many of Boston's precious 17th, 18th, and 19th historical sites. Private family, school and group tours available. *Departs: Boston Common Visitor Information Center 139 Tremont St., \$, (617) 357- 8300, www.TheFreedomTrail.org* ♿

November 1st – February 28th, Tuesdays

Freedom Trail® Foundation Historic Pub Crawl

Revolutionary ideas may have come from speeches at Faneuil Hall or a meeting of the Sons of Liberty, but their courage and inspiration came from Boston's Taverns. Led by an 18th century costumed guide, this tour takes visitors to four taverns – Green Dragon, The Point, Bell in Hand, and Union Oyster House – and offers traditional Boston fare and sample-sized beer at each stop. *Reservations required 24 hours in advance. Departs: ArtsBoston Bostix Booth at Faneuil Hall, \$, (must be 21), 617-357-8300, www.TheFreedomTrail.org* ♿

November 1st – February 28th Art & Architecture Tours of the Boston Public Library

The Boston Public Library offers free public tours highlighting the celebrated art and architecture of the Boston Public Library's McKim Building. The hour-long tours explore the work of architect Charles Follen McKim and murals by John Singer Sargent, Pierre Puvis de Chavannes, and Edwin Austin Abbey. *The tours last about an hour and begin at the Dartmouth Street entrance of the Central Library in Copley Square. No appointment necessary. Ongoing tours are offered:*

Mondays at 2:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Fridays at 11:00 a.m., and Saturdays at 11:00 a.m., www.bpl.org/tours ♿

November 1st – February 28th The Meeting of Image and Word: Emblem Books

from the Collection Exhibition

Emblem books, a Western European phenomenon, are designed to deliver morals or amusing messages through symbolic pictures and concise text. Initially appearing in the sixteenth century with Andreas Alciatus's first book in 1531, the exhibition focuses on the high points of the genre from the middle of the sixteenth century through the seventeenth century. *Boston Public Library, Copley Square (Rare Books Lobby), www.bpl.org/exhibitions* ♿

November 1st – February 28th, Thursdays

Never Too Late

The Never Too Late Group is one of the country's oldest, continuously running groups for seniors. *2:00 p.m. in Rabb Lecture Hall in the Central Library at Copley Square, www.bpl.org/programs/ntlg* ♿

November 1st & 3rd Mozart and Beethoven



Former Music Director Grant Llewellyn returns to H&H for the first time since 2008 to lead the Period Instrument Orchestra in Beethoven's Symphony No. 2 and Mozart's Haffner Symphony. The program also features H&H's concertmaster Aisslinn Nosky and principal players as soloists in Haydn's virtuosic Sinfonia Concertante. *Handel & Haydn Society, Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., \$, 617-262-1815, www.handelandhaydn.org* ♿

November 1st – 3rd

Citi Center, Celebrity Series: Paul Taylor Dance Company

An icon of American dance returns to Boston to perform the Boston premiere of *Perpetual Dawn* (2013), *Private Domain* (1969) and *Black Tuesday* (2001). The Paul Taylor Dance Company, established in 1954, is one of the world's most highly respected and sought-after modern dance ensembles. *Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org* ♿

November 2nd SciNArt with Friends of Gertrude Howes

Join Boston based community organizations, Mass Horticultural Society and The Best Bee Company for a food themed event. Funded in part by a Green Parks Green Kids Grant through a partnership between the National Recreation and Park Association and the National Recreation Foundation. *Gertrude Howes Playground, 10:00 a.m., 617-635-4505, www.cityofboston.gov/parks*

November 2nd

Citi Center: The Legend of Zelda: Symphony of the Goddesses – Second Quest

'Second Quest' brings Zelda fans and symphony-goers alike an exciting multimedia experience presenting over 25 years of music from The Legend of Zelda series as never before, including fresh new material exploring additional chapters from the Zelda franchise. *Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org* ♿

November 7th

Citi Center: Gordon Lightfoot

Folk-rock legend Gordon Lightfoot brings his 50 Years on the Carefree Highway tour to Boston. Lightfoot has recorded 20 albums and has five Grammy nominations. He was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in June 2012. *Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org* ♿

November 7th – 10th

From the Ground Up

The Boston Conservatory Dance Division

takes innovation and expansion to a whole new level in *From the Ground Up*, featuring new works created for Conservatory students by some of the world's leading contemporary choreographers. Dance Division Director, Cathy Young will present an expansion of her spring 2013 premiere, *Near/Miss. The Boston Conservatory, 31 Hemingway St., \$, 617-912-9222, www.bostonconservatory.edu*

November 8th – February 28th Made in Boston Exhibition

Boston was the metropolis of England's North American colonies, with the largest population and economy of any urban center through the 1750s. It was also the leading producer of printed maps, including major colonial "firsts" such as the first printed map, first city map, first battle plan, and first map engraved on copper. This exhibition brings together, for the first time, a majority of these maps "made in Boston" in the century before the American Revolution. As a group they are remarkable for their idiosyncrasies of style and important contributions to geographical knowledge. This exhibition affords a unique perspective on the ambitions, anxieties and sense of identity that animated colonial Bostonians. *Central Library, Copley Square (Norman B. Leventhal Map Center), www.bpl.org/exhibitions* ♿

November 8th – 17th

Dance Crawl: Fall Revue

This dazzling interactive dance performance will take place at various locations in the South End of Boston. *Urbanity Dance, 280 Shawmut Ave., \$, 617-572-3727, www.urbanitydance.org*

November 9th

Citi Center: Laugh Boston presents Justin McKinney

New England native Justin McKinney grew up living on the border of New Hampshire and Maine. While living in NYC he worked his way into the weekend line-up at Comic Strip Live, Stand-up New York, Dangerfield's, Gotham, and Caroline's on Broadway. He has had 2 Comedy Central specials including his half hour Comedy Central Presents. He has appeared numerous times on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno and appeared on the Tonight Show with Conan O'Brien. He was chosen to

be part of the Blue Collar Comedy Next Generation Tour, with Bill Engvall, which aired on TBS. *Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org* ♿

November 10th The Boston Conservatory Orchestra

- MENDELSSOHN: "Overture" to *Midsummer Night's Dream*
- WAGNER: "Prelude" and "Love Death" from *Tristan und Isolde*
- IVES: Three Pieces in New England
- DVORAK: Symphony No. 9, "From the New World"

Sanders Theatre at Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., \$, 2:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. – pre-concert lecture, 617-496-2222, www.bostonconservatory.edu ♿

November 10th Community Chamber Concert

Join the Boston Symphony Orchestra as they share their mission to encourage music education and build personal connections to orchestral music through the Community Chamber Concerts program. Each concert program lasts approximately one hour and is followed by a coffee and dessert reception for the audience and musicians. 184 Dudley St., Roxbury, 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., FREE with reservation, 617-541-3900, www.hibernianhall.org ♿

November 10th Beethoven's Ninth Symphony

Join Boston Baroque at the historic Strand Theatre as they celebrate their 40th anniversary with a free community concert featuring Beethoven's ninth symphony. *The Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Rd., 2:00 p.m., 617-987-8600, www.BostonBaroque.org* ♿

November 12th The Boston Conservatory Piano Masters Series presents Anton Nel

Since winning the Naumburg International Piano Competition, South African-born Anton Nel has gone on to establish a remarkably active and prominent concert career, performing with the Cleveland, Chicago, San Francisco and Detroit Symphonies, in recitals at the world's most prominent concert halls, and sought-after as a chamber

musician with an encyclopedic repertoire. *Seully Hall, 8 Fenway, \$, 2:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. – pre-concert lecture, 617-912-9222, www.bostonconservatory.edu* ♿

November 12th Community Colors Gallery Exhibition & Opening Reception

Collaborative art exhibit featuring work in a variety of 2D medium created by local artists of all ages who live, work or participate in the South End and Lower Roxbury community. *Harriet Tubman Gallery, 566 Columbus Ave., 6:00 p.m., 617-375-8159, www.uses.org* ♿

November 14th Author Talk

Author Saphira Linden & Co-Authors of *The Heart & Soul of Psychotherapy: a Transpersonal Approach* through Theater Arts will discuss, demonstrate and perform to illustrate drama therapy. *Jamaica Plain Branch of the Boston Public Library, 12 Sedgwick St, Boston, 6:30 p.m., 617-524-2053, www.bpl.org/authors* ♿

November 14th – January 31st, Thursday through Sunday Freedom Trail® Foundation Historic Holiday Stroll



When the trees are sparkling and the window displays enticing, the Freedom Trail Foundation joins revelers to celebrate the season with the annual Historic Holiday Stroll. While Christmas was not widely celebrated during the American Revolution in Boston, visitors

may now enjoy Boston's festive atmosphere on this merry 90-minute tour. Led by a costumed tour guide dressed in 19th-century Dickensian garb, visitors learn how holiday traditions evolved in Boston while experiencing highlights of the American Revolution. The tour concludes with the chance to warm your bones with hot chocolate, tea, or wine and Boston cream pie at the historic Omni Parker House. Reservations are required 24 hours in advance. *Departs: ArtsBoston Bostix Booth at Faneuil Hall, 3:30 p.m., \$, 617-357-8300, www.TheFreedomTrail.org* ♿

November 15th Citi Center: Chris Cornell

Cornell is playing a series of intimate shows highlighting songs he has written throughout his illustrious career. This is the first time US fans will hear acoustic arrangements of songs from 2012's critically-acclaimed *King Animal*, Soundgarden's first new studio album in over 16 years. American/Sri Lankan folk artist, Bhi Bhiman, will support Cornell on tour. *Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org* ♿

November 15th Frog Pond Winter Season Opening

Take in the beautiful surroundings of downtown Boston while enjoying outdoor skating. Opening at 10:00 a.m. see website for daily schedule, up to date information on conditions, delayed openings or weather related closings, \$, 617-635-2120, www.bostonfrogpond.com

November 15th Nova Scotia Tree Arrival

Once again, Nova Scotia has agreed to provide Boston's Official Christmas Tree. Nova Scotia will transport the tree to the Boston Common where Santa Claus and children from local schools are invited to welcome the tree to the Boston Common. *Boston Common, 11:00 a.m., 617-635-4505, www.cityofboston.gov/parks*

November 15th – December 15th The Cocktail Hour, presented by Huntington Theatre Company

When John interrupts his parents' pre-dinner cocktail to announce that he has written a play about them, the revelations and recrimi-

nations start to flow just as easily as the martini in this heartfelt comedy. The Cocktail Hour presented by Huntington Theatre Company is a funny and poignant play about the ties that bind. *Avenue of the Arts, BU Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., \$, 617-266-0800, www.huntingtontheatre.org* ♿

November 15th – February 28th Boston Frog Pond College Night

Show your current college ID and pay just \$2 admission for skating on the Frog Pond! *Tuesday evenings, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 pm, 617-635-2120, www.bostonfrogpond.com*

November 16th Skating Lessons at the Boston Frog Pond



Skating lessons for beginners and skaters of every age and every level. Fun, goal oriented lessons taught by experienced, certified instructors. *The Skating Club of Boston Skating Academy, Saturday and Sunday mornings 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. and Monday afternoons 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., private lessons daily, for more information, 617-635-2120 x 10, www.skatingacademy.org*

November 16th Stage Door Canteen

A USO show featuring the powerful music of the Golden Era starring Sweet Harmony. *Riverside Theatre Works, 45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park, 8:00 p.m., \$, 866-811-4111, www.rtwboston.org* ♿

November 16th Boston Bhangra Competition

If you like South Asian Dance, don't miss some of the most competitive dance teams in North America compete at the 10th annual Boston Bhangra Competition. Bhangra, the popular South Asian dance style, is very energetic, colorful and exciting to watch. *Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Pl., \$, www.bostonbhanga.com/bbc2013* ♿

November 16th & 17th
Jane Eaglen sings Wagner's
Wesendonck Lieder!

BCO celebrates the 200th anniversary of the birthdays of Wagner and Verdi. Soprano Jane Eaglen will sing Wagner's intimately-scaled Wesendonck Lieder. The program also includes Verdi's String Symphony – his only extended instrumental work. *Boston Classical Orchestra at Faneuil Hall, 1 Faneuil Hall Sq., 866-811-4111, www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org* ♿

November 19th
Author Talk

Joshua Greene, author of *Moral Tribes: Emotion, Reason, and the Gap Between Us and Them* speaks about his book. *Central Library in Copley Square, 700 Boylston St., 6:00 p.m., 617-536-5400, www.bpl.org/authors* ♿

November 20th
Local & Family History
Lecture Series

Genealogist Barbara Jean Mathews will discuss tips and strategies for finding one's ancestors during the period from 1620 to 1776, which saw many changes in society and settlement. *Central Library in Copley Square, 700 Boylston St., 6:00 p.m., 617-536-5400, www.bpl.org/localhistory* ♿

November 20th
Studio@36:

Art Making Benefit Night

Adults enjoy art making, adult beverages, and networking in the heart of the South End! This session focuses on a screen printing on t-shirts which will expand your creativity in our historic Children's Art Centre. All proceeds directly support high quality arts education and programming for children and families regardless of ability to pay. *Children's Art Centre, 36 Rutland St., 7:00 p.m., 617-536-8610, www.uses.org*

November 20th – December 8th
Citi Center: A Christmas Story,
The Musical

A Christmas Story, The Musical is the hilarious account of Ralphie's desperate quest to ensure that the perfect gift ends up under his tree this Christmas. Honored with three 2013 Tony

Award® nominations for Best Musical, Best Book of a Musical and Best Original Score, A Christmas Story is directed by Tony Award-winner John Rando and choreographed by Warren Carlyle. This new musical based on the classic 1983 movie, which itself was based on stories by legendary radio humorist Jean Shepherd, features funny and heartfelt songs by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul and a faithful yet inventive book by Joseph Robinette. *Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org* ♿

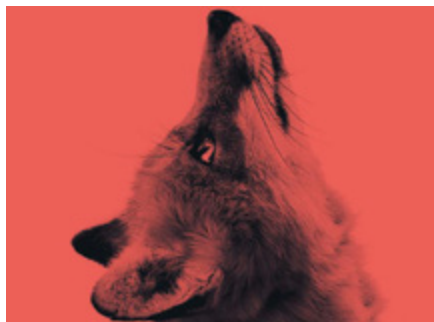
November 21st
Lower Mills Merchant Association
Holiday Stroll Event

This is the 6th annual Lower Mills Merchant's Association (LMMA) stroll. Dozens of merchants will be open for the evening to proudly display and showcase their businesses to local residents. *The Event will take place throughout the Lower Mills neighborhood. 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., 617-296-7039, www.lowermillsmerchants.com*

November 21st – 24th
Museum School Art Sale

The School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston's (SMFA) annual art sale is a destination for art collectors and those who simply love art. With thousands of works on a changing rotation, priced by the artists and sold to benefit student scholarships, the SMFA Art Sale is your opportunity to discover the exceptional caliber of work produced by SMFA students, alumni, faculty and affiliated artists. *230 The Fenway, FREE, Opening celebration: Nov. 21st, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., 617-369-3204, www.smfa.edu/artsale* ♿

November 21st – 24th
The Cunning Little Vixen



Leoš Janáček's delightful opera follows the adventures of Vixen Sharp Ears and teaches us all about the cycle of life and the restorative power of nature. The story was taken from a popular Czech newspaper comic strip in the 1920s, and Janáček's brilliant score captures the humor and politics of the day, the amazing sounds of the natural world, and the profound lessons offered by the miracle of life. Sung in Czech with English supertitles. *The Boston Conservatory, 31 Hemingway St., 617-912-9222, www.bostonconservatory.edu* ♿

November 21st – December 8th
A Little Princess

Fiddlehead Theatre Company Presents: A Little Princess a story of heart and imagination in a multicultural world. Based on the 1905 novel by Frances Hodgson. *The Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Rd., 781-329-1901 www.fiddleheadtheatre.com* ♿

November 23rd

Blink! Holiday Season Launch at
Faneuil Hall Marketplace

Blink! featuring the music of the Holiday Pops, is a 6-week state-of-the-art light and sound extravaganza that has transformed every inch of America's first open marketplace. This magical and unforgettable new holiday tradition uses over 350,000 LED lights to illuminate Boston's skyline. Blink! is a must-see holiday show, perfect for all ages. *Light show nightly at 8:00 p.m., 617-523-1300, www.bostonblinks.com*

November 23rd – 24th
The Last Five Years, presented by
Huntington Theatre Company

Funny, honest and intimate, with an exuberantly romantic score, The Last Five Years takes a bold look at one young couple's hope that love endures the test of time. *Calderwood Pavilion at the BCA, 527 Tremont St., 617-266-0800, www.huntingtontheatre.org* ♿

November 25th
Christopher Columbus
Trellis Lighting

Christopher Columbus Park will be transformed into a Holiday wonderland when

the 260 feet of trellis are lit with 50,000 white and blue lights, along with lighted pine boughs highlighting the Kennedy Rose Garden and numerous decorated trees. *Christopher Columbus Park, North End, 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., 617-635-4505 www.cityofboston.gov/parks*

November 29th – December 1st
Handel Messiah

A holiday tradition for 160 years—make it yours! Join H&H for an outstanding rendition of Handel's masterwork, performed in the US by H&H in its first concert in 1815. No holiday season is complete without this stunning oratorio. *Handel & Haydn Society, Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., 617-262-1815, www.handelandhaydn.org* ♿

November 29th – December 29th
The Nutcracker

Boston Ballet's production of Mikko Nissinen's The Nutcracker received rave reviews during its premiere in 2012. This sparkling production, with sets and costumes by Robert Perdziola, "brings a softness and light to the venerable holiday classic" -The Boston Globe. The timeless story of Clara, who bravely saves her Nutcracker Prince and is swept away on a magical journey through the Nutcracker Prince's kingdom in the clouds, is an engaging tale for the whole family and a holiday tradition for many years to come. *The Boston Opera House, 539 Washington St., 617-695-6955, www.bostonballet.org* ♿

November 30th, December 7th,
14th, 21st, 28th
Sunset Holiday Lights
Harbor Cruise

This cruise transits the harbor and gets a close view of the USS Constitution as it fires its evening gun and plays "Retreat". From there we make our way down the Boston Waterfront as night falls and behold the spectacle of holiday lights along the water. Onboard holiday music and festive lighting is sure to bring out the holiday spirit. The highlight of the trip comes at the end when we encounter thousands of blue lights on the arbor in Christopher Columbus Park! *109 Atlantic Ave., 4:00 p.m., www.bostonbestcruises.com*

Tree Lightings/Holiday Events

Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services

NOVEMBER 19th

5:30 p.m. Back Bay (Newbury St. League)

NOVEMBER 21st

5:30-8:30 p.m. Annual Lower Mills Holiday Stroll

NOVEMBER 26th

Puerto Rican Veteran's Monument (South End)

NOVEMBER 30th

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Roslindale Square

NOVEMBER 30th

Dorchester Holiday Celebrations Committee Annual
Tree Lighting Trolley Tour

- ★ Lower Mills @ Meetinghouse Bank 3:10 p.m.
- ★ Port Norfolk @ Redfield Street 3:30 p.m.
- ★ Harbor Point 4:00 p.m.
- ★ Meetinghouse Hill @ Rev. Allen Park 4:30 p.m.
- ★ Upham's Corner @ Strand Theatre 5:00 p.m.
- ★ Blessed Mother Theresa Church 5:30 p.m.
- ★ Savin Hill @ Ryan Playground 6:00 p.m.
- ★ Fields Corner @ Park St Clock 6:30 p.m.
- ★ King Street Playground @ Adams Street/King Street 7:00 p.m.
- ★ Peabody Square @ Ashmont Station North Plaza 7:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 2

Worcester Square Park (South End)

DECEMBER 4

Inquilinos Boricuas en Accion (South End)

DECEMBER 4

6:30 p.m. Fenway @ Rose Kelleher Garden

DECEMBER 6

10:00 a.m. Jackson Mann Community Center (Brighton)

DECEMBER 7

5:00 p.m. Popes Hill Tree Lighting (Neponset@ Gallivan Blvd)

DECEMBER 7

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Egleston Sq. (45 Brookside Ave Our Lady of Lourdes Parish)

DECEMBER 9

5:30 p.m. Brighton Center

DECEMBER 9

5:00 p.m. Dudley Commons (Dudley @ Blue Hill)

DECEMBER 10

6:00 p.m. Medal of Honor Park (M St. S. Boston)

DECEMBER 12

7:15 p.m. Beacon Hill Tree Lighting

DECEMBER 14

6:00 p.m. West End Tree Lighting (1 Bowdoin Sq. Cambridge St.)

DECEMBER 15

11:30 a.m. West Roxbury — Washington Grove

TROLLEY TOUR

DECEMBER 6 MAYOR'S TROLLEY TOUR

5:30 WEST ROXBURY Roche Center
6:15 READVILLE Walcott Square
6:45 MATTAPAN SQUARE
7:15 CODMAN SQUARE
7:45 DORCHESTR Adams Corner

DECEMBER 7 MAYOR'S TROLLEY TOUR

1:00 Four Corners / Mother's Rest Overlook Park
2:00 JAMAICA PLAIN, JP Monument
2:45 JAMAICA PALIN Hyde Square
3:15, MISSION HILL / Brigham Circle
3:45 ROXBURY, Dudley Square @ B-2
4:15 SOUTH END, Boston Center for the Arts
5:00 BRIGHTON, Oak Square

DECEMBER 8 MAYOR'S TROLLEY TOUR

1:00 SOUTH BOSTON, West Broadway
1:45 CHINATOWN, Harrison Ave and Beach St.
2:30 NORTH END, Paul Revere Mall
3:15 CHARLESTOWN, Thompson Square
4:00 EAST BOSTON, Central Square

Events in December

December – January

Pics in the Parks

Amateur photographers of all skill levels are invited to participate in the Pics in the Parks workshops. Capture Boston's picturesque parks while learning tricks and techniques. Pre-registration is encouraged. 617-635-4505 www.cityofboston.gov/parks

December 1st

King's Chapel Concert Series presents

Bach Goldberg Variations with Heinrich Christensen on organ.

58 Tremont St., 5:00 p.m., doors open at 4:30 p.m., suggested donation of \$5/\$10, 617-523-1749, www.kings-chapel.org ♿

December 1st – 7th

29th Annual MassArt Holiday Sale

Shoppers looking for interesting and unique gifts won't want to miss out on this annual holiday sale! Tower Building Lobby, MassArt, 621 Huntington Ave., 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., 617-879-7710, www.massart.edu ♿

December 1st – February 28th

Pics in the Parks with Nature Scavenger Hunt

These free photography workshops invite participants to use fun clues to search for natural elements of the Park and snap photos of what they see while learning photography tips and techniques in the process. Citywide, 617-635-4505, www.cityofboston.gov/parks

December 2nd

Copley Square Tree Lighting

Friends of Copley Square and the Parks Department host the annual Tree Lighting with Santa Claus, United States Air Force Brass Band Quintet, and Trinity Church Choristers. The tree is lit to the sounds of the Old South Church Bells. Copley Square, 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., 617-635-4505, www.cityofboston.gov/parks

December 2nd

King Hedley II

From August through December, the Department of Performing Arts and the Trotter Institute at UMass Boston are presenting The Emancipated Century, a staged reading series of August Wilson's ten-play cycle exploring the history of African Americans in the twentieth century. Honed in Boston before going to Broadway, Wilson's plays, each set in a separate decade, open a broad lens on twentieth century African American urban culture and history. As part of this series Hibernian Hall is pleased to host August Wilson's play "King Hedley II". Set in Pittsburgh during the mid-1980's, King Hedley II tells the story of an ex-convict who struggles to put his life back together in a community in the middle of a socioeconomic decline. 184 Dudley St, Roxbury, FREE, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30pm, 617-541-3900, www.hibernianhall.org ♿

December 3rd

The Boston Conservatory Piano Masters Series presents Jung-Ja Kim

Boston Conservatory faculty member Jung-Ja Kim enjoys a distinguished reputation as one of Korea's foremost pianists. She has performed with the New York and Seoul Philharmonica, Baltimore and Czech Symphonies, in Carnegie Hall, and recorded Ravel, Rachmaninoff and Chopin. Since winning the Young Concert Artists Award, her brilliance and insight have earned her international acclamation. Seully Hall, 8 Fenway, \$, 8:00 p.m., 617-912-9222, www.bostonconservatory.edu ♿

December 3rd

Author Talk

David Misch, author of Funny: The Book - Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Comedy. Central Library in Copley Square, 700 Boylston St., 6:00 p.m., 617-536-5400, www.bpl.org/authors ♿

December 3rd – December 22nd

Citi Center: I Love Lucy®

I Love Lucy® Live On Stage is the brand-new hit stage show adapted from the most beloved

program in television history! America's favorite foursome – Lucy, Ricky, Fred and Ethel – is live on stage and in color for the very first time! Citi Emerson Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org ♿

December 4th

Lori Lyn Price details some of the common illnesses and treatments in Colonial New England in a talk designed to help genealogists place the role of health and medicine in their ancestors' lives into perspective. Central Library in Copley Square, 700 Boylston St., 6:00 p.m., 617-536-5400, www.bpl.org/localhistory ♿

December 5th

Annual Tree Lighting Pre-Show Skating Spectacular at The Frog Pond

Celebrate the season with the skating Club of Boston's talented local skaters at the annual Frog Pond Skating Spectacular. After the show, hop over to the tree lighting for a full line-up of festive activities. Frog Pond, Boston Common, FREE, 5:00 p.m., 617-635-2120, www.bostonfrogpond.com

December 5th

Boston Common Tree Lighting

The official Boston Common Christmas Tree, provided by Nova Scotia, will be lit after a festive ceremony broadcast live by media sponsors WCVB-TV Channel 5 and MAGIC 106.7 FM. Boston Common, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., 617-635-4505, www.cityofboston.gov/parks

December 5th

Commonwealth Avenue Mall Lighting

Since 2003, the Mall has been successfully lit without public funds thanks to the efforts of the lighting committee, and many neighborhood supporters. The Commonwealth Avenue Mall will be lit following the Boston Common Lighting. Commonwealth Ave Mall, 8:15 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., 617-635-4505, www.cityofboston.gov/parks

December 6th

No Small Wonder: Music for Christmas

Boston Cecelia presents a program of exquisite Christmas music. Exuberant, lyrical

gems by two Anglo-Welsh composers, William Mathias (Ave Rex) and Peter Warlock (Four Carols), will contrast with well-loved melodies from 16th century Germany and Spain. Perennial favorites from the American and Anglican choral traditions will also be sung, with works by Dirksen, Edwards, Leighton and Pearsall, alongside new spiritual arrangements by Nicholas White. Come and enjoy a truly international Christmas! 8:00 p.m., Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., 617-232-4540, www.bostoncecilia.org ♿

December 6th – 14th

Nuncrackers –

The Nunsense Christmas Musical

This show is filled with "Nunsense" humor, some of your favorite carols, a "Secret Santa," and a hilarious take on the Nutcracker Ballet. Nuncrackers will make you laugh and tug at your heartstrings. Riverside Theatre Works, 45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park, \$, 866-811-4111, www.rtwboston.org ♿

December 6th – 22nd

Tony Williams' Urban Nutcracker featuring Boston Urban Ballet

Boston's original holiday classic, is back for its 12th season and packed with more magic for the whole family. Urban Nutcracker presents multicultural interpretation of the dance classic. The show features classic ballet, urban tap, hip hop, swing, flamenco, step, jazz, traditional Chinese, modern and a few other surprises that will have your family at the edge of their seats. John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., \$, www.urbannutcrackerboston.com ♿

December 6th & 8th

Macy's Enchanted Trolley Tour & Tree Lightings

Mayor Menino invites you to the Annual Macy's Enchanted Trolley Tour. The trolley will be traveling with Santa Clause, Macy's Store Holiday Characters and the Mayor to each of the neighborhoods in Boston to flip the switch on 16 Christmas trees over a 3-day period starting on Friday, December 6th in West Roxbury and ending on Sunday, December 8th in East Boston. For more information call 617-635-3911, www.cityofboston.gov/arts

December 7th Christmas Craft Fair

Over 25 New England artists and crafters will vend their unique offerings in pottery, knits, photography, fine art, jewelry, blown glass, beeswax candles, turned wood and more! Don't miss this perennial favorite, complete with festive music and the scent of hot mulled cider in the air. *Gordon Chapel, Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., FREE, 617-536-1970, www.oldsouth.org* ♿

December 7th City-Wide Friends of the Boston Public Library Book Sale

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Central Library in Copley Square, McKim Conference Room B, Lower Level, www.bpl.org ♿

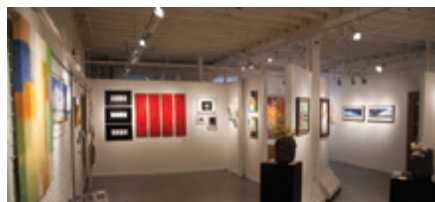
December 7th Egleston Square Holiday Celebration

Join us for creative kids' activities, performances by local youth, caroling at local businesses to award the winners of our window display competition and more! *Egleston Square Peace Garden, 3133 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., FREE, 617-522-7752, www.eglestonsquare.org*

December 7th Swedish Yuletide 2013

Since 1985 SWEA Boston has hosted Swedish Yuletide to celebrate the holiday season with food, crafts, gifts, Swedish cafes, musical entertainment and activities for children. Swedish Yuletide offers a smorgasbord of both traditional and contemporary Sweden with great food, unique gifts. www.sweaboston.org/swedish-yuletide-english

December 7th & 8th Artists Group of Charlestown Open Studios



523 Medford St., Charlestown. 11:00 a.m.

– 5:00 p.m., www.artistsgroupofcharlestown.com

December 7th & 14th Sugar Plum Fairy Tea

For this enchanting tradition, The Ritz-Carlton, Boston Common transforms into a Nutcracker dreamland where guests mingle with costumed characters from Boston Ballet's production of The Nutcracker. Join us for delicious desserts, sing-alongs and interactive holiday crafts courtesy of Catching Joy. *Ritz-Carlton, 10 Avery St., \$, 11:00 a.m., 617-574-7100, www.ritzcarlton.com* ♿

December 7th, 14th & 21st Hot Cocoa Bar

Escape the winter chill at the Avery Bar and the Ritz Carlton. Sit by the fireplace and warm up with a cup of hot cocoa. Choose from white, milk or dark chocolate then top your cocoa with a selection of candies, cookies and creams, served with scrumptious holiday sweets and pastries. Pastry chefs will offer festive tips for children who will delight in decorating their own gingerbread men. *Ritz-Carlton, 10 Avery St., \$, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., 617-574-7100, www.ritzcarlton.com* ♿

December 7th – December 22nd The Velveteen Rabbit

A good book never gets old, and neither does your favorite stuffed bunny. One of Boston's newest holiday traditions, The Velveteen Rabbit returns for its 5th anniversary production. Combining puppetry with live actors, The Velveteen Rabbit has captured the hearts of audiences, making it an instant classic. Adapted from the popular children's book The Velveteen Rabbit tells the tale of a strong bond between a young boy and his beloved stuffed rabbit. It is a story of love, friendship, and hope that is perfect for the entire family. *Calderwood Pavillion, 527 Tremont St., \$, 617-424-6634, www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org* ♿

December 8th Santa Comes to Roslindale

Join the Bay State Model Railroad Museum for its annual holiday celebration! The Bay State Model Railroad Museum will open its amazing model railroad to the public with a chance to visit Santa! *Bay State Model Rail-*

road Museum, 760 South St., 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Santa arrives at noon, 617-327-4341, www.bsmrm.org ♿

December 8th & 15th Nutcracker Breakfast with Mrs. Claus

The Ritz-Carlton Ballroom, overlooking Boston Common, welcomes Santa's better half! Join us for breakfast with Mrs. Claus and her friends from Boston Ballet's The Nutcracker for live musical entertainment, storytelling, and interactive holiday activities. Local charitable organization, Catching Joy, offers craft projects for the entire family. And our Chef's elegant buffet will captivate and satisfy children and adults alike. *Ritz-Carlton, 10 Avery St., \$, 10:00 a.m., 617-574-7100, www.ritzcarlton.com* ♿

December 10th Citi Center: Straight No Chaser A Capella

Straight No Chaser all male A Capella group brings their Under The Influence North American Tour to Boston. Under the Influence sees the acclaimed a cappella group reimagining a selection of their all time favorite songs alongside many of the superstar artists and undisputed music icons that made them famous. *Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org* ♿

December 10th – 13th Noises Off

Backstage antics and hilarious comedy – not to mention a plate of pesky sardines – ensue as harried director Lloyd Dallas puts his mercurial cast through its paces during a final rehearsal of Nothing On. Then things really go crazy – backstage we witness a final lurch toward the last performance. *The Boston Conservatory, 31 Hemingway St., \$, 8:00 p.m., 617-912-9222, www.bostonconservatory.edu* ♿

December 12th The Nutcracker

Join Boston Dance Company as they bring all the wonder and beauty of the classic Nutcracker, from the magic tree to sugarplum fairies. *The Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Rd., 10:00 a.m., www.bostondancecompany.com* ♿

December 12th Beacon Hill Holiday Stroll

The Beacon Hill Business Association invites you to the annual Beacon Hill Holiday Stroll. Enjoy Carolers, strolling brass quintet and horse and buggy rides and Santa! 617-720-7888, www.beaconhillbusinessassociation.org

December 13th Citi Center: Trailer Park Boys' Ricky, Julian and Bubbles

The Trailer Park Boys bring their Dear Santa Claus, Go F#@K Yourself Tour featuring Ricky, Julian, Bubbles, Randy, & Mr. Lahey to Boston. When Bubbles tries to spread the true meaning of Christmas to the world, his good-hearted plans are botched by Julian wanting to cash in on the Festive season and Ricky's relentless pursuit to meet the real Santa. And if that wasn't enough, all three of them have to deal with the very intoxicated Jim Lahey and his cheeseburger eating sidekick, Randy. *Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org* ♿

December 13th The Boston Conservatory Wind Ensemble

Visit the Boston Conservatory for this ensemble with Eric Hewitt as conductor featuring Muhly: So to Speak, Strauss: Allerseelen (All Soul's Day), Holst: Hammersmith: Prelude and Scherzo, Mozart: Serenade in B-flat K. 361, "Gran Partita". *The Fenway Center at Northeastern University, 77 Saint Stephen St., FREE, 8:00 p.m., 617-912-9222, www.bostonconservatory.edu* ♿

December 13th Emerging Playwrights Staged Readings

The Emerging Playwrights Program for Boston Public Schools is a new Wheelock Family Theatre initiative designed to inspire, motivate, and support BPS students who have an aptitude for writing and a specific interest in developing their playwright skills. *The Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Rd., 7:00 p.m., 617-879-2300, www.WheelockFamilyTheatre.org* ♿

December 13th & 14th Annual Kwanzaa Concert

Annual Kwanzaa celebration featuring the Performing Arts Program students, NIA Dance Troupe, Girlz of IMANI, IMANI, Jr., Aleye Boyz Troupe and Spoken Word Artist Omekongo. *Roxbury Community College, 1234 Columbus Ave., Roxbury Crossing, \$, 617-541-1875, www.originationinc.org* ♿

December 14th International Holiday Festival

Families are invited to participate and learn about different culture's holiday traditions inside the Club House at Franklin Park. In addition, families will enjoy watching international festive dances and treats. *Franklin Park Golf Course, December 14th, 617-635-4505, www.cityofboston.gov/parks*

December 14th A Choral Holiday: Boston Choral Ensemble

BCE's annual holiday concert featuring a variety of winter and holiday-themed repertoire including Britten's Ceremony of Carols for women's choir, harp, along with music and carols for choir and audience. *Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., 3:00 p.m., 617-536-1970, www.oldsouth.org* ♿

December 14th Mayor's Holiday Gospel Concert

Presented by Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism, and Special Events. *The Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Rd., 5:00 p.m., www.strandboston.com* ♿

December 14th Boston Children's Chorus: All Choir Holiday Concert

The Boston Children's Chorus (BCC) harnesses the power and joy of music to unite our city's diverse communities and inspire social change. *Cathedral of the Holy Cross, 1400 Washington St., 2:00 p.m., www.bostonchildrenschorus.org* ♿

December 14th & 15th 10th Annual SoWa Holiday Market

Boston's holiday gift show is back for the tenth year with over 80 vendors including the very best of New England's indepen-



dent designers, artists and crafters. *Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, \$, 41 Berkeley St. Saturday 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. & Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., www.sowaholidaymarket.com*

December 14th & 15th Candlelight Carols

A beloved Boston tradition since 1909, come hear holiday carols by the Choirs of Trinity Church. *Trinity Church Boston, 206 Clarendon St., 617-536-0944, www.trinitychurchboston.org* ♿

December 15th New England Philharmonic Performance

Featuring: John Adams, Tromba lontana Silvestre Revueltas, Janitzio Richard Cornell, Umai's Journey, Boston Children's Chorus, Concerto to be performed by NEP Young Artist Competition winner Tsai Performance Center, 685 Commonwealth Ave., \$, 3:00 p.m., www.nephilharmonic.org ♿

December 15th, 20th, 21st & 22nd Haul Out the Holly!

Bring your family, friends and neighbors to the Boston Gay Men's Chorus's joyful celebration of the holidays with traditional favorites and new classics. *NEC's Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., www.bgmc.org* ♿

December 18th Studio@36: Art Making Benefit Night

Adults enjoy art making, adult beverages, and networking in the heart of the South End! This session focuses on a block printing for the holidays which will expand your creativity in our historic Children's Art Cen-

tre. All proceeds directly support high quality arts education and programming for children and families regardless of ability to pay. *Children's Art Centre, 36 Rutland St., \$, 7:00 p.m., 617-536-8610, www.uses.org* ♿

Dec 19th – 22nd The Nutcracker

Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre presents its Timeless Classic Nutcracker 617-354-7467, www.ballettheatre.org ♿

December 19th & 22nd A Bach Christmas

Blue Heron music director Scott Metcalfe makes his H&H debut in this festive program featuring Bach's Cantata 62, which was composed for the first Sunday of Advent, and music from the 17th century German tradition, one of Metcalfe's specialties. *Handel & Haydn Society, NEC's Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., \$, 617-262-1815, www.handelandhaydn.org* ♿

December 20th & 21st NEC Millennium Gospel Choir

The 200 members are drawn from church choirs throughout the greater Boston area, let their voices get you into the holiday spirit. *Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 465 Huntington Ave., \$, 7:30 p.m., www.mfa.org/concerts* ♿

December 21st Tafuta!

OrigiNation presents Tafuta! A musical theatre production about a young boy's search for the true meaning of Kwanzaa. *Roxbury Community College, 1234 Columbus Ave., Roxbury Crossing, 7:00 p.m. 617-541-1875, www.originationinc.org*

December 31st New Years Eve Afternoon Harbor Cruise

Boston Harbor is beautiful every month of the year and what better time to enjoy it than New Year's Eve Afternoon. This Harbor Cruise features light narration as we travel along the waterfront. Enjoy a hot cocoa with schnapps, a cup of hot coffee or a cold beer and try a bowl of delicious chili while the while we float by the wonderful harbor scenes. *109 Atlantic Ave., \$, 11a.m., www.bostonbestcruises.com*

December 31st New Year's Rock the Boat Fireworks Cruise

Now in its 9th year, the Boston's Best Cruises New Year's Cruise creates memories of a lifetime as we bid a fond farewell to 2012 and welcome 2013 in grand style. Dance to the live rocking blues band until midnight when "First Night Boston" will put on an unbelievable fireworks display. Your ticket includes continuous servings of heavy hors d'oeuvres, a champagne toast and party favors at midnight, and a very special gift from Boston's Best Cruises. *109 Atlantic Ave., \$, 9p.m., www.bostonbestcruises.com*

December 31st First Night Skating Spectacular

The Skating Club of Boston celebrates the New Year at The Boston Common Frog Pond with our annual Skating Spectacular! Delight in watching spins, jumps, lifts and fancy footwork from our community of talented skaters. *Frog Pond, Boston Common, FREE, 6:00 p.m., 617-635-2120, www.bostonfrogpond.com*

December 31st New Year's Eve King of Instruments

Experience the "Sensurround" magnificence of Old South Church's mighty 1921 Skinner orchestral pipe organ—affectionately dubbed the "Copley Philharmonic Organ"—played by renowned organist Harry Huff. The program will include Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, Puccini's Turandot Suite, LeRoy Anderson favorites, and a demonstration of the organ. *Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., 3:30 p.m., 617-536-1970 www.oldsouth.org* ♿

December 31st First Night Pipes and Pops Concert

The best of Boston's brass and percussion artists join Harry Huff, an organist with imagination and verve, in a supersonic program of "Pipes and Pops," playing electrifying arrangements of popular classics, as well as leading the audience in singing stirring favorites. *Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., 6:30 p.m. & 8:00 p.m., 617-536-1970, www.oldsouth.org* ♿

Events in January

January 1st

Annual New Year's Day Swim

A tradition of the L Street Brownies for over 100 years. Take a chilly swim in the Boston Harbor to celebrate the New Year! Join over 500 other swimmers. *L Street Bathhouse at Curley Community Center 1663 Columbia Road, Carson Beach, South Boston, 9:00 a.m., 617-635-5104, www.lstreetcurley.com*

January 3rd – February 2nd

Venus in Fur, Presented by Huntington Theatre Company



Vanda has her eyes on the lead role in *Venus in Fur*, an adaptation of the classic erotic novel. Her charged audition for the director becomes an electrifying game of cat and mouse — and the lines blur between fantasy and reality, seduction and power, love and sex. This hilarious and sexy new comedy was a smash Broadway hit. *Avenue of the Arts, BU Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., \$, 617-266-0800, www.huntingtontheatre.org*

January 14th

The Theresa Show Gallery Exhibition & Opening Reception & Silent Auction

Art exhibition in honor of the late fiber artist Theresa-India Young, features work of 15 – 20 artists in a variety of materials including surface design, woven, 3D and/or 2D structures, quilts, stitching, hand-made paper making or other contemporary art fi-

ber techniques. Proceeds contribute to preserving the art, history and diverse culture of weaving that establish the Theresa-India Young Ethnic Weaving Scholarship at Massachusetts College of Art and Design. *Harriet Tubman Gallery, 566 Columbus Ave., 6:00 p.m., 617-375-8159, www.uses.org*

January 17th

Boston Modern Orchestra Project Performances

The Boston Modern Orchestra Project is widely recognized as the leading orchestra in the United States dedicated exclusively to performing new music, and its signature record label, BMOP/sound, is the nation's foremost label launched by an orchestra and solely devoted to new music recordings. *NEC's Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., 8:00 p.m., \$, 781-324-0396, www.bmop.org*

January 18th & 19th

Sondheim: A Little Night Music



Stephen Sondheim's brilliant work is a cynical, sentimental, scabrous sex comedy in which couples fall noisily apart and re-configure themselves, possibly for the better. The lovers' struggles provoke plenty of witty commentary from the characters that are too young, too old, or too wise to participate in the madness. Ryan Turner conducts and Lynn Torgove directs this semi-staged production of one of the great 20th century operettas. *Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemingway St., 617-536-3356, www.emmauelmusic.org*

January 18th – February 2nd

Pinkalicious - The musical

Based on the popular book by Victoria Kann. In this family friendly musical, 'Pinkalicious' can't stop eating pink cupcakes despite warnings from her parents. Her pink indulgence lands her at the doctor's office with Pinkitis, an affliction that turns her pink from head to toe—a dream come true for this pink-loving enthusiast. But when her hue goes too far, only Pinkalicious can figure out a way to get out of this predicament. *Calderwood Pavillion, 527 Tremont St., \$, 617-424-6634, www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org*

January 20th

Boston Children's Chorus 11th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute Concert



Celebrate Martin Luther King Day with this powerful tribute concert. *Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 290 Huntington Ave., \$, 2:00 p.m., www.bostonchildrenschorus.org*

January 22nd

Studio@36:



Art Making Benefit Night

Adults enjoy art making, adult beverages, and networking in the heart of the South End! This session focuses on a print making patterns which will expand your creativity in our

historic Children's Art Centre. All proceeds directly support high quality arts education and programming for children and families regardless of ability to pay. *Children's Art Centre, 36 Rutland St., \$, 7:00 p.m., 617-536-8610, www.uses.org*

January 24th & 26th

Beethoven Symphony No. 4

Richard Egarr returns to the stage to treat audiences to Haydn's final symphony and Beethoven's Symphony No. 4. Trumpet superstar Alison Balsom makes her H&H debut in Haydn's groundbreaking concerto. *Handel & Haydn Society, Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., \$, 617-262-1815, www.handelhaydn.org*

January 26th

Americana, an a Capella treasure trove



King's Chapel Concert Series and Choir presents sampling of American music for choir, ranging from Colonial to Contemporary. Including music by Samuel Barber, William Billings, Philip Glass, Spirituals & Folk Songs. *58 Tremont St., 5:00 p.m., doors open at 4:30 p.m., suggested donation of \$5/10, 617-523-1749, www.kings-chapel.org*



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Events in February

**February 1st – 28th,
Saturday and Sunday**

Freedom Trail® Foundation African American Patriots Tour

The African American Patriots Tour takes visitors through historic events of the American Revolution and the contributions of African-Americans who played a significant role in the formation of the country. Tales of intrigue and bravery, poetry and defiance by black Bostonians during the American Revolution unfold during the 90-minute walking tour of the Freedom Trail. Led by costumed guides, visitors view history through the eyes of revolutionaries such as Crispus Attucks, Phyllis Wheatley, Prince Hall and Peter Salem. *Departs: Boston Common Visitor Information Center, \$, 12:45 p.m., 617-357-8300 www.thefreedomtrail.org* ♿

**February 6th – 9th
The Magic Flute**

Mozart's brilliant comic singspiel is a delightful fantasy about the journey we all must take towards enlightenment. Along the way we encounter magical creatures, witness the ongoing clash between good and evil and must endure the trials of our human courage and fortitude until love and light finally triumph. *Sung and spoken in German with English supertitles, Seully Hall, 8 Fenway, Boston, \$, 617-912-9222, www.bostonconservatory.edu* ♿

**February 7th – 9th
Citi Center. Celebrity Series:
Compagnie Käfig**

Since their U.S. debut in 2002, this innovative French hip-hop ensemble, directed by choreographer Mourad Merzouki, has become an international phenomenon, selling out performances worldwide. After an encounter with eleven young dancers from the shantytowns of Brazil, Merzouki created works that showcase a sensational combination of athletic samba, hip-hop, and capoeira dance styles. *Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org* ♿

February 8th

5th annual South Asian Showdown Dance Competition

This competition puts the best Bollywood/Indian Fusion teams against one another to determine which is the best team. It is the biggest competition of its type in the north-east and is sold out every year! *John Hancock Auditorium, 180 Berkeley St., \$, 6:00 p.m., www.southasianshowdown.com* ♿

February 11th

Max Levinson in Forbidden Love: A Valentine's Day Concert

Boston Conservatory piano faculty member Max Levinson is well-known as an artist combining fearless technique and great musical depth. His honors include the Dublin International Piano Competition, the Avery Fisher Grant and the Andrew Wolf Award. In addition to his active concert schedule in recitals, with orchestras and as a master chamber musician, he has recently established himself as a conductor. *Seully Hall, 8 Fenway, \$, 8:00 p.m., 617-912-9222, www.bostonconservatory.edu* ♿

**February 11th
Winterworks**

This program features new works created by Dance Division students, as well as a premiere by local choreographer and Boston Conservatory faculty member Lorraine Chapman. This concert also marks the debut of our Alumni Commissioning Project, with the presentation of a new work by 2013 alumna Margot Gelber. *The Boston Conservatory, 31 Hemingway St., \$, 8:00 p.m., 617-912-9222, www.bostonconservatory.edu* ♿

**February 12th
Studio@36:**

Art Making Benefit Night

Adults enjoy art making, adult beverages, and networking in the heart of the South End! This session focuses on screen-printing at home which will expand your creativity in our historic Children's Art Centre. All proceeds directly support high quality arts

education and programming for children and families regardless of ability to pay. *Children's Art Centre, 36 Rutland St., \$, 7:00 p.m., 617-536-8610, www.uses.org* ♿

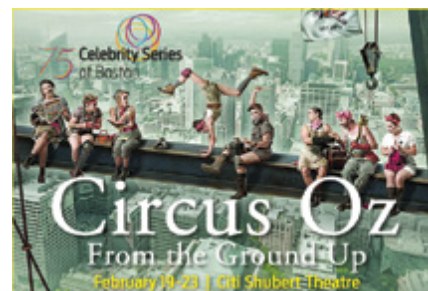
February 14th & 16th

Boston Baroque presents: La Guirlande & Te Deum

Enjoy Rameau's one-act opera about young loves, the perfect way to celebrate your valentine's weekend. *NEC's Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., 617-987-8600, www.bostonbaroque.org* ♿

February 19th – 23rd

Citi Center: Circus Oz, From The Ground Up



These acrobatic daredevils from down-under bring pluck and sass to their wildly entertaining, irreverent, and family-friendly performances; that's why they are the National Circus of Australia. *Circus Oz is FUN! Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org* ♿

February 20th – February 28th

Close to Chuck

Boston Ballet's production of close to Close to Chuck is an artfully curated trio of contemporary works, showcasing three ballets from some of today's most visionary choreographers. *The Boston Opera House, 539 Washington St., \$, 617-695-6955, www.bostonballet.org* ♿

February 20th

Winter Science Festival

Boston families will be invited to a winter festival to enjoy the snowy outdoors! Activities will include sledding, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, snowman making, snow tours and more. If participants want

to warm up, they can go inside and listen to storytelling and participate in arts and craft activities. Funded in part by a Green Parks Green Kids Grant through a partnership between the National Recreation and Park Association and the National Recreation Foundation. *Franklin Park Golf Course, 617-635-4505, www.cityofboston.gov/parks* ♿

February 21st – 22nd

Citi Center: Rain – A Tribute to the Beatles



Direct from Broadway! Rain performs the full range of The Beatles' discography live onstage, including the most complex and challenging songs that The Beatles themselves recorded in the studio but never performed for an audience. Together longer than The Beatles, Rain has mastered every

song, gesture and nuance of the legendary foursome, delivering a totally live, note-for-note performance in this multi-media concert, that's as infectious as it is transporting. From the early hits to later classics this adoring tribute will take you back to a time when all you needed was love, and a little help from your friends! *Wang Theatre*, 270 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org ♿

February 21st & 23rd

Vivaldi Gloria

Harry Christopher's and the Period Instrument Orchestra and Chorus are joined by soprano Nathalie Paulin and members of H&H's Young Women's and Young Men's Chorus for a program highlighted by Vivaldi's Gloria. The program closes with Handel's inspiring Foundling Hospital Anthem, which ends with the "Hallelujah" chorus from Messiah. *Handel & Haydn Society*, Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., \$, 617-262-1815, www.handelandhaydn.org ♿

February 22nd

Boston Ballet – Close to Chuck – Post Show Conversation with Mikko



A post-performance opportunity to meet Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen and hear his insights on the program following the performance. *The Boston Opera House*, 539 Washington St., \$, 617-695-6955, www.bostonballet.org ♿

February 23rd

Fisk at 50:

Music for Organ and Strings

String Quartet;

Heinrich Christensen

King's Chapel Concert Series in observance of the 50th anniversary of our C. B. Fisk organ, inaugurated in February 1964, presents Heinrich Christensen on organ and a string quartet; a preview of the program selected for the national convention of the American Guild of Organists, coming to Boston and King's Chapel in June. 58 Tremont St., 5:00 p.m., doors open at 4:30 p.m., suggested donation of \$5/10, 617-523-1749, www.kings-chapel.org ♿

February 27th – 28th

Citi Center: TAO Dance Theater



TAO Dance Theater has taken the dance world by storm. Based in Beijing, it has performed at major festivals around the world. The almost instant and now enduring acclaim for TAO Dance Theater is due to its mesmerizing soundscapes, riveting silences, stunning stage effects and technical virtuosity. *Shubert Theatre*, 265 Tremont St., \$, 617-482-9393, www.citicenter.org ♿



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Happy Holidays from
Mayor Thomas M. Menino



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Dancers: Ksusha Melyukhina & Russell Ferguson,
Anthony Williams' Urban Nutcracker 2013; Photos ©Raven Wolfe Photography