

Throughout December

Making Spirits Bright at the Arboretum, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska. The Arboretum is celebrating the holiday season with festive displays and programs. Tour through the Land of Gingerbread, the Great Hall of Trees, or Windows on Winter, and enjoy live music on weekend afternoons. There are also hot chocolate walks, gourmet dinners, and more. \$9 for nonmembers, FREE for members and children under 16. 952-443-1400 or arboretum.umn.edu.

Living in Space, Minnesota Children's Museum, 10 W. Seventh St., St. Paul. This interactive exhibit puts you in the shoes of real astronauts. Learn how crewmembers live, work and play in space. Exhibit runs through January 2. \$8.95. 651-225-6000 or mcm.org.

Folkways of the Holidays, The Landing, 2187 Highway 101 East, Shakopee. On December weekends you can get a peek at 19th century holiday traditions of the Minnesota River Valley. You'll also enjoy live folk music and horse-drawn trolley rides along snowy lanes of candlelit homes. \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, FREE for children under 2. 763-694-7784 or three.riversparks.org.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, SteppingStone Theatre, 55 Victoria St. N., St. Paul. This St. Paul holiday tradition returns for its 19th year on the stage. Based on the book by Barbara Robinson, it tells the story of six unruly children

who teach their church about the true meaning of Christmas. Runs from December 3 through December 23. \$7.50-\$9.50. 651.225.9265 or steppingstone-theatre.org.

Wednesday, December 1

Woolly Bears: Getting Ready for Winter, Dodge Nature Center, 365 Marie Ave. W., St. Paul. Pre-school aged children will learn how animals get ready for winter through storytelling, music, puppetry and a short hike. Ages 3-5. \$12 for members, \$14 for non-members. 651-455-4531 or dodgenaturecenter.org.

Saturday, December 4

Grand Meander, Grand Ave., St. Paul. Head to Grand Avenue for a day of leisurely holiday fun featuring carolers, trolley rides, local art, discounts from local retailers and a free pancake breakfast with Santa for the kids! 8 a.m. FREE. 651-699-0029 or grandave.com.

Saturdays for Jungle Kids, Jungle Theater, 2951 Lyndale Ave S., Minneapolis. Mrs. Peterson and her friends Doc and Amelia bring children's books to life in these popular Saturday performances. Also runs on December 11 and 18. Ages 4 and up. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. \$6. 612-822-7063 or jungletheater.com.

Saturday, December 11

Family Zoo Adventure: Holiday Animals, Minnesota Zoo, 13000 Zoo Blvd., Apple Valley. You'll learn about animals that have close ties to Christmas traditions in this two-hour class



submitted photo

Thursday, December 9

Northfield's 12th Annual Winter Walk, downtown Northfield. Come experience the warmth of this small-town atmosphere, just 35 miles south of the Twin Cities, where people young and old congregate at Bridge Square to listen to carols sung around a majestic Christmas tree. The glow of candlelight illuminates the boulevards for the perfect winter stroll and you'll hear the grand sound of sleigh bells ringing in the crisp air against the clippity-clop of the horses as they trot down the enchanting streets. 5-9 p.m. \$5-\$35. 1-800-658-2548 or visiting-northfield.com.



submitted photo

Disney on Ice: Mickey and Minnie's Magical Journey, Xcel Energy Center, 199 Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul. Mickey and Minnie will be your ice-skating tour guides through the magical worlds of Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, *The Lion King*, *Peter Pan* and more! Runs through December 12. 7:00 p.m. \$16.79-\$76.80. 651-265-4800 or xcelenergycenter.com.

Childish Films @ the Library

a monthly series of children's cinema & arts for ages 3 & up



NOVEMBER FILM EVENTS: Instrumental Movies

Explore life with toys through film.

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

MOVIE TIMES:

December 18, 10:30 AM
Minneapolis Central Library
300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis
Visit with Choo Choo Bob!

January 8, 11 AM AM
Ridgedale Library
12601 Ridgedale Dr., Minnetonka
Make a book to take home!

INFO:
suporthclib.org or 952-847-8107

PRESENTED BY:
Library Foundation of Hennepin County

This activity is made possible in part by a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

