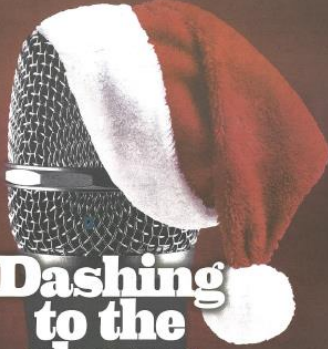


CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

Holiday Entertainment Guide

By Mary Houlihan

SUN-TIMES HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE



Dashing to the shows
Concerts, plays and special events abound
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Old favorites, new offerings lift holiday spirits 14

STAGE
Christmas with 'Miss Bennett '22

CSO.ORG

DEC 16-23 CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'S
Merry, Merry Chicago!
with Members of the CSO, Chicago Children's Choir and Broadway star Ashley Brown

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SUN-TIMES AGENDA

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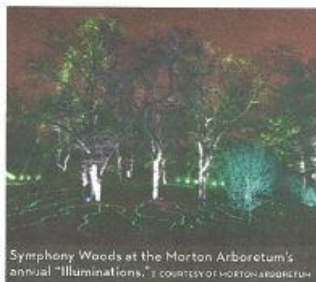
Millennium Park, Michigan & Randolph; cityofchicago.org. Free.

One of a Kind Holiday Gift Show: The popular market is the place to find unique gifts. More than 600 artists sell jewelry, household items, food, clothes, art and other items. Dec. 1-4 at Merchandise Mart, 222 W. Merchandise Mart Plaza; oneofakindshowchicago.com. \$12, \$20.

Dickens Dinner and Play: Lawry's the Prime Rib features a Dickens themed dinner followed by "A Christmas Carol" at the Goodman Theatre. Nov. 20 at 100 E. Ontario; lawrysonline.com. \$98, \$130.

Christmas Eve (and First Night of Hanukkah) for the Jews: A holiday comedy show with Joel Chasnoff, John Roy and Aaron Freeman. Dec. 24 at City Winery, 1200 W. Randolph; citywinery.com/chicago. \$20, \$25.

Drury Lane Theatre Holiday Events: "A Christmas Carol" Breakfast: Saturdays Nov. 19-Dec. 17 and Friday, Dec. 23. \$13, \$17. Christmas Brunch with Santa, Sundays Nov. 27-Dec. 18. \$10-\$45. Holiday Afternoon Tea, Saturdays Dec. 3-17. \$25, \$35. "A Christmas Carol" Dinner.



Symphony Woods at the Morton Arboretum's annual "Illuminations." COURTESY OF MORTON ARBORETUM

Dec. 14. \$15, \$25. Christmas Brunch Buffet, Dec. 25. \$10-\$50. Children under 2 free for all events. Drury Lane Theatre, 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace; drurylanetheatre.com

A John Waters Christmas: The legendary filmmaker, raconteur and author offers his take on the holidays. Nov. 29 at Thalia Hall, 1807 S. Allport; thaliahallchicago.com. \$42.

One Act Festival - Yuletide Genocide: Six theater companies present short plays with a riotous spin on classic holiday tales. Dec. 1-16 at Stage 773, 1225 W. Belmont; stage773.com.

\$15, \$20.

Cirque Musica Holiday Spectacular: Family entertainment featuring feats of strength, skill and grace performed to music by a live orchestra. Dec. 10 at Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River, Rosemont; rosemont.com. \$25-\$165

"It's a Wonderful Life" in Concert: Members of the CSO accompany Frank Capra's classic movie. Dec. 9-11 at Orchestra Hall, 220 S. Michigan; cso.org. \$45-\$120.

New Year's Eve at Navy Pier's Crystal Gardens with DJ Dante: Plus special guest DJs, food and drinks. Various packages available. Dec. 31 at Navy Pier, 700 E. Grand; crystalgardensnye.com.

Hinsdale's 51st Annual Christmas Walk: Shop your way through downtown Hinsdale while being greeted by holiday characters and carolers. Also train rides, ice carvers, Santa Claus, train and tree lighting. Dec. 4 in downtown Hinsdale; hinsdalechamber.com. Free.

Lambs Farm Holiday Lights Gift & Craft Fair: Hundreds of vendors selling a wide array of items for holiday shoppers. The event benefits Libertyville's Lambs Farm, an organization that serves people with developmental disabilities. Dec. 1-4 at Arlington International Race

Course, 2200 W. Euclid, Arlington Heights; holidaylightslambsfarm.com. \$8 (parking \$7).

Renegade Holiday Craft Fair: One of the best holiday markets where you can find affordable, handmade items for everyone on your Xmas list (including yourself). Dec. 3-4 at Bridgeport Arts Center, 1200 W. 35th; renegade-craft.com. Free.

Toys for Tots Motorcycle Parade: The annual toy drive culminates in Chicago's biggest motor parade bringing gifts to children across the city. Dec. 4, beginning at Dan Ryan Woods; chicagolandtft.org. Free.

Long Grove Home for the Holidays: Four weeks of holiday happenings include horse-drawn carriage rides, visits with Santa, strolling carolers and musicians, Christmas tree parade. Nov. 25-Dec. 18 in downtown Long Grove, Old McHenry Rd and Robert Parker Coffin Rd.; longgrove.org. Free.

TBOX Twelve Bars of Christmas Pub Crawl: Wrigleyville's claim to fame after the Cubs? This pub crawl said to be the world's largest. Dec. 10 at various locations; tbog.org. \$51.34.

Mary Houlihan is a local freelance writer.