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Communications

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# PRESS RELEASE

## City announces annual holiday events lineup

**WINTER PARK, FL, an internationally recognized, award winning city with multiple accredited agencies (November 14, 2022)** The City of Winter Park is preparing to welcome a flurry of cheerful events this holiday season. Don your holiday apparel and gather with loved ones to experience these annual Winter Park holiday traditions. Please access [cityofwinterpark.org/holiday-events](http://cityofwinterpark.org/holiday-events) to see a full lineup of all the city's upcoming holiday festivities.

The city will start sparkling with light as the **Hometown Holidays** season begins **Thursday, November 17**. Along Park, West New England and Orange avenues as well as Morse Boulevard, the community will see strings and globes of lights, beautiful poinsettias, hanging baskets, life-size holiday greeting cards, elegant street banners, and more festive décor. *Hometown Holidays* décor will also whimsically surround guests and passersby in Central Park, Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and Shady Park. Merchants throughout downtown Winter Park area will be participating in the holiday season with their **Hometown Holiday Window Showcase** to complement the holiday theme.

On **Thursday, November 17**, from 5 to 8 p.m., the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce is hosting **Sip, Shop & Stroll**. Experience the charm of Park Avenue on this unique Winter Park wine walk. Spend the evening discovering new merchants, checking out the latest fashions, shopping for holiday gifts, and tasting seasonal menus. The City of Winter Park will be illuminating the *Hometown Holidays* lights this evening, making for an especially festive evening stroll. Check-in will be at Fannie Hillman + Associates, located at 122 S. Park Ave. To purchase tickets or get more information, please access [winterpark.org/sip-shop-stroll](http://winterpark.org/sip-shop-stroll).

Also on **Thursday, November 17**, Friends of Hannibal Square and the City of Winter Park present the inaugural **Taste of Hannibal Square**. From 5 to 8 p.m. you can enjoy dining with tasting plates from local restaurants and listening to live music on West New England Avenue. Tasting plate tickets can be purchased at the event. Proceeds benefit the Hannibal Square Heritage Center. For more information, please access [hophannibal.com](http://hophannibal.com).

The Park Avenue District is hosting a **Park Avenue Holiday Market** on **Thursday, December 1**, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Winter Park Farmers' Market located at 200 West New England Ave. Enjoy festive music as you stroll through the market, get all your holiday shopping done in one place, and check everyone off your list. Stay on your best behavior, as Santa Claus will be making an appearance from 4 to 6 p.m. For more information, please access [parkavedistrict.com](http://parkavedistrict.com).

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The City of Winter Park and The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art continue a holiday tradition with the **44<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas in the Park Thursday, December 1**. The two-hour program begins at 6:15 p.m. in Central Park, creating the beautiful backdrop for the lighting of turn-of-the-century Tiffany windows as the Bach Festival Choir performs in concert on the new main stage. For more information about the event, please access [morsemuseum.org/programs-events/christmas-in-the-park](http://morsemuseum.org/programs-events/christmas-in-the-park).

On **Friday, December 2**, from 5 to 9 p.m., the festivities continue as the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce and the City of Winter Park host **Winter on the Avenue**. This holiday street party will feature an array of activities including the **Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony**, presenting the city's holiday tree in Central Park, a symbolic Menorah lighting, Santa Claus, Popcorn Flicks in the Park, live music, snow slides from the Parks & Recreation Family Fun Program, s'mores from the Winter Park Fire-Rescue Department, and so much more. For more information, please call 407-644-8281 or access [winterpark.org](http://winterpark.org).

Presented by Winter Park Community Redevelopment Agency, sponsored by AdventHealth and produced by Enzian Theater, **Popcorn Flicks in the Park**, featuring **Mickey's A Christmas Carol** and **It's a Wonderful Life**, will take place in Central Park, **Friday, December 2**, at 7 p.m. Bring a small group of family and friends, and don't forget to pack a blanket, picnic or snacks. For more information, please call 407-599-3342.

Before and during the Christmas Parade **Saturday, December 3**, Leadership Winter Park will host the **Annual Leadership Winter Park Pancake Breakfast**, at the Central Park Main Stage from 7 to 10 a.m. Enjoy pancakes, sausage and beverages for just \$7 per person. Proceeds benefit the Winter Park Improvement Foundation in its efforts to develop adult and youth leaders through Leadership Winter Park programs. For more information and to purchase tickets, please access [winterpark.org](http://winterpark.org).

On **Saturday, December 3**, Park Avenue comes to life at 9 a.m., with the **70<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Park "Ye Olde Hometown" Christmas Parade**, hosted by the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce. This family-friendly occasion showcases holiday-themed floats, Santa Claus and well-known local figures as they make their way down the avenue on an adjusted route. The parade will travel down Park Avenue, turn west on New England Avenue, and end at the Winter Park Community Center. For more information, please call 407-644-8281.

A special **Holiday Pops** concert, performed by the **Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra**, will take place **Sunday, December 4**, at 5 p.m., on our new Central Park Main Stage. Bring your blanket and a picnic for a concert program of holiday favorites that will be sure to put everyone in the spirit of the season. This free concert is made possible by the Charlotte Julia Hollander Trust. For more information, please call 407-599-3342.

On **Friday December 9**, from 6 to 8 p.m., you can don your favorite holiday sweater and head to the Hannibal Square Heritage Center for **Light Up Hannibal Square**. Enjoy hot chocolate as you shop in the mini-market, the holiday lights countdown will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call 407-539-2680.

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The holiday festivities move from our city streets to Lake Virginia as the **Winter Park Holiday Boat Parade**, sponsored by the Winter Park Rotary Club, sets sail **Saturday, December 10**, at 6 p.m. Family and friends can gather in their backyards on Lake Virginia or at Dinky Dock Park to see the impressive boat and dock holiday decorations created by residents and local business sponsors. To register a boat in the parade, please access [winterparkboatparade.com](http://winterparkboatparade.com). For more information, please call [407-256-6369](tel:407-256-6369).

Enjoy the rich sounds of Christmas as tuba, euphonium, sousaphone and baritone players of all ages gather to perform a FREE concert from the main stage in Central Park beginning at 1 p.m., **Saturday, December 17**. Winter Park's annual **Merry TUBACHRISTMAS** has become a must-see on the holiday list of things to do. Registration for musicians is \$10 and begins at 9 a.m., with rehearsal from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Performers, please bring a folding chair and music stand. For more information, please call [407-599-3463](tel:407-599-3463).

**Wreaths Across America** will be at Palm and Pineywood Cemeteries **Saturday, December 17**, at noon to remember and honor veterans through the laying of Remembrance Wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes. To order a wreath by Monday, November 28 or volunteer to participate, please access [bit.ly/PalmWreaths](http://bit.ly/PalmWreaths) or [bit.ly/PineywoodWreaths](http://bit.ly/PineywoodWreaths).

Chabad of Greater Orlando will present **Chanukah on the Park Sunday, December 18**, from 5 to 7 p.m., in Central Park. The event will include entertainment, kids' activities, food and a grand menorah lighting. For more information, please access [chabadorlando.org](http://chabadorlando.org).

The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art will offer free admission for all Fridays in December, including **Friday, December 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30**, from 4 to 8 p.m., and feature live music from 5 to 8 p.m. for its **Holiday Friday Nights at the Morse**. For more information, please access [morsemuseum.org](http://morsemuseum.org).

To wrap up the holiday season with a bright red bow on top, the City of Winter Park will proudly host the **Annual CHEEZ-IT® Bowl Parade of Bands Thursday, December 29**, at 11 a.m. as a prelude to the CHEEZ-IT® Bowl game on Thursday evening at 5:30 p.m. at Camping World® Stadium. College bands will march through downtown Winter Park and perform a "Bandastic Game Day Preview" in Central Park. For more information, please access [cheezitbowl.com](http://cheezitbowl.com).

If you're visiting Winter Park this holiday season and you're wondering where to park, please access the city's [parking page](#) to plan ahead. Many of the city's holiday events will require road closures. To keep up with these notices, please access the [Closures & Construction](#) page.

Don't forget, SunRail® will drop you off at the Winter Park Train Station next to Central Park, making it the perfect mode of transportation to come shop the avenue or attend our weekday holiday events. To check the train schedule or purchase a ticket, please access [sunrail.com](http://sunrail.com).

**The City of Winter Park wishes everyone a very happy and safe holiday season!**

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