



Hampton

CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Heavy Helping of Upcoming Holiday Happenings in Hampton, Virginia --Enjoy street parades, nautical light shows, holiday shopping, and more--

Hampton, Virginia- This Holiday Season, slip into a warm sweater, grab a cup of hot cocoa, and head to Hampton, Virginia for a large helping of holiday cheer. Whether taking in a special seasonal performance at The American Theatre in Phoebus, enjoying a nautical parade of lights on the Hampton River, or cheering traditional street parades in Coliseum Central and downtown Hampton, there is an activity or event for every member of the family to celebrate this holiday season.

November 8-10, browse over 350 quality crafters, vendors, artists, and local businesses at the **Bodacious Bazaar**, a shopping extravaganza taking place at the Hampton Roads Convention Center. The three-day event will feature upscale gifts, gourmet foods, fine art, and more. The “Real” Santa Claus will also make an appearance, so be sure to bring the kids! Cost is \$7.00 for adults (\$10.00 for two days), \$4.00 for children, and children

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in strollers are free. Check out <http://www.bodaciousbazaar.com/fall/> for further information.

The **21st annual Coliseum Central Holiday Parade** returns on November 23. Festivities include marching bands, floats, squads and animals parade through Coliseum Central. Santa Claus is also sure to stop by. The parade begins at 9:30 a.m., but get there early for a prime spot.

December 6-7, the **2019 Holiday and Kwanzaa Marketplace and Jazz Brunch** fills the galleries of Hampton University Museum. Beginning at 10:00 a.m. on December 7, guests may purchase holiday and Kwanzaa gifts from the museum gift shop. The shop specializes in African, African-American, and other multicultural items and artwork. At 5:30 p.m., enjoy special holiday music, sales, and planned activities. On December 8, in addition to shopping Noon- 4:00 p.m., opt to partake in a delicious holiday and Kwanzaa inspired brunch. Though the event is free, there is a fee for the brunch.

The **31st annual Downtown Hampton Lighted Boat Parade** sails back into downtown on Friday, December 13. Cruise into downtown Hampton for festivities beginning at 6:00 p.m., as this highly anticipated parade of illuminated power and sail boats will be visible from anywhere along the Hampton River. Those who don't have a vessel but want to join the action can board the *Miss Hampton II*. Attendees interested in riding on the *Miss Hampton II* are encouraged to make reservations by calling 757/722-9102. The admission is an unwrapped toy that will be donated to Toys for Tots. Captains who wish to enter their craft in the parade are encouraged to call 757/727-1271.

On December 14, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., the Hampton History Museum plays host to **Holly Days Open House**, a brand new event featuring heirloom ornament making, live holiday music, train displays, face painting and more family fun to get you in the spirit of

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the season. Explore over 400 years of the city's past from the days of the Kecoughtan Native Americans to Space Race in the Hampton History Galleries. On the second floor, view 45 extraordinary watercolor drawings and maps in the special exhibit "Civil War Journey: The Maps and Sketches of Private Robert Sneden."

December 14 also marks the return of the **Hampton Holly Days Parade** beginning at 7:00 p.m. Join us for an evening of enchantment at the Peninsula's largest illuminated holiday parade. Fun includes music from marching bands, spectacular floats, and the man of the hour, Santa. The parade goes from Eaton Street and Settlers Landing Road to Darling Stadium.

Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Center, Fort Monroe National Monument, Hampton History Museum, harbor tours and cruises, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.

November 2019

7-10 2019 Jazz Legacy Foundation 7th Annual Gala Weekend

Established in 2013, the Jazz Legacy Foundation exists to support Jazz and Music Education. Providing a quality Jazz experience in the community with an Annual Jazz Legacy Foundation Gala Weekend. With a strong belief in music education, the Jazz Legacy Foundation gives back to area schools and students with Master Class Workshops, Instruments, Materials, and Scholarships. Join us on a fantastic jazz

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experience like no other, while supporting a great cause! Hampton Roads Convention Center. Admission fee. www.jazzlegacyfoundation.org (1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA 23666)

8-10 The Bodacious Bazaar

The Bodacious Bazaar is an amazing shopping experience that happens twice a year in the Coastal Virginia area. Vendors, artists, and shoppers alike can't afford to miss this amazing show! Hampton Roads Convention Center. 10:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday. 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Sunday. Adults \$7.00, Two Day \$10.00, Children \$4.00, and Children in strollers are free. 757/315-1610. www.bodaciousbazaar.com (1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA 23666)

12- Dec 29 Winter Whimsy at the Hampton Carousel

Make new holiday memories while enjoying festively adorned horses and the historic Hampton Carousel decked out for the season, along with special carousel organ-type Christmas music. Free candy canes! Rides \$1. 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Carousel Park. www.hamptonhistorymuseum.org (602 Settlers Landing Road, Downtown Hampton)

22-24 23rd Annual Mayflower Marathon

Help us provide meals to those that struggle with hunger in our community this Thanksgiving. It's as easy as driving by and dropping off donations while our spirited volunteers cheer you on and your favorite DJ's broadcast on the radio. Sponsored by FM99 and 106.9 The Fox! <http://www.hrfoodbank.org/event/mayflower-marathon/> (2160 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA 23666)

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23 21st Annual Coliseum Central Holiday Parade

Kick-off the holiday season with the 21st annual Coliseum Central Holiday Parade Presented by Sentara CarePlex Hospital! Come join in the excitement as marching bands, floats, squads and animals parade through Coliseum Central. Santa Claus is also sure to stop by! Coliseum Central. 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Free Admission. 757/826-6351.

www.coliseumcentral.com (4410 E Claiborne Square, Hampton, VA 23666)

30 'Twas the Night Before Christmas

It's 1823 and Moore, along with a jubilant cast of characters, comes to life as he struggles to write a Christmas poem. Eventually, the loving and joyous images he conjures inspire the famous poem's creation. Jolly Santa, reindeer on the roof, dancing sugarplums and other colorful characters bring this delightful story to the stage for a new generation.

What better way to celebrate the season than with the giddy anticipation of Christmas morning? The American Theatre. 11:00 a.m. \$10. 757/722/2787. www.hamptonarts.net (125 East Mellen Street, Hampton, VA 23663)

December 2019

6-7 26th Annual Holiday and Kwanzaa Marketplace and Family Fun Day Open House

The Annual Holiday and Kwanzaa Marketplace offers holiday and Kwanzaa gifts from the Museum Gift Shop specializing in African, African-American and other gift items. Select vendors will be available with hand crafted items including jewelry, soaps, textiles and art. Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Saturday: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Cost (Saturday events only): \$3.00 for adults, \$1.00 for children age 10 and under. 757/727-5308

<http://museum.hamptonu.edu/> (Hampton University, Hampton, VA 23668)

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6 Phoebus Holiday Illumination

Join us for the 8th annual illumination event! Shop with Phoebus merchants for special deals, and more. There will special performances and Santa will even stop by! Mallory Street, Mellen Street and Hope Street in Phoebus. 5p.m. - 9 p.m. Free Admission.

757/826-1862. www.phoebusevents.com (212 E Mellen Street, Hampton, VA 23663)

7 Fort Monroe Mistletoe Homes Tour

Celebrate the season with a walking tour of several of the most beautiful, historic homes, and other points of interests, all decorated for the holidays. Special priced tickets will be available in mid-October. Fort Monroe. 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission Fee. 757/637-7778.

www.fmauthority.com (Fort Monroe)

7 A Debby Boone Christmas

Celebrate the season with three-time Grammy winner Debby Boone! This holiday concert celebrates the 30th anniversary of her album *Home For Christmas*, which includes “Silver Bells,” “Christmas Time is Here,” “White Christmas” and other yuletide favorites. There’s no better way to kick off the holidays! The American Theatre. 8:00 p.m. \$35. 757/722/2787. www.hamptonarts.net (125 East Mellen Street, Hampton, VA 23663)

7 Phoebus Annual Illumination

Join us for the seventh annual illumination event! Shop with Phoebus merchants for special deals, and more. There will special performances and Santa will even stop by! Mallory Street, Mellen Street and Hope Street in Phoebus. 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Free Admission.

www.phoebusvaevents.com (212 E Mellen Street, Hampton, VA 23663)

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8 Winter Classics & Holiday Favorites

Christmas bells are ringing and so much more when HRP brings to life beloved holiday, film and classical compositions — not to mention a special guest appearance by the Golden Baton raffle winner! You won't want to miss this fan-favorite program for the whole family. The American Theatre. 2:30 p.m. \$20. 757/722/2787.

www.hamptonarts.net (125 East Mellen Street, Hampton, VA 23663)

13 Annual Downtown Hampton Lighted Boat Parade

Cruise into the spirit of the holiday season at the 31st annual Downtown Hampton Lighted Boat Parade. More than 20 boats are expected to participate. This parade of illuminated power and sail boats will be visible from anywhere along the Hampton River, however spectators wanting to hear the narration will want to find a spot near the Hampton Maritime Center. Downtown Hampton waterfront. 7 p.m. Free Admission.

757/727-1276. www.downtownhampton.com (710 Settlers Landing Road, Hampton, VA 23669)

12 Christmas with the Nelsons, starring Matthew and Gunnar Nelson

Third generation Matthew and Gunnar seamlessly weave together songs and stories from their showbiz family, along with their own chart-topping Billboard Christmas singles. This heart-warming multi-media live concert features quick humor, soaring sibling vocals and state-of-the-art big screen video that pays tribute to their legendary father, Ricky Nelson, as well as their grandparents Ozzie and Harriet. A holiday show for all ages, the entire family invites you to celebrate *Christmas with the Nelsons!* The American Theatre. 8:00 p.m. \$35. 757/722/2787. www.hamptonarts.net (125 East Mellen Street, Hampton, VA 23663)

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14 The Soul and Spirit of Christmas with CeCe Winans

Heart and Soul. Joy and Love. Powerhouse vocalist CeCe Winans delivers all that and more in this holiday concert that will have you on your feet by evening's end! Winans' dynamic presence has graced stages around the world as she reimagines gospel with the captivating sounds of pop, country and R&B. The American Theatre. 8:00 p.m. \$35. 757/722/2787. www.hamptonarts.net (125 East Mellen Street, Hampton, VA 23663)

14 Holly Days Open House

Enjoy heirloom ornament making, live holiday music, train displays, face painting and more family fun to get you in the spirit of the season. Christmas music from New Sound Alliance from 10 am to noon, Libertylive.church from 12-2:30 pm, and acoustic arrangements of seasonal favorites by Louis Vangieri, 2:30-4 pm. Tour 400+ years of the city's past in the galleries and view the special exhibit "Hampton One: Working, Building, and Racing on the Water." Be sure to check out the unique jewelry, housewares and accessories, plus the best selection of books on Hampton's history, in the gift shop! Hampton History Museum. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free Admission. www.hamptonhistorymuseum.org (120 Old Hampton Lane, Hampton, VA 23669)

14 Selfies with Santa at the Hampton Carousel

As part of Hampton Holly Days weekend, the historic Hampton Carousel welcomes youngsters of all ages to share holiday wishes and snap "Selfies with Santa." Mrs Claus will be there too with free candy canes. As a special gift, take a spin on the festively decorated 1920s carousel from the Buckroe Beach Amusement Park. Have your painted in a holiday motif for free by "A Mile of Smiles" from 1 pm to 4 pm. Afterwards, get set for the Hampton Holly Days Parade stepping off at 7 pm on Settlers Landing Road! Free Rides. 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Carousel Park. www.hamptonhistorymuseum.org (602 Settlers Landing Road, Downtown Hampton)

14 Holly Days Illuminated Parade

The Peninsula's largest illuminated parade! Join us for an evening of enchantment as you view the creative floats, listen to the high school bands, salute the military marching units and exciting drill teams, and wave at the beauty queens. Of course this parade is not complete without everyone's favorite, Santa Claus. Downtown Hampton. 7 p.m. Free Admission. 757/727-8311. www.hampton.gov/parks (Settlers Landing Road, Hampton, VA 23669)

18 Front Porch Music Series "Country Christmas

Join some of Hampton Roads most original and innovative musical talents for a special country music salute to the holidays. Featured musicians include Tornado Bait, Roebuck, Gina Dalmas from the Heart Stompers, Katie Teardrop and Frank Green. Santa and other holiday magic join the fun! Hampton History Museum. 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. \$5 for nonmembers. www.hamptonhistorymuseum.org (120 Old Hampton Lane, Hampton, VA 23669)

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