

Inland
E

ENTERTAINMENT

The Inland Empire's Guide to Fun

REVIEW

December, 2003

The Return of Snow Season

With the mountain fires over,
it's a winter wonderland at
Alpine Slide and Snow Play in Big Bear

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INSIDE



*Santa's Train at Orange Empire
Railway Museum in Ferris.*

'Tis the Season Christmas events around the Inland Empire

*Time for "tubing" at
Big Bear Snow Play.*

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Christmas is family time

I love how everything changes in December. For the entire month, there is a special charge in the air, and everyone feels just a little bit better.

And, best of all, there is plenty of opportunity to exercise your Christmas cheer this month, with events happening all across the Inland Empire. This is an espe-

cially good time for family outings, as there is something going on every weekend, if not everyday.

Look to pages 6-7 for our roundup of Christmas events.

The mountains are also back in action, and snow has begun to fall. We take a sneak peak at a pair of family favorites, Alpine Slide and Big Bear Snow Play. Time to dust off those snow shoes.

Tom Pigeon, Editor

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Cover photo courtesy of Alpine Slide

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Big Bear theater holds show to benefit fire heroes

The recent fires that ravaged large swaths of Southern California have not burnt the spirit of southlanders. In the Big Bear community, a theater group teamed up with civic leaders to give local heroes a big "thank you."

C.A.T.S., The Community Arts Theater Society in Big Bear, presented a special Variety Show, "SURVIVOR: BIG BEAR! A CELEBRATION," dedicated to the emergency groups who served the Big Bear Valley during the recent fire and evacuation.

In association with The City Of Big Bear Lake, who waived the usual rental and ticketing fees, C.A.T.S. donated all proceeds of the two performances to several local groups, including: The Big Bear Valley Firefighters Association, Mountain Mutual Aid Association, Meals On Wheels, Moonridge Zoo, Bear Valley Hospital Foundation, Family Counseling Center, DOVES and other local groups.

A Donation Center was also available at intermission for those who wanted to make a special "thank you" donation to these groups.

"SURVIVOR: BIG BEAR! A CELEBRATION!" was presented November 28-29 at the Big Bear Lake Performing Arts Center. The variety show featured hit songs and dances from "OLIVER!," a production that had been canceled because of the fires, with the full cast of over 60 children and adults. The entertaining evening also offered several other musical treats from past C.A.T.S. shows. The show also included segments from "Phantom Of The Opera," "Cabaret," and others.

For more information about C.A.T.S., call (909) 866-4970, or visit their website at www.bigbeartheater.org.



Steve Gaghagen as "Fagin" in *Oliver!*, which has been rescheduled for April 2-18, 2004, due to the recent fires.

NEXT MONTH

Look up Inland Entertainment Review, January 2004, for an extensive review of mountain entertainment, including snow season events.

the
Performance

A Christmas Memory Loft

December 19th 11am & 8pm
December 20th 2pm & 8pm

Truman Capote's heartwarming holiday treat for the whole family.
At the University of Redlands Glenn Wallichs Theatre. Tickets are \$15 (\$8 for children under 12) at the door or by calling (909) 748-6262

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The Merriest Place on Earth

The Inland Empire isn't the only place with Holiday happenings. In Anaheim, Disneyland is kicking up its annual festivities making it the merriest place on Earth in December.

Events (lasting through Jan. 4) include, in part:

- Haunted Mansion Holiday
- Nightly fireworks capped by snowfall
- It's A Small World holiday version
- Christmas Fantasy

parade, daily

Events at Disney's California Adventure include:

- Santa's Beach Blast, an interactive surfin' style party
- Decorations throughout the park

This is just a short list of festivities happening at the twin parks, which have been decorated from top to bottom with Christmas cheer.

For more information, call (714) 781-4565, or visit them online at www.disneyland.com.



TOP TEN Christmas Classics

If you must watch television this Christmas season, then search your cable for a classic holiday flick or show. We've made it easy for you with our handy list below. There is a Santa Claus!

- 1 It's A Wonderful Life
- 2 National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
- 3 A Christmas Story
- 4 How The Grinch Stole Christmas
- 5 A Christmas Carol
- 6 White Christmas
- 7 Charlie Brown Christmas
- 8 Miracle On 34th Street
- 9 Home Alone
- 10 The Santa Clause

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See p. 22
for coupons

**Dec. 6-7 & 13-14
11am - 4:30pm**

**See Santa Aboard the 19th Annual
Santa's
Christmas
Train**

- Also ride Red Cars and Yellow Cars
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GIFTS FOR THE GARDEN HEARTED

'Tis the Season

It wouldn't be Christmas without shows, holiday lights, good food and plenty of things for the family to do. Luckily, the Inland Empire has always pitched right in come December and delivered a sleigh-full of good tidings.

This year is no exception. Below, we've compiled enough activities for you to do this month to keep you plenty busy until the big day arrives, and a few things to do after, too.

ANNUAL LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Dec. 3, 7 pm, at California Baptist University in Riverside. Free to the public. (909) 343-4251.

It wouldn't be Christmas without Scrooge. Get your dose of bah-humbug in one of two flavors this December:

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Dec. 12, 7 pm; Dec. 13, 2 and 7 pm; Dec. 14, 2 pm. at the Riverside Community Players in Riverside. The performance is part of their Family Series. Tickets are \$8. The theater is located at 4026 Fourteenth St., Riverside. (909) 369-1200. www.riversidecommunityplayers.org.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: THE MUSICAL

Get your Scrooge with music on Dec. 13, 2pm and 8 pm., at Performance Riverside in Riverside. (909) 222-8100. www.performance-riverside.org.



CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Dec. 14, 11 am - 4 pm at the Heritage House in Riverside, 8193 Magnolia Ave. (909) 826-5273.

DOWNTOWN AGLOW

Through Dec. 23, downtown Riverside comes alive with Christmas cheer. Come hear choirs, and see dancers and performances every weekend on the Main Street Pedestrian Mall.

The Historic Mission Inn also presents its Festival of Lights during this time. (909) 781-7335. www.riverside-downtown.org.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

The Historic Mission Inn in Riverside continues an annual tradition, stringing thousands of lights along the massive hotel. You can view the spectacle nightly from 6-10 pm through Jan. 4. (909) 683-7100.

A CHRISTMAS MEMORY

Truman Capote's heartwarming holiday treat for the whole family, performed at the Performance Loft. Dec.

15, 11am and 8 pm; Dec. 20, 2 pm and 8 pm. Tickets are \$15, \$8 for children under 12. The Loft is located at 345 H. 5th St. in Redlands. (909) 748-6262.

LITTLE WOMEN

Performed at the LifeHouse Theater, Dec. 6-30. Dec. 6 at 7:30 pm. Following the opening, times are Fridays and Saturdays 7:30 pm and Saturdays and Sundays 2:15 pm. Special evening performances Dec. 11 and 18, Dec. 29 and Dec. 30 at 7:30 pm. Advance tickets \$10-\$16 for adults, \$5-\$9 for children ages 3-11. Children under age 3 are not admitted. Reservations may be made by calling (909) 335-3037, ext. 21. Tickets are \$1 more on the day of the performance. The theater is located at 1135 N. Church St. in Redlands.

HOLIDAY CORAL CONCERT

Dec. 6, Trinity Lutheran Church in Riverside. Presented by the UC Riverside Dept. of Music. (909) 787-4331 or (909) 787-3245. www.music.ucr.edu.

HOLIDAY HOME TOUR

Dec. 7, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, a tour of the most unique homes in Redlands. All proceeds benefit Y programs for women and families. Advance tickets \$25, day of tour \$30. (909) 793-2957.

THE MESSIAH AND OTHER SEASONAL SELECTIONS

27th annual concert featuring selections from Handel's Messiah and other works, Dec. 13 at 7:30 pm and Dec. 14 at 1:30 pm. Idyllwild Master Chorale in Idyllwild. (909) 659-2650. www.idyllwild-masterchorale.com.

Another holiday classic that should not be missed is "The Nutcracker" ballet. You have three opportunities to catch it this month:

THE NUTCRACKER

Dec. 17, Moscow Festival Ballet. At the McCallum Theatre in Palm Desert. (760) 340-2787. www.mccallumtheatre.com.

THE NUTCRACKER

Presented by the Inland Pacific Ballet, Dec. 7-21, at the historic Bridges Auditorium, The Claremont Colleges. For tickets and information, call (909) 607-1139.

THE NUTCRACKER BALLET

Dec. 20 & 22 at 8 pm. Holiday ballet spectacular. Riverside Municipal Auditorium, 3485 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. (909) 788-3944. www.riversidemunicipalauditorium.com.

PLAID TIDINGS ROYAL TARTAN HOLIDAY TEA

Dec. 6, 11 am - 3 pm at the Riverside Art Museum. (909) 788-8768,

SANTA'S CHRISTMAS TRAIN

Santa Claus will replace his sleigh with an authentic train on Dec. 6-7 & 13-14, from 11 am - 4:30 pm. See Santa at the Orange Empire Railway Museum, 2201 South A St., Perris. Ride trains, visit the bookstore and gift shop, and enjoy refreshments, gifts, and holiday music.



Downtown Riverside's "Downtown Aglow" is a must-see Holiday event, especially the Festival of Lights at the Historic Mission Inn (pictured above).

All day passes include passenger train rides, trolley rides and exhibits.

Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for kids ages 5-11, and free for kids under 5. Parking is free. (909) 657-2605, www.oerm.org.

SANTA CLAUS AT CANYON CREST

Dec. 13, 11 am - 2 pm, Santa Claus will be at the Canyon Crest Towne Center in Riverside. Includes Dickens Carolers and carriage rides. (909) 686-1222 x10.

SKIP'S BIKE NIGHT

Santa Claus will visit Skip Fordyce Harley on Dec. 13, from 11 am to 2 pm, for free photos of Santa with his Harley. Skip Fordyce Harley Davidson is located at 7688 Indiana Ave., Riverside. (909) 785-0100. www.skipfordyce.com.

SNOW PLAY DAY

On Dec. 13, from 10 am - 2 pm, there will be snow at Orange Terrace Park at 20010 Orange Terrace Parkway in Riverside. For one day only, they will create 45 tons of the fluffy cold stuff for kids to play in. The event includes music, food vendors, games and crafts. Admission is \$5. (909) 826-2000.

HOLIDAY MAGIC

Get your fill of holiday music at the RCC "Holiday Magic" concert on Dec. 14 at 3 pm. "Holiday Magic" is a concert of yuletide favorites, including excerpts from the Nutcracker. The concert is at the Riverside Community College Landis Auditorium, 4800 Magnolia Ave., in Riverside. Tickets: \$5

presale students and seniors, \$10 presale general, \$12 general at the door. (909) 222-8793.

SONG OF ANGELS

Dec. 13, 6 pm - 8 pm at Sherman Indian School Auditorium in Riverside. A Christmas concert performed by the California Baptist University Choir and Orchestra.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Dec. 14, 11 am - 4 pm, at the Heritage House in Riverside. Come celebrate Christmas like the old days. There will be musical entertainment and plenty to see. (909) 826-5273.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF CHRISTMAS

Treat yourself to dinner and a holiday show all at the same time at Ben Bollinger's Candlelight Pavilion Dinner Theater. Playing now through Dec. 28 is "The Wonderful World of Christmas." This is also a good idea to consider as a gift certificate for a stocking stuffer. (909) 626-1254. 455 Foothill Blvd., Claremont.

9TH ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA

In all the Christmas excitement, don't forget about New Year's eve! Celebrate in style with the San Bernardino Symphony Guild which is holding its annual gala on Dec. 31 from 7 pm to 1 am. The event will be held at the San Bernardino Radisson Hotel Ballroom and includes dancing, a four-course gourmet dinner, silent auction and, of course, a midnight champagne toast. Tickets are \$125 per person, black tie is optional. For more information, call (909) 882-0080. □

Fun in the Snow



Days after fires, Big Bear tubing opens for Winter Season

Grab your earmuffs and pull out the winter jackets. Just days after escaping the Southern California firestorms, Big Bear Snow Play and the Alpine Slide at Magic Mountain opened their inner tubing hills for family winter fun.

The fires, which at their closest were still several miles from Big Bear Valley, were fully contained with the help of cold winter weather. A little natural snow and chilly temperatures allowed Big Bear Snow Play and the Alpine Slide to fire up their Lenko snowmaking systems, and both are reporting good conditions with plenty of snow for inner tubing.

Getting to the top of the winter wonderland is a snap since both tubing areas have Magic Carpet uphill lifts. Guests just step onto the moving conveyor belt with their inner tubes for an uphill ride that has them back on the snow for high-speed, downhill thrills in no time. Without having to walk over icy snow to get back to the


top, families can save their energy for the fun part: careening and spiraling downhill on their inner tubes!

Big Bear Snow Play, which many years ago was a ski area, is the largest inner tubing area in Southern California, with long, wide-open runs. Alpine Slide at Magic Mountain is a full service family favorite that's also home to the signature bobsled-like ride of the same name. The Alpine Slide lets riders experience Olympic-like action as they negotiate sleds they control along a quarter-mile track with banked turns and long straight-aways.

All day snow play passes, which include tube rental and Magic Carpet lift,

cost just \$18 at Big Bear Snow Play and \$20 at Alpine Slide. As a way of saying "Thank You" to the heroes who protected Big Bear, firefighters and police receive two-for-one lift passes at both tubing hills and also for five-ride Alpine Slide books. Now through Dec. 13, just present valid badge or identification to receive the discount.

Two of the three routes into Big Bear Lake are open for all traffic with only Hwy. 330 through Running Springs closed to fire-related damage. Hwy. 38 out of Redlands is a few minutes longer than 330 but a much easier and more scenic drive. Hwy. 18 from Lucerne Valley features minimal mountain driving.

The Alpine Slide at Magic Mountain is located on the boulevard in Big Bear Lake, 1/4 mile west of the Village shopping area, home to 60 specialty stores. Big Bear Snow Play is also on the boulevard, three miles east of the Alpine slide next to Motel 6. 

WHERE: Alpine Slide at Magic Mountain in Big Bear Lake

PRICE: \$20 for all-day pass

For more information, call (909) 866-4626

WHERE: Big Bear Snow Play in Big Bear Lake

PRICE: \$18 for all-day pass

For more information, call (909) 585-0075

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Riverside Heritage

Christmas Open House at the Heritage House

The 24th Annual Christmas Open House will be held on December 14, 2003, at Riverside Municipal Museum's Heritage House located at 8193 Magnolia Avenue in Riverside. Visitors from all over Southern California make their way to the house and are greeted by docents in 1890s costume and entertained by various musical performers. The house is decorated for the holidays according to the tastes of the late-Victorian era and children are treated with a visit from Father Christmas. Numerous entertainers are enlisted throughout the house and grounds, including Rob Hoyt with his banjo and repertoire of folk songs, Christie Winter on the Hammered Dulcimer and the inspired performance of the RCC Gospel Choir. Other past events have included performances by Sydney Southern- vocalist, Andromeda Flute Ensemble, the flute students of Ella Meyering, The Lindstrom Brothers, piano, Mike McCarty, bagpipes, Funtones, barbershop quartet, Cal Baptist Brass Ensemble directed by Marvina

Levy, Jennifer Blod, vocalist, Matthew Fitzgerald, dancer, Riverside Christian Day School Band directed by Bob Cotton, Dave Smith, vocalist, Betty Addink, harp, and Tour de Fource barbershop quartet.

Heritage House docents and Museum staff are busy throughout the day making sure cookies and hot cider are well stocked, and that every room in the house has a docent to answer questions and give interpretations. As the visitors wander through the grounds there are many things to do and see. A replica of the museum's 1890s orange sizer is in operation during the event, peddled by numerous volunteers, educating and fascinating young and old alike. The Christmas Open House is a feast for the senses, with music, food and many Christmas sights.

This all-volunteer event is made possible by the docents, entertainers and generous sponsors who give their time and donations. It is through their combined endeavors that the event proves to be such a success! ☐



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Winter Magic

Family fun at the Living Zoo

Winter magic has come to the desert, thanks to the Living Desert Zoo and Gardens Wildlights holiday celebration. The zoo has transformed itself into a magical holiday event, with lights, exhibits and plenty for children and families to do.

More than 250,000 twinkling lights illuminate the park after dark, turning it into a holiday winter wonderland. North American and African animals as well as traditional holiday scenes are depicted in lighted displays. This year, new animated displays include a gorilla family, tortoises, tarantula scene and the return of the ever-popular giant red teddy bear and tunnel of lights.

Highlighting the event is the increasingly popular LGB model train exhibits. This year the exhibits have been expanded even more with over a mile of track, including the world's longest wooden model train trestle that extends over 200 feet. Seven trains run through model rural communities, farms, Native American pueblos, logging and mining towns, the Grand Canyon and a European Alpine Village with bullet trains and cable cars. There is even a replica of the historical Coachella Valley Indio Rail Depot.

WildLife at WildLights, a nighttime version of the popular



Wildlife Wonders live animal show, occurs every evening at 6:30 p.m. in the park's Tenny Amphitheater. These informative shows highlight animals from the world's deserts.

Cozy, wood-burning fireplaces, hot apple cider, hot chocolate, barbecued hot dogs and hamburgers and many other delicious treats are available on the Palm Garden Patio.

This event, in its 11th season, is presented by the City of Indian Wells. WildLights admission is \$6.75 adults, \$5.00 children (3-12), Living Desert members \$5.50. The event is open from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. WildLights is open on the following nights: Dec. 5, 6, 7, 12-23, 26-31 (Dec. 26 is the 2nd Annual Karaoke Contest Night).

The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens is located south of State Highway 111 at 47-900 Portola Avenue, Palm Desert/Indian Wells, California. Call 760-346-5694 for additional information, or visit them on the web at www.livingdesert.org.



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Latte' Dah has music every Friday nite, from 7 pm to 9 pm...or later. It's a small acoustic venue where people can go, enjoy a nice non-alcoholic beverage, surrounded by good friends or new neighbors. There is a really eclectic mix of music and entertainment to be heard; from old time rock n roll, jazz, soft rock, country, blues, comedy and everything in between. When we have OPEN MIC NIGHTS, once a month, we get it all in one nite. Come early and get a good seat. Call us (601-9969) for a schedule.

12220 Pigeon Pass Rd., Ste H • Moreno Valley (across from Home Depot)
(909) 601-9969 • www.LatteDahEspresso.com

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Text in **RED** denotes an event occurring this month.

Casinos

AGUA CALIENTE CASINO: (760) 321-2000.

Comedy Fridays: Every Friday, 8:30-9:30 p.m. in the Canyons Lounge.

AUGUSTINE CASINO: 760-391-9500.

Monday Night Football Fan Fair: Come out and watch the game every Monday Night at Augustine Casino and enjoy \$1.50 16oz drafts, great food and a chance to win BIG! Gold Club Members have a chance at winnings of \$20 per each point scored during each quarter of the Monday Night Game. In addition, we're giving out THOUSANDS in

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CASINO MORONGO: (800) 252-4499

FANTASY SPRINGS CASINO: (800) 827-2946 ext. 3091. Sandi C. Shore's Comedy Island Indoor Concert Series in the Fantasy Lounge.

PECHANGA ENTERTAINMENT CENTER:

(909) 693-1819.

SAN MANUEL INDIAN BINGO & CASINO: 1-888-777-7404

SOBOBA CASINO: 909-665-1000 or 1-866-4SOBOBA. King of the Cage: Dec. 6, gates open 4:30pm, matches begin at 6pm.

Tickets: \$65 ringside, \$40 general. (866) 4-SOBOBA. Comedy Nights: First Wednesday of every month in ACs Lounge, 6:30-9 p.m. Tickets available after 2 p.m. at the box office. AC's Lounge: Monday: Monday Night Football; Tuesday: Fiesta Night; Wednesday: 1st Wednesday Night of the month Comedy, live bands on the other Wednesday nights; Thursday: Fiesta Night; Friday: Live Rock N Roll; Saturday: Live Rock N Roll; Sunday: Sunday Night Football

TRUMP 29 CASINO: Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians' 7th Annual Winter

Gathering Pow Wow, Dec. 12-14th: Gates open at 5 p.m. on Fri. Dec.12th and 11 a.m. on Sat. and Sun., Company or individual sponsorship packages are available, please contact Jody Tague 760-775-2346. Donations at the gate of \$5 or more will receive a commemorative Pow Wow t-shirt. Donations go to the Theresa A. Mike Scholarship Fund. **George Lopez: Two shows, Fri, Dec. 26, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Get tickets at Trump 29 Casino Box Office or through ticketmaster. (760) 775-5566.** NFL Sundays: Trump 29 Casino will be televising all the Sunday NFL games at the Blue Bar and our new SMOKIN' Casino Bar every Sunday and also for Monday night Football. Each bar features \$1 Drafts and \$2 Margaritas and food specials.

Get your event listed in the

Inland ENTERTAINMENT REVIEW

What to do section

If you have an upcoming event that you would like to see listed in these pages, please send the following information:

- Name of the event
- Date and time
- City, location and address
- A contact phone number
- Name of the person submitting the event

Send it in one of the following ways:

EMAIL: IER@InlandReview.com

FAX: (909) 686-0290

MAIL: Inland Entertainment Review, c/o Word Mill Publishing, 5005 La Mart Dr. #204, Riverside, CA 92507

WEB: Go online at www.InlandReview.com and fill out our online submission form.

Inland Entertainment Review reserves the right to publish or withhold any material sent. Materials mailed will not be returned.

Children's Activities

ADAMS KART TRACK: For ages 5 and up. Pro shop, kart track, racing school. 5292 24th St. in Riverside. (909) 686-3826. www.adamskart.com.

ART UNDER THE UMBRELLAS: Dec. 6, chil-

A place for children to discover

Kids love to discover, experiment and learn. At A Special Place: Children's Hands On Museum, kids are encouraged to exercise these attributes in an active, hands-on atmosphere.

A Special Place offers a variety of activities for children, including a mini-Kaiser medical clinic where children can dress up like doctors and nurses, looking into X-rays and checking blood pressure.

In the science area, little explorers can study vortex action with the tornado tubes, make pictures with magnets, study animal tracks and generate electricity with the display from Southern California Edison. They can also learn about freshwater turtles and fire-bellied toads. With their salt-water aquarium, they can observe fish and other creatures that live on the reef and study the ocean environment. There is also an assortment of beautiful seashells to touch and look at.

A Special Place offers a host of other children's activities, including face painting, puppet shows, stage performances, uniforms to wear, and more.

For more information about A Special Place Children's Hands-On Museum, call (909) 881-1201. The museum is located in San Bernardino at 1003 East Highland Ave. Admission is \$2 per person, children under 2 are free.

dren's reading and art program. Public sales of fine arts and crafts. 10 am - 4 pm, free. The La Quinta Arts Foundation in Rancho Mirage. (760) 564-1244. www.lqaf.com.

CELEBRATE THE WORLD: Dec. 7, crafts from 1-4 pm, storytelling at 2 pm and 3 pm. Main Library in downtown Riverside. (909) 826-5369. www.ci.riverside.ca.us/library/

KIDS CLUB, Dec. 3 at the Galleria, Macy's lower court, in Riverside. Free craft program. Call (909) 351-3110.

SANTA'S CHRISTMAS TRAIN: Dec. 6-7 & 13-14, 11 am - 4:30 pm. See Santa at the Orange Empire Railway Museum, 2201 South A St., Perris. (909) 657-2605, www.oerm.org. Ride trains, bookstore and gift shop, refreshments, gifts, holiday music. All day pass includes passenger train rides, trolley rides and exhibits, \$8 adults, \$6 kids ages 5-11, free for kids under 5. Parking is free.

SPECIAL PLACE HANDS-ON MUSEUM: Children learn through hands-on experience. 1003 E. Highland Ave., San Bernardino. (909) 881-1201

VILLAGE FUN PARK, go-carts, carousel, Alpine slide, train ride, playground, Lake Arrowhead Village. Single rides \$4. 10am-8pm daily. (909) 337-2533.

LAKE ARROWHEAD CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, Hands-On Exhibits for Children of all Ages, including a bubble area, a collage room, crawl like an ant in the life sized ant farm, recycle craft center, child sized village, toddler area, a camping exhibit, a theater/stage area, and the new Children's Forest exhibit. Ages under 2, free, ages 2-12 \$5, ages 13 & up \$4, group rates available. Lake Arrowhead Village, Peninsula. Museum hours 10am-6pm, 7 days a week. Call (909) 336-3093.

Coffee Houses

MUGSYS COFFEE SHOP: 5222 Arlington Ave., Ste. D, Riverside. Sundays chess night 6 pm, live music Fri. 7-10 pm. Information on more clubs please call (909) 352-1543.

LATTE DAH ESPRESSO: 12220 Pigeon Pass Rd., #H, Moreno Valley. Entertainment Friday nights, no cover, 7 pm. (909) 601-9969.

COFFEE DEPOT: 3204 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. Live music, 8 pm Sat., no cover. (909) 222-2263.

FRIENDS COFFEE HOUSE, live music, 8 pm Fri-Sat. 17059 Valley Blvd., Suite F, Fontana. No cover. (909) 822-3743.

ALL ABOUT COFFEE: Open mic 6 pm Fri., 2276 Griffin Way, Suite 108, Corona. (909) 549-6710.

COFFEE COURT: 3649 10th St., Riverside. (909) 328-0866.

BACK TO THE GRIND: Poetry Night Mon. 9-11 pm; Chess Night Thur. 7 pm; Live music Wed. 8-10 pm. 3575 University Ave., Riverside. (909) 784-0800.

COFFEE ROASTERS 1: Live entertainment Thur.-Sat. 7-9 pm. "Gothic-tinged rootsy folk-rock with soul." Hours: Daily 6:30 am - 10 pm, Sunday to 8 pm. 5225 Canyon Crest Dr., Riverside. (909) 276-7176.

Concerts

GARY BONNER SINGERS: Christian concert series, Dec. 19-20 with three concerts at the Calimesa Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Includes the annual Christmas Festival of Music and Lights. (909) 795-4960.

GREAT MOMENTS IN OPERA SERIES: A

Daytime New Year's Party, Dec. 28, 3-6 pm. Reynir Gudmundsson, Baritone, "Hopping John" demonstration. At the Riverside Municipal Museum in downtown Riverside. Sponsored by the Riverside Museum Associates and Riverside Opera Guild. (909) 826-5273. www.ci.riverside.ca.us/museum.

HOLIDAY CHORAL CONCERT: Dec. 6, Trinity Lutheran Church in Riverside. Presented by the UC Riverside Dept. of Music. (909) 787-4331 or (909) 787-3245. www.music.ucr.edu.

HOLIDAY MAGIC: Dec. 14, 3 pm, a concert of holiday favorites, including excerpts from the Nutcracker. At the Riverside Community College Landis Auditorium, 4800 Magnolia Ave., in Riverside. Tickets: \$5 presale students and seniors, \$10 presale general, \$12 general at the door. (909) 222-8793.


JACK JONES: In concert with the Indian Wells Desert Symphony, Dec. 7, at the McCallum Theatre in Palm Desert. (760) 340-2787. www.mccallumtheatre.com.

KEYBOARD CONVERSATION: With Jeffrey Siegel, Dec. 8, at the McCallum Theatre in Palm Desert. (760) 340-2787. www.mccallumtheatre.com.

THE MESSIAH AND OTHER SEASONAL SELECTIONS: 27th annual concert featuring selections from Handel's Messiah and other works, Dec. 13 at 7:30 pm and Dec. 14 at 1:30 pm. Idyllwild Master Chorale in Idyllwild. (909) 659-2650. www.idyllwildmasterchorale.com.

MIKE COSTLEY AND HIS BIG BAND: Dec. 14, 4 pm, at the Annenberg Theater in Palm Springs.

MOONLIGHT, MAGNOLIAS AND MUSIC: Dec. 31, 7pm. This annual event is held as a benefit for the San Bernardino Symphony and the Symphony Guild Education Program. The evening includes a four-course dinner, dancing to the band "Breez'n," and more.



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Admission: \$2 per person
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Radisson Hotel, 295 North E St., San Bernardino. Admission is \$125 per person. (909) 882-0080.

SONG OF ANGELS: Dec. 13, 6 pm - 8 pm at Sherman Indian School Auditorium in Riverside. A Christmas concert performed by the California Baptist University Choir and Orchestra.

WILLIE NELSON: Dec. 1, at the McCallum Theatre in Palm Desert. (760) 340-2787. www.mccallumtheatre.com.

Dance

KINETIC CONVERSATIONS: Dec. 5, 9 pm and Dec. 6, 2 & 9 pm, Landis Auditorium, Riverside Community College. Choreography and performance by RCC Dance faculty. (909) 222-8234.

Fairs & Festivals

CALIFORNIA FINALS RODEO: Jan. 17-18, performances at 1 and 7 pm on Saturday, 1 pm on Sunday. Tickets: \$10 presale, \$12 at the gate, children 10 and under free. Saturday 7 pm tickets \$15, children 3 and under free. Ingalls Park, Norco. (909) 371-1204.

RIVERSIDE ART WALK: Dec. 11, 5-9 pm, downtown Riverside, sponsored by the Riverside Community Arts Association. (909) 682-6737.

SKIP'S BIKE NIGHT: Dec. 19 (every 3rd Friday of the month) 6-9 pm. Free food, face painting and clown magic for the kids, vendors, live music and more. Santa Claus will

Music and food for a good cause

The San Bernardino Symphony Guild (formerly the Inland Empire Symphony Guild) will host a New Year's Eve Gala of music entitled "Moonlight, Magnolias and Music." The annual event is held as a benefit for the San Bernardino Symphony and the Symphony Guild Education Program.

The evening includes a four course dinner, dancing to the band "Breez'n," a

dance exhibition by award-winning Thelma Korpman, auctions, a champagne toast, and more.

Many dignitaries are drawn to the event, including San Bernardino Mayor Judith Valles.

The Gala will be held in the ballroom of the Radisson Hotel, 295 North E St., San Bernardino. Admission is \$125 per person, of which \$79 is tax deductible. The evening begins at 7pm and concludes at 1am.

For more information, call Evelyn Hill at (909) 882-0080.

visit on Dec. 13, 11 am to 2 pm, for free photos of Santa with his Harley. 7688 Indiana Ave., Riverside. (909) 785-0100. www.skipfordyce.com.

PALM SPRINGS NATIONAL SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL: Dec. 4-7, premieres of award-winning plays featuring local actors. Black Box Theatre, Palm Springs. (760) 416-4376. www.playwrightscircleusa.com.

Holiday Activities

ANNUAL LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE: Dec. 3, 7 pm, at California Baptist University in Riverside. Free to the public. (909) 343-4251.

CHRISTIAN SINGLES CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE: Dec. 6 at the Officer's Club at Los Alamitos Military Base. (888) 222-8818. www.ccisingles.com.

CHRISTIAN SINGLES GIANT NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE PARTY: Dec. 31. Alcohol-free.

Call for times and location at (888) 222-8818. www.ccisingles.com.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: Dec. 12, 7 pm; Dec. 13, 2 and 7 pm; Dec. 14, 2 pm. Riverside Community Players in Riverside. Family Series Performance. Tickets \$8. 4026 Fourteenth St., Riverside. (909) 369-1200. www.riversidecommunityplayers.org.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: THE MUSICAL: Dec. 13, 2pm and 8 pm. Performance Riverside's Family Series, in Riverside. (909) 222-8100. www.performanceriverside.org.

A CHRISTMAS MEMORY: Truman Capote's heartwarming holiday treat for the whole family. Performance Loft, Dec. 15, 11am and 8 pm; Dec. 20, 2 pm and 8 pm. Tickets \$15, \$8 for children under 12. 345 H. 5th St. in Redlands. (909) 748-6262.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE: Dec. 14, 11 am - 4 pm at the Heritage House in Riverside, 8193 Magnolia Ave. (909) 826-5273.

DOWNTOWN AGLOW: Through Dec. 23, downtown Riverside. Choirs, dancers and performances every weekend on the Main Street

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 PERFORMANCES: December 7 - December 14, 2003
 Friday: 7:30 • Saturday: 2:15 & 7:30 • Sunday: 2:15
 Additional weekly performances: Thursday, Dec. 11 & 18,
 Monday, Dec. 24, Tuesday, Dec. 31 at 7:30pm.

ADVANCE TICKETS
 Adults: \$18 • Children (Age 2 - 11): \$9 • \$9
 (All additional days of performance)

RESERVATIONS: (909) 936-3037, EXT. 21

**San Bernardino Symphony Guild's
 9th Annual New Year's Eve Gala**



**DECEMBER 31, 2003
 7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.**
San Bernardino Radisson Hotel Ballroom

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*4 Course Gourmet Dinner
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 Exciting Silent Auction*

*Maestro Carlo Ponti, Jr.,
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Pedestrian Mall. The Historic Mission Inn also presents its Festival of Lights. (909) 781-7335. www.riversidedowntown.org.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS: The Historic Mission Inn, Riverside, 6 -10 p.m. (909) 683-7100. **Nov. 28-Jan. 4.**

HOLIDAY CHORAL CONCERT: Dec. 6, Trinity Lutheran Church in Riverside. Presented by the UC Riverside Dept. of Music. (909) 787-4331 or (909) 787-3245. www.music.ucr.edu.

HOLIDAY HOME TOUR: Dec. 7, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, a tour of the most unique homes in Redlands. All proceeds benefit Y programs for women and families. Advance tickets \$25, day of tour \$30. (909) 793-2957.

HOLIDAY MAGIC: Dec. 14, 3 pm, a concert of holiday favorites, including excerpts from the Nutcracker. At the Riverside Community College Landis Auditorium, 4800 Magnolia Ave., in Riverside. Tickets: \$5 presale students and seniors, \$10 presale general, \$12 general at the door. (909) 222-8793.

THE MESSIAH AND OTHER SEASONAL SELECTIONS: 27th annual concert featuring selections from Handel's Messiah and other works, Dec. 13 at 7:30 pm and Dec. 14 at 1:30 pm. Idyllwild Master Chorale in Idyllwild. (909) 659-2650. www.idyllwildmasterchorale.com.

9TH ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA: Dec. 31, 7 pm to 1 am, sponsored by the San Bernardino Symphony Guild, held at the San Bernardino Radisson Hotel Ballroom. Dancing, 4 course gourmet dinner, silent auction and midnight champagne toast. Tickets: \$125 per person, black tie optional. (909) 882-0080.

NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION: Dec. 31, 9 pm - 1 am, at Crossroads Church, 2331 Kellogg Ave. in Corona (corner of Kellogg Ave. and Ontario Ave.). Dancing, fellowship and refreshments. (909) 520-3042. www.crossroadchurch.com.

THE NUTCRACKER: Dec. 17, Moscow Festival Ballet. At the McCallum Theatre in Palm Desert. (760) 340-2787. www.mccallumtheatre.com.

THE NUTCRACKER: Presented by the Inland Pacific Ballet, Dec. 7-21, at the historic Bridges Auditorium, The Claremont Colleges. For tickets and information, call (909) 607-1139.

THE NUTCRACKER BALLET: Dec. 20 & 22 at 8 pm. Holiday ballet spectacular. Riverside Municipal Auditorium, 3485 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. (909) 788-3944. www.riversidemunicipalauditorium.com.

PLAID TIDINGS ROYAL TARTAN HOLIDAY

TEA: Dec. 6, 11 am - 3 pm at the Riverside Art Museum. (909) 788-8768,

SANTA'S CHRISTMAS TRAIN: Dec. 6-7 & 13-14, 11 am - 4:30 pm. See Santa at the Orange Empire Railway Museum, 2201 South A St., Perris. (909) 657-2605, www.oerm.org. Ride trains, bookstore and gift shop, refreshments, gifts, holiday music. All day pass includes passenger train rides, trolley rides and exhibits, \$8 adults, \$6 kids ages 5-11, free for kids under 5. Parking is free.

SANTA CLAUS AT CANYON CREST: Dec. 13, 11 am - 2 pm, Santa Claus will be at the Canyon Crest Towne Center in Riverside. Includes Dickens Carolers and carriage rides. (909) 686-1222 x10.

SKIP'S BIKE NIGHT: Santa Claus will visit Skip Fordyce Harley on Dec. 13, 11 am to 2 pm, for free photos on Santa with his Harley. 7688 Indiana Ave., Riverside. (909) 785-0100. www.skipfordyce.com.

SNOW PLAY DAY: Dec. 13, 10 am - 2 pm, snow at Orange Terrace Park, 20010 Orange Terrace Parkway, Riverside. 45 tons of snow to play in. Includes music, food vendors, games and crafts. \$5. (909) 826-2000.

SONG OF ANGELS: Dec. 13, 6 pm - 8 pm at Sherman Indian School Auditorium in Riverside. A Christmas concert performed by the California Baptist University Choir and Orchestra.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS: Dec. 14, 11 am - 4 pm, at the Heritage House in Riverside. Musical entertainment. (909) 826-5273.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF CHRISTMAS: Now playing through Dec. 28 at Ben Bollinger's Candlelight Pavilion Dinner Theater. Gift certificates available. (909) 626-1254. 455 Foothill Blvd., Claremont.

Museums and Art

CALIFORNIA MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY: 3824 Main St., Riverside, (909) 787-4787. Through Jan. 4, 2004, "Riverside in Pictures," free. www.cmp.ucr.edu.

MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART: 225 S. Euclid Ave, Ontario, (909) 983-3198

SANTA'S CHRISTMAS TRAIN: Dec. 6-7 & 13-14, 11 am - 4:30 pm. See Santa at the Orange Empire Railway Museum, 2201 South A St., Perris. (909) 657-2605, www.oerm.org. Ride trains, bookstore and gift shop, refreshments, gifts, holiday music. All day pass includes passenger train rides, trolley rides and exhibits, \$8 adults, \$6 kids ages 5-11, free for

kids under 5. Parking is free.

ROBERT V. FULLERTON ART MUSEUM: At Cal State University, San Bernardino. Admission is free. (909) 880-7373. museum.csusb.edu.

FENDER MUSEUM OF MUSIC AND THE ARTS: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays, (Thursdays until 8 p.m.), 365 N. Main St., Corona, \$3, seniors and students \$2, children younger than 12 free. (909) 735-2440. www.fendermuseum.com.

MARCH FIELD AIR MUSEUM: F-14 simulator rides, \$5; museum features more than 50 vintage aircraft, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, Van Buren Boulevard and I-215, Riverside, Admission: \$5 adults, \$3 for children (5-11), and kids under 5 are free. Open 9 am - 4 pm daily. Information is available at 909-697-6600 or 909-697-6602.

MISSION INN MUSEUM: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, 3696 Main St., Riverside, \$2, children younger than 12 free, (909) 788-9556.

ORANGE EMPIRE RAILWAY MUSEUM: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, 2201 S. A St., Perris; train and trolley rides, weekends and holidays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; all-day train and trolley pass \$8, children 5-11 \$6, (909) 943-3020.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands, \$6, seniors and students \$5, children 5-12 \$4, (909) 307-2669.

Nightlife/Dining (featured)

DOWNTOWN SUPPER CLUB: In downtown Riverside, at 3597 Main St. Dine on American and Cajun cuisine and enjoy performances by the finest jazz and blues musicians. Tuesday Night Jam Sessions, hosted by Ronnie B. Good, Tuesday nights from 7-11 pm. (909) 781-4661.

TREMORS SPORTS GRILL: 1329 University Ave., Riverside, (909) 683-3060. Sunday Morning NFL Direct TV breakfast 9:30 am; Monday Nite football, free buffet and drink specials; Tuesday Nite Karaoke Live on Stage; Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights bands on stage.

NAPA 29: 280 Teller St., Ste. 130, Corona. Happy hour Tues.-Fri., 3:30-6:30 pm. Free appetizers, cocktail specials and \$3 drafts. Tues-Sat. nights, live music. (909) 273-0529.

BRANDIN' IRON: In San Bernardino, 320 W. E St., 7 pm to 3 am.

PRESTOS: Restaurant and catering, complete party planning. Smooth jazz from 7-9 pm. Open Thurs.-Sat., 7 am - 9 pm, Sun. - Mon. 11 am - 8 pm. (909) 699-0019. www.prestosonline.com.

IGUANA JOE'S: 151 Alessandro Blvd, in Riverside. Nightly specials, 15% military discount. Karaoke on Sat., 9 pm - 1 am. (909) 789-0211.

Parks & Gardens

CALIFORNIA CITRUS STATE HISTORIC PARK: Museum open Wed., Sat., and Sun., from 10 am to 4 pm. Trails, picnic facilities and activity building rentals. Park hours are 8 am - 5 pm winter and 7 pm summer. At the corner of van Buren Blvd. and Dufferin Ave. in Riverside. (909) 780-6222.

UCR BOTANIC GARDENS: UC Riverside, 900 University Ave., Riverside, (909) 787-4650

GLEN IVY HOT SPRINGS: 25000 Glen Ivy Rd., Corona, (909) 277-3529

OAK GLEN APPLE RANCHES: Along Oak Glen Rd., Oak Glen, (909) 797-6833

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GILMAN RANCH: Historic interpretive programs, wagon museum, picnic facilities, Wilson and 16th streets, Banning. (909) 922-9200

IDYLLWILD NATURE CENTER: Interpretive facility, museum, environmental education, 1 mile northwest of Idyllwild on 25225 Hwy 243. Children's Discovery area, local history, wildlife, gift shop. (909) 659-3850

Racing

ADAMS KART TRACK: Pro shop, kart track, racing school. 5292 24th St. in Riverside. (909) 686-3826. www.adamskart.com.

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Ski & Snow

BEAR MOUNTAIN: It has a vertical drop of 1,700 feet, 11 chair lifts and 27 trails from beginner to advanced. With their new frequent-skier program, a free day of skiing can be earned with three midweek skiing days. Bear Mountain is on Moonridge Road in Big Bear Lake. (909) 585-2519.

MOUNT BALDY: Just north of Upland and Ontario, Mount Baldy has four lifts serving four mountains on more than 400 acres of terrain and has a 2,100-foot vertical drop. Mount Baldy Village is off Interstate 10 at Mountain Avenue, north of Upland. (909) 981-3344.

SKI SUNRISE: Located in Wrightwood near Mountain High Ski Area, this neighborhood resort has one quad chair and two pullman lifts on 100 acres of terrain, with an 800-foot vertical drop. About half the runs are intermediate and the rest are either advanced or beginner. Ski Sunrise is in Wrightwood along Highway 2. (619) 249-6150.

SNOW SUMMIT: Extensive renovations at Snow Summit include a new high-speed quad chair, the All-Mountain Xpress, which carries

skiers more than a mile to the 8,200-foot peak. There are 12 chair lifts and an 1,175-foot vertical drop with beginner through expert runs on 230 skiable acres and 18 miles of runs. Snow Summit is at 880 Summit Blvd., Big Bear Lake. (909) 866-5766.

SNOW VALLEY: Located a few miles from Running Springs, Snow Valley has 14 lifts accessing 36 trails on 235 acres of terrain. The largest ski area in the San Bernardino Mountains, with a peak elevation of 7,841 feet, the resort offers a 1,141-foot vertical drop. Also features children's ski center and Alpine dining room. Snow Valley is 5 miles east of Running Springs on Highway 187. (909) 867-2751.

SILVERWOOD LAKE STATE RECREATION AREA: I-15 north to the Silverwood/Palmdale exit, then right at the stop sign and follow Highway 138 to the park.

HUMBER PARK: About 2 1/2 miles north of the Idyllwild Forest Ranger Station in the San Jacinto Mountains. Call (909) 659-2117.

ALPINE SLIDE AT MAGIC MOUNTAIN: A full service family favorite that's also home to the signature bobsled-like ride of the same name. The Alpine Slide lets riders experience Olympic-like action as they negotiate sleds

along a quarter-mile track with banked turns and long straightaways. Getting to the top is a snap with Magic Carpet uphill lifts. Guests just step onto the moving conveyor belt with their inner tubes for an uphill ride that has them back on the snow. The Alpine Slide at Magic Mountain is located on the boulevard in Big Bear Lake, 1/4 mile west of the Village shopping area, home to 60 specialty stores. 800 Wild Rose Lane. Call (909) 866-4626.

SNOWDRIFT: Highway 18, 4 miles above Running Springs and 1 mile below Snow Valley Ski Resort.

BIG PINES RECREATION AREA: 4 miles west of Wrightwood. Call the Visitor Center at (619) 249-3504 for current snowplay areas.

Theater/Ballet/Opera

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: Dec. 12, 7 pm; Dec. 13, 2 and 7 pm; Dec. 14, 2 pm. **Riverside Community Players in Riverside.** Family Series Performance. Tickets \$8. 4026 Fourteenth St., Riverside. (909) 369-1200. www.riversidecommunityplayers.org.

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“A Christmas Memory”

The Performance Loft, Redlands’ alternative dance and theatre company, presents “A Christmas Memory,” by Truman Capote on Dec. 19.

A Christmas Memory is becoming one of Redlands’ new Holiday traditions. This endearing performance of Truman Capote’s childhood memoir is an evening for the whole family: live music, live sound effects, live evergreens, hot cocoa and lovely storytelling about the power of love between generations.

Set in rural Alabama during the Depression, “A Christmas Memory” beautifully renders the author’s unique boyhood friendship with his elder cousin, Miss Sook Faulk.

The story recalls the last Christmas he spent with his boyhood best friend. It was the 1930’s, he was seven years old and his best friend was his distant cousin, the enchanting Miss Sook Faulk, a woman in her late sixties. Each fall, in preparation for Christmas, they scrape together

pennies, bake fruitcakes, and mail them to acquaintances around the world. The memory of that friendship celebrates the power of love between generations and the spirit of giving.

“A Christmas Memory” is performed this year in the Glenn Wallichs Theatre on the University of Redlands campus at University Avenue one block north of the 10 freeway in Redlands. It is directed by Chris Beach with performances by Chris Beach, Jo Dierdorff, Ana González David Strausberger, and Jessica Yowell. Live music is provided by Ana Gonzáles, David Jorgensen, David Strausberger, and Jeff Wilson

- Dates: Friday, December 19th, at 11am and 8pm; Saturday, December 20th, at 2pm and 8pm
- Place: Glenn Wallichs Theatre on the University of Redlands campus
- Phone: 909-748-6262 for reservations
- Tickets: \$15.00 , children under 12 \$8.00
- Tickets on sale at Frugal Frigate, J.D. Myers, and Wilsons Jewelers.

13, 2pm and 8 pm. Performance Riverside’s Family Series, in Riverside. (909) 222-8100. www.performanceriverside.org.

A CHRISTMAS MEMORY: Truman Capote’s heartwarming holiday treat for the whole family. Performance Loft, Dec. 15, 11am and 8 pm; Dec. 20, 2 pm and 8 pm. Tickets \$15, \$8 for children under 12. 345 H. 5th St. in Redlands. (909) 748-6262.

FABULOUS PALM SPRINGS FOLLIES: “Hooray for Hollywood,” through May 30, 2004. Plaza Theatre in Palm Springs. (760) 327-0225. www.psfollies.com.

GREAT MOMENTS IN OPERA SERIES: A Daytime New Year’s Party, Dec. 28, 3-6 pm. Reynir Gudmanson, Baritone, “Hopping John” demonstration. At the Riverside Municipal Museum in downtown Riverside. Sponsored by the Riverside Museum Associates and Riverside Opera Guild. (909) 826-5273. www.ci.riverside.ca.us/museum.

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS: Through Dec. 14, stage production of the classic film. Palm Canyon Theatre, Palm Springs. (760) 323-5123.

MUSIC MAN CASTING CALL: Jan. 5, 2004, 5-8 pm. CAST productions, Mission Theater, Fallbrook. (760) 731-CAST.



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Lifehouse Theater presents classic Christmas musical, 'Little Women'

LifeHouse Theater continues its tenth anniversary season with the return of an award winning Christmas favorite, "Little Women." Based on the classic 1868 novel by Louisa May Alcott, this popular original musical has been written by Wayne Scott and directed with new touches by Jane Cason.

"Little Women" opens Saturday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 pm and continues weekends through Dec. 30, 2003. Following the Saturday opening, performance times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:15 pm. Special weekday evening performances will be held on Thursday, Dec. 11 and 18, Monday, Dec. 29 and Tuesday, Dec. 30 at 7:30 pm.

"The Christmas Season is always special at LifeHouse and the return of this popular musical will set just the right mood," said LifeHouse President Wayne Scott. "We love to see our audiences uplifted and inspired by our stories and 'Little Women' always delights everyone who sees it."

"This truly talented cast evokes the spirit of the season and the story," director Jane Cason said. "The new choreography, new scenery and some new surprises combine with the music and added



The "Little Women" title characters are played by (from left to right) Jordan Mertins, Jana Daley, Rebecca Yardrough, Julie Stephenson and Chelsea Unger.

Christmas carols for an unforgettable experience."

Hearts will be warmed by this poignant portrayal of four little women as they learn about life, love and sorrow during a very special Christmas season and the difficult days of the Civil War.

Advance tickets for "Little Women" are \$10-\$16 for adults, \$5-\$9 for children ages 3-11. Children under age 3 are not admitted. Reservations may be made by calling (909) 335-3037, ext. 21. Tickets are \$1 more on the day of the performance.

The LifeHouse Theater is located at 1135 N. Church St., Redlands.

www.playwrightscircleusa.com.

RIVERSIDE CHILDREN'S THEATER: Annie, Dec. 5, 6, 12, 13, at Ramona High School, 7675 Magnolia Ave., Riverside. (909) 689-5676 or (909) 359-6075.

PERFORMANCE RIVERSIDE: At Riverside Community College. For further information or to purchase tickets call the Performance Riverside box office at (909) 222-8100 or log on to www.performanceriverside.org.

REDLANDS FOOTLIGHTERS: For information, call (909) 793-2909 or visit www.redlandsfootlighters.org.

RIVERSIDE LITTLE OPERA: Choruses, arias, duets and ensembles from Carmen, Faust, Pearl Fishers and Lakme. "Amahl and the Night Visitors," Jan. 3, 7:30 pm and Jan. 4, 4 pm. Held at All Saints Episcopal Church in Riverside. (909) 683-8466.

SAN BERNARDINO CIVIC LIGHT OPERA: California Theatre of Performing Arts, 562 Fourth St., San Bernardino. For information call (909) 889-6564.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC: Dec. 9-11, McCallum Theatre, Palm Desert. (760) 340-2787. www.mccallumtheatre.com.

LIFEHOUSE THEATER: (909) 335-3037 ext. 21. Dec. 6-30, "Little Women." Dec. 6 at 7:30 pm. Following the opening, times are Fridays and Saturdays 7:30 pm and Saturdays and Sundays 2:15 pm. Special evening performances Dec. 11 and 18, Dec. 29 and Dec. 30 at 7:30 pm. Advance tickets \$10-\$16 for adults, \$5-\$9 for children ages 3-11. Children under age 3 are not admitted. Reservations may be made by calling (909) 335-3037, ext. 21. Tickets are \$1 more on the day of the performance. The theater is located at 1135 N. Church St. in Redlands.

RAMONA BOWL: www.ramonabowl.com. The theater is located at 27400 Ramona Bowl Rd. in Hemet.

ANNENBERG THEATER: Theater located on the lower level of the Palm Springs Desert Museum at 101 Museum Drive, Palm Springs. www.psmuseum.org. (760) 325-4490.

BEN BOLLINGER'S CANDLELIGHT PAVILION DINNER THEATER: Through Dec. 28, "The Wonderful World of Christmas." Gift certificates available. (909) 626-1254. 455 Foothill Blvd., Claremont.

WHODUNIT INTERACTIVE THEATER: Temecula, held every Friday and Saturday at 7 pm. Tickets \$32.50 per person (discounts for seniors, students, military and groups of 10+). Dine at the Country Garden Restaurant. (909) 323-3292.

THE CALIFORNIA BALLET, in Riverside, offers "Nutcracker" in December and "Cinderella" in January. Information, call (909) 787-7850.

CHINO COMMUNITY THEATRE 909-590-1149. **RCC'S OFF-BROADWAY PLAY SERIES,** 2003-2004 season includes: "Picnic," April 2-11, 2004; "Fifth of July," May 21-23, 2004; and "Proof," July 16-25, 2004. Call (909) 222-8100 for information.

MCCALLUM THEATRE: 73000 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert. Dec. 1 Willie Nelson; "The Sound of Music," Dec. 9-11, with "Cats" coming in January, 2004. (760) 340-ARTS.

RIVERSIDE CHILDREN'S THEATER "Treasure Island" in December. Call (909) 689-5660.

THEATRICAL ARTS INTERNATIONAL AT THE CALIFORNIA THEATER IN SAN BERNARDINO: "Copacabana," March 24-28, 2004; "Fosse," April 21-25, 2004; "Children of

THE NUTCRACKER: Presented by the Inland Pacific Ballet, Dec. 7-21, at the historic Bridges Auditorium, The Claremont Colleges. For tickets and information, call (909) 607-1139.

THE NUTCRACKER: Dec. 17, Moscow Festival Ballet. At the McCallum Theatre in Palm Desert. (760) 340-2787. www.mccallumtheatre.com.

THE NUTCRACKER BALLET: Dec. 20-22 at 2 pm and 8 pm, Dec. 21 at 1 pm and 5 pm., Dec. 22 at 8 pm. Holiday ballet spectacular. Riverside Municipal Auditorium, 3485 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. (909) 788-3944. www.riversidemunicipalauditorium.com.

PALM SPRINGS NATIONAL SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL: Dec. 4-7, premieres of award-winning plays featuring local actors. Black Box Theatre, Palm Springs. (760) 416-4376.

a Lesser God," April 28-May 2, 2004. At Pechanga Resort in Temecula: "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," March 9-14, 2004; "Fosse," April 13-18, 2004; "Spirit of the Dance," June 1-6, 2004. (909) 885-5152.

DAVE AND BUSTERS, "JOEY AND MARIA'S COMEDY ITALIAN WEDDING": Interactive dinner theater. Seating at 6:30 pm. Dave and Busters at Ontario Mills. \$49.50. Reservations, call 1-800-944-5639.

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SAN DIEGO ZOO: 2920 Zoo Dr., San Diego, CA (619) 634-3153

SAN DIEGO WILD ANIMAL PARK: 15500 San Pasqual Vly., Escondido, CA, (760) 767-8702

SOAK CITY WATER PARK: Palm Springs, (760) 327-0499

WILD RIVERS WATER PARK: 8770 Irvine Center Dr., Irvine, CA, (949) 788-0808

ALPINE SLIDE: Family fun in the snow at Big Bear Lake. \$20 for an all-day pass. 800 Wild Rose Lane, Big Bear Lake, (909) 866-4626.

RAGING WATERS: 111 Raging Waters Dr., San Dimas, (909) 802-2200

SNOW PLAY: Family fun tubing in the snow at Big Bear Lake. \$18 for an all-day pass. (909) 585-0075.

FIESTA VILLAGE: 1405 E. Washington St., Colton, (909) 824-1111

CASTLE AMUSEMENT PARK: 3500 Polk St., Riverside. (909) 785-3000.

PHARAOH'S LOST KINGDOM ADVENTURE PARK: 1101 N. California, Redlands, CA, 92374. (909) 335-7275. www.pharaohslostkingdom.com.

SCANDIA THEME PARK: I-15 between I-10 and Hwy. 60, Ontario, (909) 390-3092

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ARROWHEAD QUEEN, Mississippi River-style paddle boat launches its narrated tours of Lake Arrowhead from the Village Waterfront Marina, located in the Lake Arrowhead Village. Adults \$12, seniors 55+ \$10, children 3-11 \$7.50, children under 3 free. Call (909) 336-6992.

HOLIDAY HOME TOUR: Dec. 7, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, a tour of the most unique homes in Redlands. All proceeds benefit Y programs for women and families. Advance tickets \$25, day of tour \$30. (909) 793-2957.

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