

Media Contact

Tanesha Ford ArtPride New Jersey tford@artpridenj.org 609.479.3377 ext. 303

Discover Jersey Arts Launches the 2024 Winter Holidays Guide: "Experience the Magic of the Holiday Season"

BURLINGTON, N.J. (November 26, 2024) – As the festive season approaches, Discover Jersey Arts, a program of ArtPride New Jersey, is proud to unveil the 2024 Winter Holidays Guide, a curated collection of holiday-themed events across New Jersey. This year, finding the perfect family adventure is easier than ever with the newly redesigned <u>JerseyArts.com</u>, where arts enthusiasts can simply enter their zip code to discover the best holiday events near them.

The 2024 Winter Holidays Guide encourages families and friends to embrace the spirit of the season through a wide array of performances, festivals, and exhibitions. Whether it's a magical holiday concert, a timeless theatrical performance, or a community arts festival, the Winter Holidays Guide will fit the bill for every New Jerseyean. With events stretching from the Jersey Shore to the mountainous northwest, this guide makes it simple to find nearby festivities and create lasting memories.

"This year, with the enhanced JerseyArts.com, planning your holiday experiences is more convenient than ever. We're excited to help families 'Experience the Magic of the Holiday Season' right in their own communities," said Adam Perle, President & CEO of the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation. "Amidst the challenges and stresses of the Fall, the arts offer a perfect escape, and our guide is designed to inspire joy, wonder, and connection through New Jersey's vibrant arts scene."

The 2024 Winter Holidays Guide features five standout events across the state, **from live performances and winter art markets to cozy holiday screenings**, the guide highlights New Jersey's vibrant creative community. Residents and visitors alike can experience the best of the state's holiday-themed cultural offerings and create lasting memories.

Seasonal Highlights include:

- The Nutcracker
 - From November 29 through December 22
 - American Repertory Ballet at various locations throughout NJ



- www.arballet.org/event/nut/
- The Nutcracker is a beloved holiday tradition, captivating audiences with its magical story, Tchaikovsky's enchanting score, and iconic choreography. Follow Clara and her Nutcracker Prince on a journey through battling mice, dancing snowflakes, and the Land of Sweets, greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy. Featuring professional artists and over 100 Princeton Ballet School students, this timeless production delights audiences of all ages.
- Image: <u>https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/q6s6d9fh8voobhwt151wz/ARB-Nutcracker.png?rlk</u> ey=Imyyr0dpxzhezg78qpl4ppiey&dl=0
- Big Bad Voodoo Daddy's Wild and Swingin' Holiday Party
 - December 4
 - Grunin Center for the Arts in Toms River Township, NJ
 - <u>www.grunincenter.org/event/big-bad-voodoo-daddy</u>
 - For 30 years, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy has thrilled audiences worldwide with its vibrant swing and jazz. Their "Wild and Swingin' Holiday Party" features holiday classics like Jingle Bells, Winter Wonderland, and unique originals like Rockabilly Christmas and It Feels Like Christmas Time. With spirited arrangements, soulful reflections, and dynamic performances, this holiday show promises fun for the whole family.
 - Image:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/hky0g32om5k22t5cny8qs/Big-Bad-Voodoo.jpg?rlk ey=3sxqa9ij112u88dyku1l7er10&dl=0

- Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol
 - December 4 through December 29
 - Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey in Madison, NJ
 - o www.shakespearenj.org/events/detail/christmas-carol
 - Scrooge's iconic journey from miser to humanitarian appears fresh and new in Neil Bartlett's bold and highly-theatrical adaptation. Using a small ensemble of actors to bring the vast inhabitants of Dickens' world to life (animate and inanimate alike) — everything from the merry Fezziwigs to Scrooge's complaining lightbulb — this inventive production is sure to capture the imaginations of the entire family and fill audiences with the magical spirit of the season.
 - Image:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/jlpaui0r5b7xnmy2qbwte/Christmas-Carol.png?rlke y=pujwnxdjzdh8x9thslr1s1ign&dl=0

- Twelve Twenty-Four
 - December 15
 - Levoy Theatre in Millville, NJ



- <u>www.levoy.net/event/twelve-twenty-four</u>
- Established in 2002, Twelve Twenty-Four presents a high energy, full-scale, holiday rock orchestra concert featuring everyone's favorite rock-edge holiday music as well as their own holiday creations. Twelve Twenty-Four includes a six-piece rock band, multi-piece string section, and a variety of vocalists. This dedicated group of performers work year-round to deliver a theatrical and memorable Christmas concert experience suitable for fans of all ages.
- Image: <u>https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/xny5dzvoh7820zzvvwc18/Twelve-Twenty-Four.pn</u> g?rlkey=ifpy8qwz2n20gu3yf6d273swi&dl=0

• First Night Morris

- December 31
- First Night Morris at Downtown Morristown, NJ
- <u>www.firstnightmorris.org</u>
- Beginning in 1992, First Night® Morris County is now the LARGEST First Night® in the Mid-Atlantic. Join your friends and neighbors for our 33rd year of ringing in the New Year with an unmatched array of performances! First Night Morris County 2025 is the biggest and brightest New Year's Eve celebration in New Jersey, providing a magnificent, family-friendly, substance and alcohol-free celebration in the heart of Morristown.
- Image:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/oe53o3h21i8kh5ao1tlir/FirstNight_header.jpg?rlke y=uaw78fn0se77xq800o2964zp4&dl=0

To explore the full list of events and start planning your holiday arts adventures, visit the **2024 Winter Holiday Guide** at <u>JerseyArts.com/Holidays</u>.

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About Discover Jersey Arts

Discover Jersey Arts is a program of the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation dedicated to increasing awareness of and participation in the arts statewide. The <u>JerseyArts.com</u> website showcases New Jersey's creative community with feature stories, videos, and podcasts; highlighted events; and other content. Discover Jersey Arts was cofounded and is supported by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

About the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation

The ArtPride New Jersey Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that promotes the value of the arts to New Jersey's quality of life, education, and economic vitality through research and a



variety of programs and services. For more information about ArtPride New Jersey, visit <u>ArtPrideNJ.org</u>.

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About the New Jersey State Council on the Arts

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts, created in 1966, is a division of the N.J. Department of State. The Council was established to encourage and foster public interest in the arts; enlarge public and private resources devoted to the arts; promote freedom of expression in the arts; and facilitate the inclusion of art in every public building in New Jersey. The Council receives direct appropriations from the State of New Jersey through a dedicated, renewable Hotel/Motel Occupancy Fee, as well as competitive grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. To learn more about the Council, please visit www.artscouncil.nj.gov.