



NEWS RELEASE

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Toledo Museum of Art Offers 'The Great Art Escape' on Dec. 27-Dec. 31, 2011

TOLEDO, OHIO—Are you looking for something to do with family and friends between the Christmas and New Year's holidays? Why not visit the Toledo Museum of Art and take part in The Great Art Escape, five days (Dec. 27–Dec. 31) full of arts activities for those of all ages.

Each day of The Great Art Escape features different programming related to the Museum's extraordinary collection of art. There will be storytelling, performances in the Great Gallery, mini-performances highlighting works of art in the TMA collection, drawing in the galleries, and the chance for visitors to sketch designs and see Museum artists create their designs in glass.

Admission to the Museum and all of the activities is free. Parking is free for Museum members and \$5 for nonmembers.

"There will be a lot going on throughout the Museum, so you'll be able to go from one space to another and find different activities," explained Judy Weinberg of the Museum's staff.

Mini-performances will be vignettes of no longer than 15 minutes with short, 10-minute breaks between performances.

Storytelling sessions will feature books that relate to paintings or sculpture in the Museum's collection. Examples include "Ten Little Mummies" by Philip Yates, which will be read amid antiquities in Classic Court, and "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak, which will be read in the Cloister, a favorite gallery of children.

Drawing will be led by art teachers who will focus on a different element of art at each painting, Weinberg said. "You don't need to have any prior experience to have some fun drawing and to learn something that perhaps you didn't know about the elements of art," she added.

Here is the daily schedule of activities for The Great Art Escape:

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Tuesday, Dec. 27

Storytelling: 10:30 a.m. to Noon and 1:30–3 p.m. in Classic Court, the Cloister, Gallery 4, Gallery 19 and Gallery 35

Great Gallery Performance: 12:30–1:30 p.m., Ardan Academy Irish Dancers

Mini-performances: Noon to 1:30 p.m., Toledo Ballet in Gallery 35

Glass Demonstrations in the Glass Pavilion: 1, 2 and 3 p.m. demonstrations include glass objects made from designs submitted by visitors

Family Center Activities: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Holiday Memories! Make your own book to fill with special moments with family and friends.

Wednesday, Dec. 28

Drawing in the Galleries: 10:30 a.m. to Noon and 1:30–3 p.m.

Performance: Noon to 1:30 p.m., Susan Craig at the Dutch organ in Gallery 24

Glass Demonstrations in the Glass Pavilion: 1, 2 and 3 p.m. demonstrations include glass objects made from designs submitted by visitors

Thursday, Dec. 29

Storytelling: 10:30 a.m. to Noon and 1:30–3 p.m. in Classic Court, the Cloister, by the Matisse Mural, Gallery 32 and Gallery 29A

Mini-performances: Noon to 1:30 p.m.: Gladys Rudolph at the Dutch organ in Gallery 24

Glass Demonstrations in the Glass Pavilion: 1, 2 and 3 p.m. demonstrations include glass objects made from designs submitted by visitors

Family Center Activities: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Holiday Memories! Make your own book to fill with special moments with family and friends.

Mini-performances: 2–3 p.m., Joy Turner on the Castle piano in Gallery 1

Friday, Dec. 30

Drawing in the Galleries: 10:30 a.m. to Noon, 1:30–3 p.m. and 7–8:30 p.m.

Mini-performances: Noon to 1:30 p.m.: Chinese Association of Greater Toledo in Gallery 29A

Mini-performance: 4–4:30 p.m., Hindu Dancers in Gallery 29A

Performance: 7–7:30 p.m.: Musica Antigua in the Cloister

Glass Demonstrations in the Glass Pavilion: 1, 2 and 3 p.m. demonstrations include glass objects made from designs submitted by visitors

Saturday, Dec. 31 (New Year's Eve)

Mini-performances: 1:30–3:30 p.m.: Leyla (belly dancer) in Classic Court

Great Gallery Performance: 1–2:30 p.m., Chinese Association of Greater Toledo

Glass Demonstrations in the Glass Pavilion: 1, 2 and 3 p.m. demonstrations include glass objects made from designs submitted by visitors

Visit the Museum's website at www.toledomuseum.org for information about other activities and current special exhibitions. The Museum closes at 4 p.m. on New Year's Eve and is closed on Jan. 1–2, 2012.

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Note: For images or further information, contact Teri Sharp, public relations manager, at 419-254-5082 or tsharp@toledomuseum.org, or Kelly Fritz Garrow, director of communications, at 419-255-8000, ext. 7408, or kgarrow@toledomuseum.org.

The mission of the Toledo Museum of Art is based upon the belief in the power of art to ignite the imagination, stimulate thought, and provide enjoyment. Through our collection and programs, we strive to integrate art into the lives of people.

The Toledo Museum of Art is a nonprofit arts institution funded through individual donations, foundation grants, corporate sponsorships, and investments. The Ohio Arts Council helps fund programs at the Toledo Museum of Art through a sustainable grant program that encourages economic growth, educational excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. Glass Pavilion® and Toledo Museum of Art Glass Pavilion® are registered service marks of the Toledo Museum of Art.

Admission to the Museum is free. The Museum is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, Noon to 6 p.m.; closed Mondays and major holidays. Friday evening hours are made possible by Fifth Third Bank.

The Museum is located at 2445 Monroe Street at Scottwood Avenue, just west of the downtown business district and one block off I-75 with exit designations posted. For general information, visitors can call 419-255-8000 or 800-644-6862, or visit www.toledomuseum.org.