



# PRESS RELEASE

## For Immediate Release:

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## CITY OF WINTER PARK ANNOUNCES ANNUAL HOLIDAY EVENTS LINEUP

CITY OF WINTER PARK

401 Park Avenue South

Winter Park, Florida

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**WINTER PARK, Fla. an internationally recognized ICMA Excellence Award winner (November 20, 2008)** – The City of Winter Park is once again preparing to host a string of festive events this holiday season. Gather with friends, family and loved ones to experience these annual Winter Park holiday traditions.

The season begins with a special **Holiday Pops** concert performed by the **Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra** on **Sunday, November 30**, at 6 p.m., in beautiful Central Park. This wonderful outdoor event has become a tradition in Central Florida. Bring a blanket and a picnic and get ready for a concert program of holiday favorites that will be sure to put everyone in the spirit of the season. Guest Conductor Anthony Hose will lead the Philharmonic and Soprano Angela Mortellaro will join the orchestra for a special performance. This free concert is made possible by the Charlotte Julia Hollander Trust. For more information, please call 407-896-6700.

The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art continues a Winter Park holiday tradition with the **30<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas in the Park Celebration** on **Thursday, December 4**. Central Park creates the beautiful backdrop for the lighting of eight turn-of-the-century Tiffany windows as the Bach Festival Choir performs in concert from the main stage. The two-hour program begins at 6 p.m. For more information, please call 407-645-5311.

On **Friday, December 5**, the festivities continue with the city's **Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and Holiday Stroll** beginning at 5 p.m. in Central Park. The large Christmas tree, donated approximately 18 years ago by WFTV anchorman, Bob Opsahl, will be the centerpiece for this wonderful holiday event and the lights will continue to shine throughout the holiday season. For more information, please call 407-644-8281.

In conjunction with the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on **Friday, December 5**, the City of Winter Park and Enzian Theater will present **Popcorn Flicks in Central Park** featuring "Gremlins." The movie will show from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. For more information, please call 407-629-0054.

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On **Saturday, December 6**, Park Avenue comes to life at 9 a.m. with the **56th annual Winter Park Christmas Parade**. This family-friendly occasion showcases holiday-themed floats, well-known local figures and a special appearance from Santa Claus, as they make their way down the avenue. For more information, please call 407-644-8281.

Before, during and after the Christmas parade on **Saturday, December 6**, the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce will host the **10<sup>th</sup> annual Leadership Winter Park Pancake Breakfast** at the Central Park main stage from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes for just \$5 per person with proceeds benefiting Winter Park area elementary schools. For more information, please call 407-644-8281.

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. on **Saturday, December 13**. Winter Park's **13<sup>th</sup> annual Merry Tuba Christmas** is a one-hour concert that has become a must see on the holiday list of things to do. Registration for musicians begins at 8:30 a.m., with rehearsal running from 10:30 am to 12 noon. For more information, please call 407-599-3463.

**5<sup>th</sup> annual Winter Park Boat Parade and Festival of Lights** on **Saturday, December 13**, has been **CANCELLED**. For more information, please call 407-474-7885.

The **Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra** will continue the string of seasonal events with an afternoon of holiday favorites from the Central Park main stage on **Sunday, December 14**, at 2:30 p.m. For more information please call 407-999-7800.

Young and old will have the chance to mingle with Old St. Nick himself as **Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus visit Winter Park Neighborhoods** in their sleigh during the **third week of December**. For more information about when Santa will be jingling into your neck of the woods, please call 407-599-3334.

On **Thursday, December 18**, the City of Winter Park and Enzian Theater will present **Popcorn Flicks in Shady Park** featuring "Scrooged." The movie will show from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Shady Park which is adjacent to the Winter Park Community Center at 721 West New England Avenue. For more information, please call 407-629-0054.

Chabad of Greater Orlando presents **Hanukah in the Park** on **Sunday, December 21**, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., in Central Park. This festive celebration featuring the lighting of a giant Menorah will also include live entertainment and Hanukah treats for all to enjoy.

The City of Winter Park will proudly host the **2<sup>nd</sup> annual Champs Sports Bowl Parade of Bands** on **Friday, December 26**, at 2 p.m. Bands from the soon-to-be announced Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) and Big Ten teams will march through downtown Winter Park and perform a battle of the bands in Central Park.

For complete details on these and other City of Winter Park events, please visit our official Web site at [www.cityofwinterpark.org](http://www.cityofwinterpark.org)

**The City of Winter Park wishes everyone a very happy holiday season and a joyous New Year!**

