

# EVENTS

CALENDAR



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SNAPSHOT

**Pearland's Winterfest**

See more inside...



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# EVENTS

WINTER 2018-19



## Let's Rodeo

**W**hether this is your first rodeo or your 50th, a night at the iconic San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo can offer some of the most exciting 8 seconds in the sports. As one of the highest-paying rodeos in the industry, with a purse just shy of \$1.5 million, it's

become one of the city's largest annual events, with more than 2 million visitors each year. Built in the late 1940s to house this growing livestock show, the Joe and Harry Freeman Coliseum still hosts the stock show and exhibits today, while the main rodeo event now takes place in the adjacent AT&T Center. Attractions of this 18-day event, Feb. 7-24, include the Texas Wildlife Expo, pony rides, and a Cowboy Boot Camp where kids can learn to lasso and milk a cow. Along with classic rodeo

highlights like mutton bustin', bull riding, steer wrestling, and barrel racing, head to the horse show arena on Feb. 17 to celebrate Hispanic heritage at the rodeo with the Dia de Vaquero ceremony. Weekends at this year's show will feature Rodeo after Dark with food, beverages, and live music until midnight from Thursday to Saturday. Don't miss the Craft Beer Tap Room, now combined with the Wine Garden as a communal gathering area with a new live music venue. [sarodeo.com/tickets](http://sarodeo.com/tickets)

### LET IT SNOW

Texans don't let a lack of snow get in the way of winter fun. At Pearland's Winterfest, the annual outdoor festival blows in more than 200,000 pounds of snow on Jan. 26, with snow tubing hills and snow play areas in the H-E-B Winter Zone. Family-friendly activities include an exotic petting zoo and pony rides, virtual reality games, winter-themed inflatables, rock climbing, craft vendors, and local food. Celebrating its 23rd year, it's one of the city's largest events, welcoming up to 10,000 attendees to the Pearland Recreation Center & Natatorium each year. Admission is \$10 for children ages 3 to 16, \$5 for ages 17 and older, and free to children 2 and younger. Save \$2 on pre-sale tickets until Jan. 24 with a canned good donation for the Pearland Neighborhood Center. [visitpearland.com](http://visitpearland.com)

ON THE COVER



# CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

## DECEMBER



### 1st

**ROUND TOP: Christmas Parade** With carolers, vintage cars, fun floats, and the occasional farm animal, this seasonal parade offers a chance for residents and visitors to come together to enjoy some small-town Christmas charm. **979-249-4042; roundtop.org**

### 1st

**MCALLEN: Holiday Parade** This award-winning parade is the largest illuminated holiday and helium balloon parade in Texas. It features more than 50 vibrant lighted floats, more than 30 larger-than-life inflatable character balloons, marching bands, and a celebrity-filled lineup. **956-681-1200; mcallenholidayparade.com**

### 1st

**TOMBALL: Narrated Glass Blowing Demonstration** Three Dimensional Visions, Houston's only open-access glass-blowing studio, offers free, narrated demos on the first Saturday of the month. Make your own holiday ornaments, gifts, and more. **281-734-0366; threedimensionalvisions.com**

### 15th

**AUSTIN: Bruce and Kelly's Annual Holiday Shindig** The singer-songwriter husband-and-wife duo perform songs from their Christmas album "Happy Holidays," holiday-themed classics, and more. **512-474-1221; austintheatre.org**

### 29th

**RICHMOND: New Year's Eve Historical Bash** Prepare for the countdown to 2019 at George Ranch Historical Park with a historical mask-making and noisemaking craft, and learn the dos and don'ts of "first-footing." At noon, a countdown is held at the 1830s Jones Stock Farm followed by a special New Year's Eve meal. **281-343-0218; georgeranch.org**

### 31st

**FREDERICKSBURG: USO-Style Hangar Dance** The Hangar Hotel hosts a New Year's Eve bash featuring big-band music, benefiting USO Ft. Hood. The evening offers swing dance lessons, a Champagne toast, a costume contest, a photo booth, and black-eyed peas at midnight. **830-997-9990; hangarhotel.com**

## JANUARY



### 1st

**GRUENE: Hair of the Dog Day** Enjoy free live shows all day on New Year's Day at the oldest dance hall in Texas: Gruene Hall. **830-606-1281; gruenehall.com**

### 11th-13th

**NEW BRAUNFELS: San Antonio Area Vintage Guitar and Instrument Show** Buy, sell, and trade guitars and other string instruments during the 10th annual event. **830-221-4011; jukejoint.com/saguitarshow.htm**

### 14th

**HARLINGEN: Winter Texan Fiesta** This business expo offers a live concert and giveaways for the more than 5,000 Texans who winter in the Rio Grande Valley. **956-622-5053; visitharlingentexas.com**

### 19th

**FREDERICKSBURG: Luckenbach Blues Festival** This 12th annual celebration features local, regional, and Texas blues artists at the historic Luckenbach Texas Dance Hall. **830-997-3224; luckenbachtexas.com**

### 21st

**HOUSTON: MLK Grande Parade—Midtown Houston** The 25th annual parade—one of the largest single-day multicultural events in the U.S.—is held in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The parade features more than 300 culturally diverse performing groups from across the nation. This year's parade theme is "It Takes A Village." **713-953-1633; mlkgrandeparade.org**

### 24th-27th

**ROUND TOP: Winter Antique Show** The Round Top Antiques Show draws people from across the U.S. to shop from more than 100 vendors. For the winter show, there are great deals to be had and vintage finds you won't see anyplace else. **979-249-4042; antiqueweekend.com**

### 25th-26th

**SAN ANTONIO: Barbecue Cookoff and Festival** The San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo's barbecue cookoff features some of the world's best competitive barbecue teams, plus a kids' cookoff, shopping, and more. **9210-225-5851; sarodeo.com**

**FIND EVENTS  
ONLINE**

For more fun things  
to do this winter, visit  
[texashighways.com](http://texashighways.com)

**FEBRUARY**



**9th**

**SAN ANTONIO: Confucius Wishing Lanterns** Cast eco-friendly lanterns into the river in honor of loved ones, hopes, dreams, and wishes. Decorating areas allow guests to personalize their lanterns before dropping them into the river just after sunset. **210-227-4262; sanantonioriverwalk.com**

**16th-18th**

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Troutfest Texas** The largest event of its kind in Texas, this fly-fisher festival brings out a crowd of more than 3,000 people to hear keynote speaker Chris Wood, CEO of Trout Unlimited, and enjoy activities including live auctions, door prizes, great food, and local craft beer. **512-560-4380; grtu.org/troutfest**

**21st-24th**

**EDINBURG: Fiesta Edinburg** This annual festival is one big party featuring attractions such as the Heart of America Carnival, regional food, arts and crafts, and top-notch entertainment. **956-383-4974; edinburg.com**

**21st-24th**

**PORT ARANSAS: Whooping Crane Festival** The Texas Coastal Bend is home to the world's last naturally occurring population of whooping cranes. Festival activities include speakers, boat tours to view whooping cranes, interactive workshops and seminars, and birding and nature boat and bus tours. **austinveteransparade.org**

**22nd-23rd**

**HOUSTON: Trail Rides** One of Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's most iconic events ends before the rodeo even begins. Nearly 3,000 riders and approximately 100 wagons converge in Houston's Memorial Park to participate in the Downtown Rodeo Parade, which heralds the opening of the rodeo. **832-667-1000; rodeohouston.com**

**22nd-24th**

**GALVESTON: Mardi Gras** Galveston kicks off the first weekend of Mardi Gras with parades in the downtown historic district and along the seawall. It's the largest Mardi Gras celebration in Texas. **mardigrasgalveston.com**



The **Texas Highways Events Calendar** is published quarterly by the Travel Information Division of the Texas Department of Transportation with information from Texas chambers of commerce, convention and visitors bureaus, and event organizers.

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**LISTING DEADLINES**

SPRING (March, April, May): Dec. 1  
SUMMER (June, July, Aug.): March 1  
FALL (Sept., Oct., Nov.): June 1  
WINTER (Dec., Jan., Feb.): Sept. 1

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# THE POLAR EXPRESS TRAIN RIDE

*Palestine, TX*

NOV. 17-DEC. 27

SEE PAGE 24



# DECEMBER

## PICKS ACROSS THE STATE

### COTA LIGHTS UP

**Y**ou've rocked around the Christmas tree, but have you raced around the Christmas tree? Thanks to a new tradition at the Circuit of the Americas, you can now do both. Returning for its second year, Winter Wonderland at COTA offers a fun new way to celebrate the holidays in Austin. Premiering Nov. 24 and running through Dec. 31, COTA's Grand Plaza and surrounding grounds transform into an immersive experience with a million lights, music, activities, and food trucks. General admission tickets include access to a petting zoo, holiday movies on the lawn, a walking light trail, Santa's workshop, and local handmade goods in the Bavarian village. This year's Winter Wonderland will also feature The Chinese Lantern Festival, one of China's most traditional celebrations reimaged with modern materials and technology for a mesmerizing and colorful event that will immerse guests in the culture and arts of authentic China. Round off the night with a spin around a giant skating rink on the floor level of the 360 Amphitheater. [circuitoftheamericas.com/winter-wonderland](http://circuitoftheamericas.com/winter-wonderland)



### Blue Christmas

**WHILE THE CLASSIC ELVIS TUNE** might suggest that a Blue Christmas is to be avoided, Wimberley welcomes it wholeheartedly—Blue Hole-heartedly, rather. On Dec. 16, Blue Hole Regional Park transforms from one of the state's favorite swimming holes into one of the best places to celebrate the season in the Texas Hill Country. Now in its fourth year, Wimberley Blue Christmas features horse-drawn carriage rides, an ugly sweater contest and carol singing led by local choirs on the swimming area lawn. Keep warm with hot chocolate and s'mores around the roaring fire at the McCord-Welp Overlook, or visit Santa in the Wood-Grinstead Amphitheater, decorated with blue candy canes. Of course, the main event is the dazzling array of blue lights everywhere you look. [cityofwimberley.com](http://cityofwimberley.com)



### FLOAT ON

Why deck the halls when you can deck the boat? On Dec. 1, head to South Padre and Port Isabel for the annual Lighted Boat Parade to see the Laguna Madre sparkle with festive fun. Beautifully decorated vessels of all shapes and sizes launch from

the South Point Marina, bedazzled with wreaths, inflatable Santas and snowmen, and fantastic lights displays. Free public viewing is available in designated areas throughout the route, which finishes at Jim's Pier for judging. Winners take home up to

\$1,500 cash, along with participant prizes from local hotels, restaurants, and businesses. There's fun for all ages in the Kids Zone at Jim's Pier, including bounce houses, an inflatable obstacle course, and a trackless train. [sopadre.com/events](http://sopadre.com/events)





DECEMBER 2018						
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**Dates for events** listed in this calendar are subject to change. Please confirm dates in advance by calling the number listed or by contacting the local chamber of commerce or convention and visitors bureau.

**BIG BEND COUNTRY**

**DEL RIO: Dec. 1 Wild Game Dinner**

The 29th annual event features a delicious meal and raffle of 125 guns. *Del Rio Civic Center, 1915 Veterans Blvd. 830-775-3551; drchamber.com*

**EL PASO: Nov. 15-Jan. 1 WinterFest**

The Downtown Arts Festival Plaza and surrounding areas will come to life with lights, food, holiday shopping, festivities, and the coolest thing of all: an outdoor ice-skating rink near the Plaza Theatre. *Downtown El Paso. winterfestep.com*

**FORT DAVIS: Dec. 8 Frontier Christmas**

Enjoy a Christmas parade, shopping, photos with Santa, live music, and more. *Various locations. 432-426-3015; fortDavis.com*

**MIDLAND: Dec. 10 Christmas Wonderland Holiday Spectacular**

This holiday show features glittering costumes, a dazzling cast, and the highest-kicking chorus girls this side of the North Pole. Santa and his merry helpers embark on an unforgettable nostalgic journey with favorite holiday tunes like “White Christmas,” “Winter Wonderland,” “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas,” “The Christmas Song,” and “Jingle Bells.” *Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. FM 1788. 432-552-4430; wagnernoel.com*

**MIDLAND: Dec. 29 “A Very Electric Christmas” by Lightwire Theater**

Since rising to national acclaim after ap-

pearing as semi-finalists on “America’s Got Talent” and winning the top honors on TRU TV’s “Fake Off,” Lightwire Theater has gone on to enthrall audiences worldwide with their combination of skill and grace as told through the technological innovations of moving light characters. People of all ages will be captivated by dazzling visuals and a menagerie of characters that magically appear out of the darkness. Combining the arts of puppetry, theater, and dance with the timeless holiday hits, this magical and captivating tale of family, friendship, and hope creates a truly one-of-a-kind holiday experience. *Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. FM 1788. 432-552-4430; wagnernoel.com*

**MONAHANS: Dec. 1 Christmas and Chili Market**

Enjoy breakfast, pictures with Santa, craft vendors, and hot chili. *Ward County Event Center, 1525 E. Monahans Parkway. 432-943-2187; monahans.org*

**MONAHANS: Dec. 3 Lighted Christmas Parade**

This event begins with lighted floats starting at Monahans High School and ends at Hill Park with Santa. Entertainment and refreshments are available. *Hill Park, 500 S. Allen Ave. 432-943-2187; monahans.org*

**ODESSA: Dec. 1 Holly Jolly Market**

Kick off the Christmas season by shopping local vendors with a variety of gifts. *Ector County Coliseum, 4201 Andrews Highway. 432-366-3541; ectorcounycoliseum.org*

**ODESSA: Dec. 1 Parade of Lights**

Businesses, nonprofits, organizations, schools, and individuals enter their floats in this holiday parade for the whole community. The top three floats in each category receive cash prizes. *Downtown Odessa, 119 W. Fourth St. 432-335-4682; downtownodessatx.com*

**PECOS: Dec. 1 Christmas Bazaar**

This ninth annual celebration features vendors of all types, from jewelry to home decor. *Reeves County Sheriff’s Posse Barn, 1400 S. Cedar St. 432-447-7628; visitpecos.com*

**PECOS: Dec. 7 Community Christmas Parade**

This annual event is an evening full of Christmas spirit, hot chocolate, cookies, and lighted floats. Mr. and Mrs. Claus make an appearance. *Pecos Area Chamber of Commerce, 100 E. Dot Stafford St. 432-445-2406; infopecos@gmail.com*

**VAN HORN: Nov. 23-Dec. 10 Trans Pecos Big Buck Tournament**

An annual desert mule deer tournament. *Van Horn Convention Center, 1801 W. Broadway St. 432-283-2682; vanhornTexas.us*

**VAN HORN: Dec. 8 Lighted Christmas Parade and Show and Sell**

Since 1994, festive floats adorned in lights have celebrated the season. This open house offers vendors, food, arts and crafts, and entertainment. *Downtown Van Horn, 1801 W. Broadway. 432-283-2682; vanhornTexas.org*

**GULF COAST**

**BAYTOWN: Dec. 8 Christmas Past and Present**

Stroll up the candlelit pathway and tour historic structures dressed in period decorations made of fresh greenery. Children can enjoy Christmas stories, music, and activities, and Santa is in the barn ready to hear their wishes. *Republic of Texas Plaza, 5117 N. Main St. 281-421-2099; baytownhistory.org*

**BEAUMONT: Nov. 29-Dec. 1 Main Street Market**

This three-day, one-stop holiday shopping extravaganza features merchandise from more than 100 carefully selected vendors from Texas and across the country. Shop for clothing, gourmet foods, children’s items, and jewelry, and enjoy live entertainment. *Beaumont Civic Center, 701 Main St. 409-832-0873; Beaumontcvb.com*

**BEAUMONT: Dec. 1 Three Dog Night in Concert**

These music icons celebrate nearly five decades in the business and claim some of the most astonishing statistics in popular music. From 1969 through 1974, no other group achieved more Top 10 hits, moved more records, or sold more concert tickets. *Jefferson Theatre, 345 Fannin St. 409-838-3435; Beaumontcvb.com*

**BEAUMONT: Dec. 2 Symphony of Southeast Texas: “Home for the Holidays”**

The symphony performs classic Christmas tunes, favorite carols, music from “The Nutcracker,” and other holiday gems. *Julie Rogers Theatre, 765 Pearl St. 409-892-2257; Beaumontcvb.com*

**BEAUMONT: Dec. 11 “Sesame Street Live! Let’s Party!”**

Everyone’s invited to take part in the sunniest and funniest street celebration. Sesame Workshop features favorite “Sesame Street” pals Elmo, Abby Cadabby, Big Bird, and more in a brand-new live sensory adventure. *Beaumont Civic Center, 701 Main St. 409-838-3435; Beaumontcvb.com*

**BEAUMONT: Dec. 15 Chad Prather’s Star Spangled Banter Comedy Tour**

The comedian, armchair philosopher, musician, and observational humorist is often referred to as “the modern-day Will Rogers.” Many recognize him from his fast-talking, rapid-fire rants from the front seat of his





★ **DISCOVER**  
**SAN ANGELO!**

Discover an oasis in  
West Texas. You'll  
#SanAngeLove it!

**Inside Out Art Exhibit**

Sept. 20, 2018 - Jan. 20, 2019

San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts

**Concho Christmas Celebration**

Nov. 30 - Dec. 31, 2018

Along the Banks of the Concho River

**San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo**

Feb. 1 - 17, 2019

Foster Communications Coliseum

truck. CNN has labeled him the “Pick-up Pundit” and Fox News’ Tucker Carlson has called Prather, “supernaturally articulate.” He is known for his comedic family stories told from an adult perspective. *Jefferson Theatre, 345 Fannin St. 409-838-3435; beaumontcvb.com*

**BRIDGE CITY: Dec. 8 Christmas Light Parade** The holiday season in Bridge City starts with this 10th annual parade. Trophies are awarded for first, second, and third place in the categories of dance, vehicle, float, and ambulatory as well as one trophy for best overall. In addition, the mayor will award a Mayor’s Trophy and \$200 to the best “One Starry Night” themed entry. The entry fee for the parade is a donated toy from each float participant. *200 W. Roundbunch Road. 409-735-5671; bridgecitychamber.com*

**BROWNSVILLE: Dec. 7-9 Zoo Nights and Lights** Enjoy live performances from local bands and choirs while taking in the dazzling displays of approximately 135 lighted animal and holiday fixtures along with 800 luminaria bags placed all around the zoo grounds. Admission is free with the donation of a new, unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots. *Gladys Porter Zoo, 500 Ringold St. 956-546-7187; gpz.org*

**CLUTE: Dec. 1-2, 6-9 Elizabethan Madrigal Feast** Witness the majesty and pageantry befitting the court of Queen Elizabeth I at a spectacular holiday feast. Join the Earl of Warwick and his royal guests in the main hall of his castle for an exquisite meal and entertainment provided by the court’s troupe of players, dancers, and singers. *Center for the Arts and Sciences, 400 College Blvd. 979-265-7661; brazosportcenter.org*

**CLUTE: Dec. 4, 11, 18 Season of Light Planetarium Show** The show features a 30-foot dome equipped with a projector to produce the night sky as it appears to the naked eye, together with a large variety of high-tech equipment to give a close-up feel for things like comets, exploding stars, and black holes. *Center for the Arts and Sciences, 400 College Blvd. 979-265-3376; brazosportcenter.org*

**CLUTE: Dec. 6-8 Christmas in the Park** This 37th annual celebration features lots of beautiful Christmas trees, Santa, a marshmallow roast, clowns, and more. *Clute Municipal Park, 100 Parkview Drive. 979-265-8392; ci.clute.tx.us*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Dec. 1-2 Holly-Days at the Gardens** A weekend of holiday celebrations features a 20-foot decorated Fraser fir, photo sessions with Santa, colorful parrots, resident reptiles, holiday crafts

and storytelling for kids, music and carols while strolling through garden exhibits, and shopping. *South Texas Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St. 361-852-2100; stxbot.org*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Dec. 8 Festival Navideño** Learn the Christmas traditions of different Hispanic cultures, join the Corpus Christi mayor for the lighting of the Christmas tree, take a picture with Santa, shop arts and crafts, and enjoy kid’s activities. *Heritage Park, 1581 N. Chaparral St. 361-879-0336; culturahispanicacorporuschristi.org*

**FREEPORT: Dec. 6 Holiday on the Brazos** See Santa, and enjoy holiday refreshments and more. *Downtown Freeport, Park Place. 979-233-6061; freeport.tx.us*

**FREEPORT: Dec. 9 Nutcracker Market** Enjoy festive treats, artwork, decorations, and more. *Freeport Memorial Park, 311 E. Park Ave. 979-233-0066; freeport.tx.us*

**FULTON: Dec. 12-13 Christmas In Fulton** This event offers hot chocolate, cookies, entertainment, Santa, and loads of family fun. *Fulton Harbor Park, 402 N. Fulton Beach Road. 361-729-2388; fultontexas.org*

**GALVESTON: Nov. 17-Jan. 6 Festival of Lights** Walk a mile-long trail along scenic Offatts Bayou and see hundreds of animated and lighted holiday-themed displays. Moody Gardens, 1 Hope Blvd. *moodygardens.org*

**GALVESTON: Nov. 17-Jan. 6 Ice Land at Moody Gardens** See more than 2 million pounds of ice carved into colorful animals from the North and South Poles. Slide down the ice slide or enjoy a drink from Shiver’s Ice Bar. *Moody Gardens, 1 Hope Blvd. moodygardens.org*

**GALVESTON: Nov. 30-Dec. 2 Dickens on the Strand** Based on 19th-century Victorian London, Galveston’s 45th annual holiday street festival features parades, strolling carolers, roving musicians, bagpipers, jugglers, and more. *Historic Downtown Galveston, Strand Street. dickensonthestrand.org*

**GALVESTON: Dec. 1 “A Christmas Carol”** Charles Dickens’ timeless tale of hope and redemption has enchanted audiences around the world since it was first published in 1843. Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim, and the Ghosts of Christmases Past, Present, and Future come together in a delightful theatrical performance featuring stunning sets, ornate costumes, and plenty of music and dance. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Dec. 2 Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis** With special guest vocalists Veronica Swift and

Vuyo Sotashe, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Big Band, led by Wynton Marsalis, is made up of 15 of the finest soloists, ensemble players, and arrangers in jazz music today. For almost 30 years, this Manhattan-based big band has been spreading the gospel of jazz virtues from its early blues roots to swing and awesome improvisations. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Dec. 8 Jerry Jeff Walker in Concert** One of the Lone Star State’s most popular musical ambassadors returns to The Grand for his annual holiday concert. This memorable evening is filled with heart-tugging ballads, spirited melodies, and down-home fun. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Dec. 9 “All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914”** This heartrending retelling of a powerful historic event recounts the astounding moment during World War I when Allied forces and German soldiers laid down their arms to celebrate Christmas Day 1914 together, sharing food and drink, singing carols, and playing soccer. “All is Calm” weaves first-hand accounts by World War I soldiers with patriotic tunes, trench songs, and Christmas carols. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Dec. 23 “A Charlie Brown Christmas”** This brand-new touring production adapted from Charles M. Schulz’s timeless story features everyone’s favorite Peanuts gang—Linus, Lucy, Snoopy, Sally, and more, all led by the lovable Charlie Brown—as they discover the true meaning of Christmas. When Charlie Brown becomes discouraged by the materialism of the season, Lucy convinces him to direct the neighborhood Christmas play. In typical Charlie Brown fashion, things go awry, and it’s up to Linus to save the day and remind everyone of the real message of the holiday. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GROVES: Dec. 1 Lighted Christmas Parade** Santa is part of this city celebration with twinkling lights and holiday cheer. *Downtown Groves, Cleveland Avenue area. 409-985-7822; cigrovestx.com*

**HOUSTON: Through Dec. 23 “The Ultimate Christmas Show” (abridged)** It’s the annual holiday variety show and Christmas pageant at St. Everybody’s Non-Denominational Universalist Church—“where all faiths are welcome because



we'll believe anything!" There's just one minor problem: none of the acts scheduled to perform have arrived. Now it's up to three quick-witted church members to perform the entire variety show and Christmas pageant by themselves. An irreverent yet heartwarming romp through tradition, this performance bursts with festive, slapstick fun as these cheerfully ridiculous clowns celebrate all the favorite holiday traditions—at once. *Stages Repertory Theatre, 3201 Allen Pkwy. 713-527-0123; stagestheatre.com*

**HOUSTON: Nov. 21-Dec. 30 "Panto Star Force"** Jed, a farm boy from the planet Cypress, joins forces with a zany band of space rebels, robots, and furry bartenders to stop the powerful Emperor Snorkelfish and Dark Tater from taking over the galaxy. Come ready to laugh, cheer, and boo in true panto style, with plenty of toe-tapping music and intergalactic fun for the whole family. *Stages Repertory Theatre, 3201 Allen Pkwy. 713-527-0123; stagestheatre.com*

**HOUSTON: Dec. 7 The Commodores in Concert** The legendary funk and soul superstars are headed to Houston. The members came together as students at the Tuskegee Institute and eventually opened for The Jackson 5, and were signed to the storied Motown Records after being discovered by founder Barry Gordy. With Motown, the Commodores sold more than 60 million records. *Arena Theatre, 7326 Southwest Freeway. 713-772-5900; arenahouston.com*

**HOUSTON: Dec. 8 Mercury Chamber Orchestra** This uplifting celebration of the season features Bach's "Magnificat" and other holiday favorites. Hear the famous choral work performed on period instruments as it was when written. *Wortham Center, 501 Texas Ave. 713-533-0800; mercuryhouston.org*

**HOUSTON: Dec. 11-23 "Disney's Beauty and the Beast"** Just in time for the holiday season, this magical, funny, and moving tale of what it means to love and be human embodies the magic of the theatre. This mesmerizing musical features an enchanting score by Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice, and book by Linda Woolverton. *Theatre Under The Stars, 800 Bagby St. 713-558-8887; tuts.com/beautyandthebeast*

**KINGSVILLE: Dec. 1 La Posada de Kingsville Parade of Lights** Celebrate the holiday season with an illuminated parade through downtown Kingsville. Craft and food vendors are present throughout the day and during the parade. *Downtown Kingsville, 200 E. Kleberg Ave. 800-333-5032; laposadadekingsville.com*

**FLOCK TO**  
*Bay City, Texas*  
MATAGORDA COUNTY  
**#1 BIRDING DESTINATION**

**Matagorda Bay Bird Fest**  
February 15th-17th • Palacios, Tx

**Flock Fest**  
December 7th & 8th • Bay City, Tx

**National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count**  
December 17th • Bay City, Tx

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## Baytown Winter Events

**Christmas Gift Gallery**  
Art Center of Baytown  
November - December

**A Little Christmas Spirit**  
Baytown Little Theater  
Nov. 30-Dec 2, 7-9, 14-16

**Christmas on Texas Avenue**  
Texas Avenue  
December 8

**Christmas Past & Present**  
Republic of Texas Plaza  
December 8

**"Christmas in Baytown" Concert**  
Lee College Performing Arts Center  
December 8

**The Nutcracker Ballet**  
Lee College Performing Arts Center  
December 14 -16

**Jail Break Run Half Marathon**  
Lee College Race Start  
February 23

**MORE FUN:** Experience 31 different landmarks on the Baytown GeoTour (GT7A)!

**LA MARQUE: Nov. 16–Jan. 6 *Magical Winter Lights*** This 52-day festival is one of the largest holiday lighting events in the Houston area, and the largest lantern festival of its kind in the U.S. The festival features eight themed sections including the festival's newest sections: The Ice and The Sea. The Ice section features a second magical castle and shows guests what it is like living in the Ice Sisters' world. The Sea takes visitors to an undersea world filled with coral, fish, mermaids, and hungry sharks. The festival also includes a Holiday Market Square, plenty of photo opportunities with appearances by the Ice Sisters and Santa Claus, nightly acrobatic performances, authentic arts and crafts created by skilled Chinese artisans, amusement rides and games, and an expanded dinosaur exhibit complete with dinosaur rides. *Gulf Greyhound Park, 1000 FM 2004. 888-560-5853; magicalwinterlights.com*

**LAKE JACKSON: Dec. 1 *Abner Jackson Plantation Site Tour*** Visit the historic archaeological site of Major Abner Jackson, the namesake of the city of Lake Jackson. Once a prosperous sugar plantation, the site was destroyed by the same hurricane that devastated Galveston in 1900. Discover the sugar-making process of the 1840s and how convict labor replaced slave labor during the 1870s. *Abner Jackson Plantation Site, FM 2004. 979-297-1570; lakejacksonmuseum.org*

**LAKE JACKSON: Dec. 1 *Christmas with the Fishes*** "Sandy Claws" is diving with the Sea Center Texas fishes to find out their Christmas wishes and to make sure the aquarium gets a good cleaning in preparation for Santa's Christmas visit. Children can drop off their letters to Santa, and "Sandy Claws" will make sure it gets delivered to the North Pole. *Sea Center Texas, 302 Medical Drive. 979-292-0100; tpwd.texas.gov/seacenter*

**LAKE JACKSON: Dec. 6–7 *Los Lonely Boys in Concert*** The story of how the Garza brothers—vocalist and guitarist Henry and bassist, vocalist, and drummer Ringo—rode their bluesy "Texican rock" sound from San Angelo to worldwide fame is one of rock's great Cinderella tales. *The Clarion, 500 College Drive. 979-230-3156; brazosport.edu/clarion*

**LAKE JACKSON: Dec. 7 *Holiday Movie in the Park*** Sit back, relax, and enjoy some hot chocolate, apple cider, and "The Santa Clause" on a 16-foot screen with the family. *MacLean Park, 93 Lake Road. 979-294-4533; lakejackson-tx.gov*

**LAKE JACKSON: Dec. 9 *Holiday Tour of Homes*** Join in on an exclusive tour of a few

of the Brazosport area's finest homes, each beautifully decorated for the holidays. *Various locations. 979-285-2501; brazosport.org*

**LAKE JACKSON: Dec. 15 *Bird Banding*** Volunteers collect baseline data on bird populations at the sanctuary. The banding station is an excellent opportunity to see birds up close and to learn about all the birds of the Brazosport area. *Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, 299 SH 332. 979-480-0999; gcbo.org*

**NEDERLAND: Dec. 4 *Lighted Christmas Parade*** Join this annual holiday celebration and gaze at the twinkling lights throughout. Santa closes the parade on a fire truck. *Nederland Avenue. 409-985-7822*

**PALACIOS: Dec. 1 *Seaside Holiday*** Santa arrives in Palacios on a shrimp boat. The celebration includes carolers and free refreshments from select downtown businesses. *Luther Hotel, 408 S. Bay Blvd. 361-972-2615; palacioschamber.com*

**PORT ARANSAS: Dec. 1–2 *Island Holiday Market*** The Port Aransas Art Center celebrates the holiday season with its annual indoor, festive shopping experience—the best of local vendors, artists, and fine craftsmen. *Port Aransas Civic Center, 700 W. Avenue A. portaransasartcenter.org*

**PORT ARTHUR: Dec. 8 *Cultural Lighted Parade*** Port Arthur's varied cultures come together to display holiday spirit in this annual parade that looks like a winter wonderland. *Downtown Port Arthur, Procter Street. 409-983-8105; portarthurtx.gov*

**PORT NECHES: Dec. 1 *Christmas Parade*** Kick off the holiday season with this daytime Christmas parade, and keep an eye out for Santa. *Downtown Port Neches. 409-985-7822*

**RICHMOND: Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 *Christmas in the Park*** Travel through Christmases past to explore the customs and decorations from the 1830s to the 1930s. *George Ranch Historical Park, 10215 FM 762. 281-343-0218; georgeranch.org*

**RICHMOND: Dec. 8, 15 *Campfire Christmas*** This one-of-a-kind immersive holiday experience starts the evening with a merry greeting at the Visitor Center and hot chocolate and coffee to warm your soul. *George Ranch Historical Park, 10215 FM 762. 281-343-0218; georgeranch.org*

**RICHMOND: Dec. 14 *Children's Campfire Christmas*** Participate in fun Christmas crafts, take a hayride through the park, and sing Christmas songs around the campfire. *George Ranch Historical Park, 10215 FM 762. 281-343-0218; georgeranch.org*

**RICHMOND: Dec. 29 *New Year's Eve Historical Bash*** Prepare for the countdown to 2019 with historical mask-making and noisemaking crafts, and learn the dos and don'ts of "first-footing." At noon, a countdown is held at the 1830s Jones Stock Farm followed by a special New Year's Eve meal. *George Ranch Historical Park, 10215 FM 762. 281-343-0218; georgeranch.org*

**ROCKPORT: Dec. 1–2 *Christmas Tour of Historic Homes*** Private homes and historic venues are open in Fulton and Rockport, and docents are decked out in vintage attire as they entertain and educate about these venues and explain the history of the homes. *History Center for Aransas County, 801 E. Cedar St. 361-729-6445; aransashistorycenter.org*

**ROCKPORT: Dec. 1 *Tropical Christmas*** Celebrate the season with food, vendors, arts and crafts, entertainment, games, and Santa Claus. Along with the evening festivities, enjoy an illuminated land parade, the lighting of the Christmas tree, and fireworks. *Rockport Harbor Area, 101 Seabreeze Drive. 361-727-2158*

**ROCKPORT: Dec. 8 *Second Saturday Art Center Market*** Member artists exhibit and sell their works. Enjoy live music and a food truck on site. *Downtown, 106 S. Austin St. 361-729-5519; rockportartcenter.com*

**ROCKPORT: Dec. 9 *Holiday Symphony by the Sea*** This holiday tradition provides an opportunity for Rockport-Fulton High School choir students to perform with the Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra. *Martha Luigi Auditorium, 1803 Omohundro St. 361-729-6934; acedfoundation.org*

**ROCKPORT: Dec. 14–16 *Rockport-Fulton Market Days*** More than 100 vendors and live music add extra fun during the third weekend of the month. There are more than a dozen food trucks and food vendors, plus seating under the shade at this pet-friendly market. *The Festival Grounds at Rockport Harbor, 100 Seabreeze Drive. 361-463-0125; rockportfultonmarketdays.com*

**ROSENBERG: Dec. 7–8 *Christmas Home Tour*** For 27 years, Child Advocates of Fort Bend County has been showcasing private homes decked out for the holidays in the area's most beautiful neighborhoods as a way of raising money to fund its programs for abused and neglected children. One ticket allows guests to enter each of the five homes once during tour hours. Guests not only view fabulous holiday decorations but also enjoy fresh baked cookies and holiday entertainment courtesy of local school children and other talented singers and performers. *Various locations. 281-344-5108; cafb.org*



**ROSENBERG: Dec. 7-8 Christmas Nights**

This re-imagined holiday event offers a weekend of nightly activities to enhance the magic of the season. Set against a backdrop of holiday lights, downtown Rosenberg's eclectic shops, cultural exhibits, and restaurants are open to explore during this special season. *Historic Downtown Rosenberg, 805 Third St. 832-595-3520; rosenbergtx.gov*

**SANTA FE: Dec. 1 Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park**

The parade starts at 5:30 p.m. and runs from R.J. Wollam Elementary School along FM 1764 to Highway 6 and Warpath Drive. As always, Santa Claus serves as Grand Marshal and will be available after the parade in Mae S. Bruce Library for kids to sit with and share their Christmas wishes. Attendees can enjoy activities in the park and snow. *Various locations. 409-925-8558; santafetexas.smartcms.site*

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Nov. 30-Dec. 1**

**Children's Wonderland** Come out and play as the lawn transforms into a giant playground full of inflatable activities including an obstacle course. Kids can run, jump, and climb their way to new heights in this free area, as well as have the opportunity to ride a trackless train. *The Greens at Jim's Pier, 211 W. Swordfish St. 956-761-3000; sopadre.com*

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Nov. 30-Dec. 16**

**Holiday Sandcastle Village** Celebrate Christmas the South Padre Island way: with holiday-inspired sand sculptures built by talented sand artists. From a sand snowman to "Sand-ta," the creations are sure to bring holiday cheer. *South Padre Island Convention Centre, 7355 Padre Blvd. 956-761-3000; sopadre.com*

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Dec. 1 Lighted**

**Boat Parade** Enjoy a cool winter breeze and watch as boats of all sizes cruise by decorated in their holiday finest. *South Point Marina, 500 S. Point Ave. 956-761-3000; sopadre.com*

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Dec. 2 Breakfast**

**with Santa** Santa comes to the island to visit with children over breakfast. Enjoy the magical spirit of the holiday season, and don't forget to bring your camera for photos with Santa. Children 11 and under enter for free. *Schlitterbahn Water Park and Resort, 100 Padre Blvd. 956-668-3000; sopadre.com*

**SPRING: Through Dec. 23 Home for the**

**Holidays** The 38th annual event kicks off with a tree lighting at dusk. More than 150 local shops and businesses come alive with the spirit of the season. Watch weekend entertainment, meet Santa and other

**Catch a little Razzle Dazzle... this Holiday Season**

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A LIVE NATIVITY WILL BE FEATURED THE FIRST WEEKEND OF DECEMBER. EACH SET, EACH NIGHT WILL FEATURE A TRIBUTE TO OUR ARMED SERVICE.

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## CELEBRATE WINTER IN BOERNE!

**Christmas Light Fest**  
Th.-Su., Nov. 23-Dec. 30

**Oma's Christmas Craft Fair**  
Dec. 1 & 2

**Weihnacht Parade**  
Dec. 1

**Stocking Stroll**  
Dec. 1

**A Walk in Bethlehem**  
Dec. 4 & 5

**The Christmas Town**  
Dec. 7, 8, 14 & 15

**Cowboy Christmas Market Days**  
Dec. 15 & 16

**Boerne Performing Arts Events**

"Ten Tenors" - Dec. 15  
"Trinity Irish Dance Co." - Feb 22

**Concert in the Cave**  
Dec. 22

**Kendall Co. Jr. Livestock Show & Sale**  
Jan. 11 & 12

**Boerne Chocolate Walk**  
Feb. 9

**Hill Country Spring Antiques Show**  
Feb. 23 & 24

**Boerne Market Days**  
Every 2nd Weekend

**2nd Saturday Art Beat**  
Every 2nd Saturday

**Kuhlmann-King Museum Tours**

Every 2nd Saturday

**Thirst for Nature**  
Every 3rd Thursday

**Find even more events and happenings at [www.visitboerne.org](http://www.visitboerne.org)**

characters, and take a carriage ride through the original homes of Spring. Local shops and boutiques offer a variety of holiday gift ideas and treasures for everyone on your shopping list. *Old Town Spring Preservation Park, 26303 Preston Ave. 281-353-9310; oldtownspring.com*

**STAFFORD: Dec. 2 Deck the Halls: Home for the Holidays** The orchestras of the Katy Youth Symphony and the ensembles of the Katy Youth Chorus join FBSO and the FBSO Chorus for an afternoon of holiday cheer. *Stafford Centre, 10505 Cash Road. 281-276-9642; fbsos.org*

**SUGAR LAND: Nov. 23-Jan. 6 Sugar Land Holiday Lights** Enjoy views of more than 2.5 million lights, Santa Claus every night, holiday treats and shopping vendors, and more. *Constellation Field, 1 Stadium Drive. 281-207-4487*

**SUGAR LAND: Nov. 30-Dec. 2 "Rock of Ages"** Broadway's best party turns up the volume to 10 for the 10th anniversary tour of "Rock of Ages." *Smart Financial Centre at Sugar Land, 18111 Lexington Blvd. 281-207-6278; smartfinancialcentre.net*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 2-16 Photos with Santa** Enjoy a free holiday photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and get into the season of giving when you bring an unwrapped stuffed animal for the Fort Bend Rainbow Room's Christmas Project. *Sugar Land Town Square, 2711 Plaza Drive. 281-276-6000; sugarlandtownsquare.com*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 6 "The Price is Right" Live** Enjoy a show of "The Price is Right" live as part of the Memorial Hermann of Sugar Land Concert Series. *Smart Financial Centre at Sugar Land, 18111 Lexington Blvd. 281-207-6278; smartfinancialcentre.net*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 7-9, 14-16 "Fiddler On The Roof Jr."** This special adaptation of the nine-time Tony Award-winning Broadway musical follows Tevye the milkman as he tries to protect his daughters and his way of life from a changing world. *Sugar Land Auditorium, 226 Lakeview Drive. 713-302-5329; inspirationstage.com*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 7 "Peppa Pig Live!"** Enjoy an action-packed live show featuring the cartoon's favorite characters as life-size puppets and costume characters in "Peppa Pig's Surprise." *Smart Financial Centre at Sugar Land, 18111 Lexington Blvd. 281-207-6278; smartfinancialcentre.net*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 8 Martina McBride in Concert** The country music icon continues her holiday tradition of bringing "The Joy of Christmas Tour" to town. *Smart Financial Centre at Sugar Land, 18111 Lexington Blvd. 281-207-6278; smartfinancialcentre.net*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 8 Movie Under the Moon** Bring lawn chairs to the plaza for a free movie. This month's movie is holiday favorite "Elf," and there just might be a "real" one in attendance, passing out candy canes. *Sugar Land Town Square, 2711 Plaza Drive. 281-276-6000; sugarlandtownsquare.com*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 14 Jason Mraz and Toca Rivera in Concert** The American pop rocker partners with longtime percussionist Toca Rivera for an intimate acoustic performance. *Smart Financial Centre at Sugar Land, 18111 Lexington Blvd. 281-207-6278; smartfinancialcentre.net*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 16 Fort Bend KIA 30K** Join Sugar Land Town Square for the 31st annual 30K run. *Sugar Land Town Square, 2711 Plaza Drive. 281-276-6000; sugarlandtownsquare.com*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 20 Il Divo in Concert** The male quartet brings their "Timeless Tour" to town. *Smart Financial Centre at Sugar Land, 18111 Lexington Blvd. 281-207-6278; smartfinancialcentre.net*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 29 Moscow Ballet's "Great Russian Nutcracker"** This classic show brings the Christmas spirit to life with world-class Russian artists, hand-painted sets, Russian snow maidens, and jubilant nesting dolls. *Smart Financial Centre at Sugar Land, 18111 Lexington Blvd. 281-207-6278; smartfinancialcentre.net*

**SUGAR LAND: Dec. 30 Mannheim Steamroller Christmas** The program is a compilation of Christmas classics with some selected tracks of original Fresh Aire music, with multimedia effects performed in an intimate setting to bring the spirit of the season to life. *Smart Financial Centre at Sugar Land, 18111 Lexington Blvd. 281-207-6278; smartfinancialcentre.net*

**TEXAS CITY: Through Dec. 1 Quilt Exhibit** View an annual exhibition of local quilts, and vote for your favorite. *Texas City Museum, 409 Sixth St. North. 409-229-1660; texas-city-tx.org*

**TEXAS CITY: Dec. 9 Celebrate the Season** Enjoy holiday decorations, a trackless train ride, and shopping. *The Texas City Museum, 409 Sixth St. North. 409-229-1660; texas-city-tx.org*

**TOMBALL: Dec. 1 Narrated Glass Blowing Demonstration** Houston's only open-access glass-blowing studio offers free, narrated demos on the first Saturday of every month except August. *Three Dimensional Visions—Glass Blowing Houston, 17442 FM 2920. 281-734-0366; threedimensionalvisions.com*

**TOMBALL: Dec. 1 Christmas on Commerce** This traditional Christmas celebra-

tion for kids features live entertainment, vendors, festival foods, storytelling, and Santa. Visitors can tour the annual Downtown Holiday Lamp Post Stroll, too. Free admission and parking. *Commerce Street. 281-351-5484; tomballtx.gov*

**VICTORIA: Nov. 16-Dec. 30 Victoria Collects Exhibit** See a diverse collection of artwork collected by Victoria residents. *The Nave Museum, 306 W. Commercial St. 361-575-8227; navemuseum.com*

**WEST COLUMBIA: Dec. 15 Candlelight Christmas** Step back in time and tour the plantation house and grounds decorated in the style of an 1800s Texas Christmas. See the feather tree, learn about popular toy gifts during that period, and view the dining room table set for a sumptuous holiday feast. Relax outside and enjoy the beverage of the season—wassail, nibble on Christmas cookies while listening to a reading of the "Texas Night Before Christmas," and have your photograph taken with a Victorian Santa Claus. *Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site, 1702 N. 13th St. 979-345-4656; visitvarnerhoggplantation.com*

## HILL COUNTRY

**AUSTIN: Dec. 9-23 Trail of Lights** Since it began in 1965, the Austin Trail of Lights has grown into one of Austin's largest events, attracting an average of 400,000 people per year. Every holiday season, Austin's iconic Zilker Park is transformed with more than 2 million lights, 65-plus displays, 30 food trucks, three entertainment stages, 50 private holiday parties, and interactive experiences throughout the park. Some new highlights include a 13-foot illuminated carriage, 12 seven-foot lighted guitars commemorating Austin's musical roots, and a 25-foot spiral holiday tree. *Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Road. austintrailoflights.org*

**AUSTIN: Dec. 13-24 Armadillo Christmas Bazaar** The holiday marketplace celebrates 43 seasons of treating Texans and tourists to a festive, holiday shopping experience for 12 days and nights. This iconic cultural event features more than 175 contemporary touring artists, award winners, and local favorites. *Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Road. 512-974-6700; armadillobazaar.com*

**AUSTIN: Dec. 14-16 Day of Tango Festival** The eighth annual festival offers performances by international tango dance champions and instructors and live music from the famous Miguel Arrabal Tango Quartet. Interactive dance workshops, a free beginner's dance lesson, and Argentine milonga dances are among the event's cultural activities. *Ben Hur Shrine*



Auditorium, 7811 Rockwood Lane.  
512-695-1024; [dayoftango.org](http://dayoftango.org)

**AUSTIN: Dec. 20 *Trans-Siberian Orchestra in Concert*** This annual multi-sensory extravaganza sells out venues year after year, and is a multi-generational holiday tradition. This year's 20th anniversary tour, a presentation of TSO's unforgettable "The Ghosts of Christmas Eve," features founder/composer/lyricist Paul O'Neill's timeless story of a runaway who finds her way into a mysterious, abandoned theater. *Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River St. 512-477-6060; [uterwincenter.com](http://uterwincenter.com)*

**AUSTIN: Through Jan. 6 *Ed Ruscha: Archaeology and Romance*** See works by this celebrated American artist, including photographs and sketches related to his landmark artist's books, such as "Twenty-six Gasoline Stations" (1963), "Various Small Fires and Milk" (1964), "Nine Swimming Pools and a Broken Glass" (1968), and more. Discover Ruscha's persistent engagement with the artifacts of American popular culture, the iconography of the road, and the manufactured romance of Hollywood. *Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st St. 512-471-8944; [hrc.utexas.edu](http://hrc.utexas.edu)*

**AUSTIN: Through Jan. 6 *Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design*** The exhibit showcases the work of more than 120 artists and designers and illustrates how African design accompanies and fuels economic, social, and political change in the continent. Through sculpture, prints, fashion, furniture, film, photography, apps, maps, digital comics, and more, the exhibition presents Africa as a hub of experimentation that generates innovative design approaches and solutions with worldwide relevance. *The Blanton Museum of Art, 200 E. Martin Luther King Blvd. 512-471-5482; [blantonmuseum.org](http://blantonmuseum.org)*

**AUSTIN: Through Jan. 13 *Get in the Game*** This exhibit examines the intersection of social justice and sports in the United States by celebrating athletes who have broken barriers and spoken out for equality, both on and off the playing field. *LBJ Presidential Library, 2313 Red River St. 512-721-0216; [lbjlibrary.org](http://lbjlibrary.org)*

**AUSTIN: Through Jan. 27 *Rodeo! The Exhibition*** Experience the excitement of rodeos from around the state with this dynamic and comprehensive exhibition. Gain an insider's perspective on what makes rodeo an integral part of Texas history and imagine you're in the heart of the arena with classic artifacts spanning decades, immersive multimedia experiences, tactile activities, and first-person interviews highlighting the personal relationship Texans

**BUDAFEST**  
December 1 & 2  
[budafest.org](http://budafest.org)

Be Merry, Make Memories  
Holiday Traditions start in Buda, Texas

**TRAIL OF LIGHTS**  
December 6-8, 13-15, 20-23  
[visitbudatx.com/trailoflights](http://visitbudatx.com/trailoflights)

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**NOVEMBER 30TH to DECEMBER 1ST**

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- \* Christmas Parade
- \* Specialty Vendors
- \* Snow for the Kids
- \* Gingerbread Contest/Reception
- \* Cider on the Wynne Home Porch

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f t

have with rodeo traditions. See how five of the largest Texas rodeos and stock shows bring crowds and competitors from all parts of the world together, and explore the origins of rodeos and lasting legacy of youth education, community involvement, and historic preservation. *Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 N. Congress Ave. 512-463-6485; thestoryoftexas.com*

**AUSTIN: Through April 30 "SaddleUP—Texas Ranching & Tradition"** Jump in the saddle and experience a virtual ride with real Texas ranchers who meet modern challenges while preserving their traditions. Through photographs and video, see hard-working cowboys and cowgirls come to life as they ride, rope, and rodeo the same way their parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents did before them. *Texas Capitol Visitors Center, 112 E. 11th St. 512-305-8400; texasstatecapitol.com*

**BANDERA: Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Bandera Cattle Company Gunfighters** Experience the excitement of the Wild West with the award-winning Bandera Cattle Company Gunfighters recreating shootouts and daily life of the Old West. *Bandera Visitors Center, 126 SH 16. 830-796-3045; banderacattlecompany.com*

**BANDERA: Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Cowboys on Main** Interact with the Old West lifestyle. *Bandera County Courthouse, 500 Main St. 830-796-3045; banderacowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Dec. 1 The Old Timers Trading Post** Meet local artisans. *The Old Timer, 14178 SH 16. banderacowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Dec. 6 Cowboy Capital Opry** See some Grand Old Opry-style entertainment, hosted by Gerry and Harriet Payne, and enjoy refreshments and door prizes. *Silver Sage Community Center, 803 Buck Creek. 830-796-4969; silversagecorral.org*

**BANDERA: Dec. 7 Cowboy Capital Christmas and Shoppers Jubilee** Enjoy beautiful lights and music from children's choirs during a living nativity and a visit from Cowboy Santa. Bandera merchants are open late for holiday shopping, and the streets fill with strolling Christmas carolers, musicians, and cowboys. *Main Street. 830-796-3045; banderacowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Dec. 8 Cowboy Capital Christmas Parade** Bring a lawn chair and look for Santa in a parade down Main Street. *830-796-3045; banderacowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Dec. 8 Hill Country Holiday** This event includes a musical celebration, a schoolhouse tour, a Polly exhibit, and holiday refreshments. *Polly's Chapel, 359 Polly's Chapel Road. 210-260-8224; banderacowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Dec. 9 Frontier Times Museum Cowboy Camp** Bring refreshments, a chair, and a guitar and join in the song circle, or just sit and enjoy traditional cowboy music. *Frontier Times Museum, 510 13th St. 830-796-3864; frontiertimesmuseum.org*

**BANDERA: Dec. 20 Cowboy Camp** Enjoy the pickers' circle, and join if you wish. *Bandera Beverage Barn RV Park, 1407 SH 16. 830-796-3045; banderacowboycapital.com*

**BOERNE: Nov. 23-25, 29-30, Dec. 1-2, 6-9, 13-16, 20-23, 27-30 Old West Christmas Light Fest** This event brings the holidays to life with more than 40 buildings twinkling with holiday lights, visits with Santa, and holiday photos under the starry Texas sky. *Enchanted Springs Ranch, 242 SH 46 West. 830-249-2222; oldwestchristmaslightfest.com*

**BOERNE: Dec. 1 Oma's Christmas Craft Fair** Find Texas hand-crafted wood items, homemade jellies, hand-crafted clothing, wall hangings, ceramics, knitted and crocheted goods, hand-embroidered items, and hand-painted bird feeders and bird houses. With three large buildings full of handmade crafts, it's easy to find the perfect gift for any loved one. *Kendall County Fairgrounds, 1307 River Road. 830-249-2839; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 1 Stocking Stroll** This shopping tradition is a great way to knock out a holiday gift list. This year, 23 businesses participate. *Boerne's Hill Country Mile, 100 N. Main St. 830-331-1065; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 1 Weihnacht Parade** Watch as up to 100 lighted entries travel along Main Street at this 32nd annual tradition. *Boerne's Hill Country Mile, 100 N. Main St. 830-248-1635; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 4-5 A Walk in Bethlehem** As you enter the city, allow the sights, sounds, and smells to carry you to a period of time that changed the world. Journey through the heart of the city after being counted for the census. Collect your denarii, and enter the marketplace that is bustling with activity from more than a dozen authentic shops. Enjoy samples from the baker's shop, marvel at the crafts of potters, carpenters, and basket weavers, and listen for the rumor of a king's birth from excited townspeople. The highlight of the event will be a traditional nativity scene including camels and Magi. *St. Helena's Episcopal Church, 100 N. Main St. 830-249-3228; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 7 Camerata San Antonio Concert** Enjoy a chamber music concert inspired by the strength of the human spirit in the face of the depths of human cruelty, featuring violinist Anastasia Park-

er, violist Emily Freudigman, cellist Ken Freudigman, and pianist Viktor Valkov. *First United Methodist Church, 205 James St. 210-492-9519; cameratasa.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 7-8, 14-15 The Christmas Town** The scene includes live Christmas music, hayrides, the town of Bethlehem, shopping with handmade gifts, an entire interactive area just for kids, food, and more. *Vanguard Institute, 43360 I-10 West. 830-537-6157; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 8-9 Boerne Christmas Market Days** Listen to live local music and shop for handmade arts and crafts, art, woodwork, antiques, collectibles, chic clothing and accessories, vintage items, jewelry, and more. *Boerne's Main Plaza, 100 N. Main St. 210-844-8193; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 8 Kuhlmann-King Museum Tour** Located behind Boerne City Hall, the Kuhlmann-King house gives the public the opportunity to step back in time to see what a historic Boerne home looked like "way back when." *Kuhlmann-King House, 402 E. Blanco Road. 830-331-1033; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 8 Second Saturday Art Beat** Boerne shops and art galleries team up for a fine art experience. Take a walk on the art side every second Saturday of the month. *Boerne's Hill Country Mile, 100 N. Main St. 210-954-6659; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 15-16 Cowboy Christmas Market Days** Finish your last-second Christmas shopping. Get your pictures taken in the old jailhouse with period cowboys and Old West characters. Arts, crafts, antiques, collectibles, chic clothing, jewelry, accessories, vintage, decor, and more are available for sale. The event includes great food and music from local bands and singer-songwriters. *Boerne's Main Plaza, 100 N. Main St. 210-844-8193; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 15 The Ten Tenors in Concert** Come home for the holidays with The Ten Tenors. With a generous mix of festive favorites and modern holiday hits, the group walks you through a musical winter wonderland that truly captures the essence of the holidays. *Champion High School Auditorium, 201 Charger Blvd. 830-331-9079; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Dec. 22 Concert in the Cave: Winter Solstice** Enjoy an eclectic concert of holiday music celebrating the winter solstice, combining contemporary arrangements of traditional carols, soaring vocals, original acoustic music, and pulsing world-beat rhythms, performed on a mixture of ancient and modern instruments. *Cave without a Name, 325 Kreuzberg Road. 830-537-4212; visitboerne.org*



**BUDA: Dec. 1-2 Budafest** The holiday season starts in downtown Buda with this 39th annual event. Explore the art market to find that perfect gift or add your own touch at Santa's Artisan Workshop. The night parade and fireworks sparkle with thousands of lights, and the Reindog Parade brings a smile to all as dressed-up pups walk down Main Street. *Downtown Buda, 303 Main St. 512-295-7170; budafest.org*

**BULVERDE: Dec. 8 Holiday Tour of Homes** Ten beautiful homes are decorated to celebrate the season, some by local merchants including Farmhouse Market and Choices & More. Each home has a holiday theme, door prizes, refreshments, and activities. *Various locations. 830-438-4285; bsbtourofhomes.com*

**BURNET: Dec. 7-9, 14-16 Main Street Bethlehem** Wind your way through a village alive with peasants, royal guards, shepherds, and wise men all on the trek to see the baby Jesus. *First Baptist Church, 108 S. Vanderveer St. 512-756-4481; fbcburnet.org/mainstreetbethlehem.htm*

**CASTELL: Dec. 1 Gumbo Cookoff** Have some fun and try some of the best gumbo around. *Castell General Store, 19522 RR 152. 325-247-4100; heifersonly.com or castellgeneralstore.com*

**COMFORT: Nov. 24-Dec. 31 Life-Size Nativity Figures on Display** These vintage, life-size figures originally came from the Sears building in San Antonio. Jeannette MacDougall extensively restored them in 2015 under the direction of the Comfort Chamber of Commerce. *Comfort Park, 423 Main St. 830-995-3131; comfortchamber.com*

**COMFORT: Dec. 1-25 Townwide Christmas Lighting Contest and Viewing** Comfort businesses and residences go all-out to light and decorate for Christmas. Drive through day and night for beautiful and inspiring displays. *Various locations. 830-995-3131; comfortchamber.com*

**DRIPPING SPRINGS: Dec. 1-2 Redbud Artisan Market** The indoor holiday show features the unique, handmade art and fine craft of more than 60 Texas artisans. Shop while listening to live music, and enjoy food by Space Cowboy Catering and wines from Austin Custom Winery and Red Road Winery. *Dripping Springs Ranch Park, 29401 RM 12 North. 512-858-7892*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Nov. 23-Jan. 6 Eisbahn Outdoor Ice Skating** This annual seasonal event benefits local charities. *Marktplatz, 100 block of W. Main St. 830-997-6597; skateinfred.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 1 A Ranger Christmas** Meet Cowboy Santa and enjoy Ranger Town, wagon rides, caroling, hot chocolate and wassail, and more. *Texas Rangers Heritage Center, 1618 E. Main St. 830-990-1192; trhc.org*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 1 Christmas Home Tour and Market** Enjoy the 61st annual self-guided tour through selected homes that have been decorated in their finest for the holidays, along with a market specializing in one-of-a-kind merchandise. *Various locations. 830-990-8441; pioneermuseum.net*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 1-16 Christmas Wine Affair** Tickets include a Tasting Passport to receive complimentary tastings and wine discounts at dozens of participating wineries on this self-guided tour. *Various locations. 872-216-9463; texaswinetrail.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 7 First Friday Art Walk** Tour fine art galleries offering special exhibits, demonstrations, refreshments, and extended viewing hours the first Friday of every month. *Various locations. ffawf.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 7 Light the Night Christmas Parade and AfterGlow** Catch this breathtaking lighted night parade and participate in activities presented



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by the Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce. *Various locations. 830-997-5000; lighthenightchristmasparade.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 7 Pearl Harbor Day Observance** Attend this recognition and memorial program with speakers, a chaplain, the Joint Color Guard, music, and more. *National Museum of the Pacific War, 340 E. Main St. 830-997-8600; pacificwarmuseum.org*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 14-16, 21-23 "Winter Wonderettes"** 1960s versions of seasonal classics put you in the holiday spirit. *Steve W. Shepherd Theater, 1668 S. US 87. 830-997-3588; fredericksburgtheater.org*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 14-15 The Christmas Journey** Attend a free drive-through presentation of the Christmas story depicted in nine scenes, all with live animals and actors, magnificent backgrounds, special lighting and effects, and Christmas music filling the night air. *Bethany Lutheran Church, 110 W. Austin St. 830-997-2069; bethanyfredericksburg.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 14-16 Trade Days** Shop more than 400 vendors in seven barns to see acres of antiques, and enjoy the biergarten, live music, and more. *Across from Wildseed Farms, 100 Legacy Drive. 210-846-4094; fbgtradedays.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 15-16 "The Singing Christmas Tree"** Local volunteers present a one-hour concert standing on a 30-foot tall decorated and lighted Christmas tree. *Pioneer Museum, 325 W. Main St. 830-990-8441; pioneermuseum.net*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 22 Luckenbach Christmas Ball** Enjoy this annual holiday dance in a historic hall featuring musician Gary P. Nunn. *Luckenbach Texas Dance Hall, 412 Luckenbach Town Loop. 830-997-3224; luckenbachtexas.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 31 Countdown to 2019** This event features a DJ, food trucks, and a midnight ball drop. Bring blankets and chairs to join the fun. *Marktplatz, 100 W. Main St. 830-997-7521; fbgtx.org*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 31 Luckenbach New Year's Eve Celebration** Usher in the new year with one heck of a party in a historic dance hall featuring music by the Almost Patsy Cline Band. *Luckenbach Texas Dance Hall, 412 Luckenbach Town Loop. 830-997-3224; luckenbachtexas.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Dec. 31 USO-Style Hangar Dance** The Hangar Hotel hosts a New Year's Eve Hangar Dance, with a percentage of the event's proceeds donated to USO Ft. Hood. The dance features big band music by Fredericksburg local Bill Smallwood and the Lonestar

Swing Orchestra, swing dance lessons, a Champagne toast, a costume contest, a photo booth, party favors, black-eyed peas, and cornbread at midnight. *The Hangar Hotel, 155 Airport Road. 830-997-9990; hangarhotel.com*

**GEORGETOWN: Nov. 30-Dec. 1 The Christmas Stroll** This 38th annual holiday event includes a parade, visits with Santa, and a Winter Wonderland with a swing carousel and a Candyland obstacle course. Travel back in time to enjoy the re-enactment of life 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem Village, which includes a live manger. A variety of downtown merchants plus more than 150 market vendors make Christmas shopping a breeze. Enjoy the music of local performers, performances by area schools and organizations, and a food court. *The Georgetown Square. 512-863-5598; thegeorgetownsquare.com*

**GRUENE: Dec. 1-2 Christmas Market Days** Nearly 100 vendors offer Christmas gifts, uniquely crafted items, and packaged Texas foods. This event is perfect for everyone on your holiday shopping list. *Various locations. gruenemarketdays.com*

**GRUENE: Dec. 1 Gruene Pony Express Ride** This 17th annual event features relay riders carrying a "Christmas Greetings" message from the Governor of Texas. A temporary post office is set up next to Gruene Outfitters to cancel stamps for mailing. *Various locations. gruenehall.com*

**GRUENE: Dec. 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 21-22 Photos with Cowboy Kringle** Capture this year's Christmas memories by taking photos with Gruene's own brand of Santa. Pictures are taken in the breezeway between The Grapevine and Gruene General Store. *The Grapevine, 1612 Hunter Road. grapevineingruene.com*

**GRUENE: Dec. 1 Gruene Town Lighting** Gruene closes out the many festivities of the day with a brass band street performance followed by the annual town lighting, when Cowboy Kringle rides into town on horseback and hands out candy canes to the kids. *Various locations. gruenehall.com*

**GRUENE: Dec. 2 "Bah Humbug"** It's Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" with an amazing twist—one actor plays all the roles in this powerful tale of hope and compassion. Award-winning stage actor Damian Gillen transforms into all those beloved characters in this magical and imaginative re-telling of the holiday classic. *The Grapevine, 1612 Hunter Road. gruenetexas.com*

**GRUENE: Dec. 8 Jingle Bell Run/Walk** These 26th annual 5K run/walk and Kid's Ks events benefit St. Jude's Ranch for Chil-

dren. Awards are given to the top male and female finishers, the top male and female masters, the top three finishers in each age group, and the top three wheelchair athletes. *Gruene Hall, 1281 Gruene Road. gruenehall.com*

**GRUENE: Dec. 9 Gospel Brunch with a Texas Twist, Christmas Edition** Gruene decks its Hall for Christmas in the tradition of a New Orleans-style gospel brunch, but with Lone Star touches. Enjoy awe-inspiring gospel music, Christmas tunes, and a savory buffet. *Gruene Hall, 1281 Gruene Road. gruenemusicandwinefest.org*

**GRUENE: Dec. 20 Come and Taste It** A featured winemaker showcases three of its newest released, top-selling, or hardest-to-find wines, alongside a craft brew hand-picked by staff. Each event features live music and prize giveaways. *The Grapevine, 1612 Hunter Road. 830-606-0093; grapevineingruene.com*

**GRUENE: Dec. 31 New Year's Eve at Gruene Hall** Ring in the New Year at Texas' oldest dance hall. *Gruene Hall, 1281 Gruene Road. gruenehall.com*

**HUTTO: Dec. 1 Santa Claus Crawl** The third annual event features special holiday drink recipes served by favorite downtown Hutto businesses. Purchase a commemorative Santa Claus mug, then stroll downtown, shopping and sipping at each store. *Downtown Hutto, 100 East St. 512-759-4029; huttotx.gov*

**HUTTO: Dec. 8 Downtown Christmas Fair** This festive event features more than 125 artisan and craft vendors, food vendors, live entertainment, children's activities, snow, and photos with Santa. Downtown stores and restaurants will be open and have Christmas Fair specials throughout the day. *Downtown Hutto, 100 East St. 512-759-4029; huttotx.gov*

**INGRAM: Nov. 16-Dec. 14 ArtMart Christmas Gift Showcase** Shop handmade items. *Hill Country Arts Foundation, 120 Point Theatre Road. 830-367-5121; hcacf.com*

**INGRAM: Nov. 16-Dec 2 "Sanders Family Christmas"** It's Dec. 24, 1941, and America is going to war. So is Dennis Sanders. Join Pastor Mervin Oglethrope and the rest of the Sanders family as they send Dennis off with hilarious and touching stories along with 25 Southern Gospel Christmas favorites. *Hill Country Arts Foundation, 120 Point Theatre Road. 830-367-5121; hcacf.com*

**JOHNSON CITY: Nov. 23-Jan. 6 Johnson City Lights Spectacular** The holiday season kicks off with the traditional ceremonial lighting of the historic courthouse



square, Memorial Park, and Pedernales Electric Cooperative. Opening festivities include a street dance, a food court, an artisan craft fair, fireworks, and the Lighted Hooves & Wheels Parade. 101 W. Pecan St. 830-868-7684; johnsoncitytexas.info

**JOHNSON CITY: Dec. 8 Christmas Through the Years in LBJ Country**

This third annual event offers live holiday music by John Arthur Martinez; children's Texas frontier Christmas craft activities; a screening of "A Charlie Brown Christmas"; a chuckwagon cooking demonstration; cowboy singing, poetry, and storytelling; a Model T exhibit; and lamplight tours of Johnson's boyhood home decorated for 1920s Christmas. Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park, 200 E. Elm St. 830-868-7128; nps.gov/lyjo

**JOHNSON CITY: Dec. 15 Art Walk**

All galleries are open for visitation and enjoyment from 4 to 8 p.m., with adult beverages and snacks provided. Nugent Avenue and Main Street. lbjcountry.com

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 1-16 "Nuncrackers"**

This show is filled with typical "nonsense" humor, favorite carols, and "Secret Santa" audience participation. Playhouse 2000 VK Garage Theater, 305 Washington St. 830-896-9393; playhouse2000.com

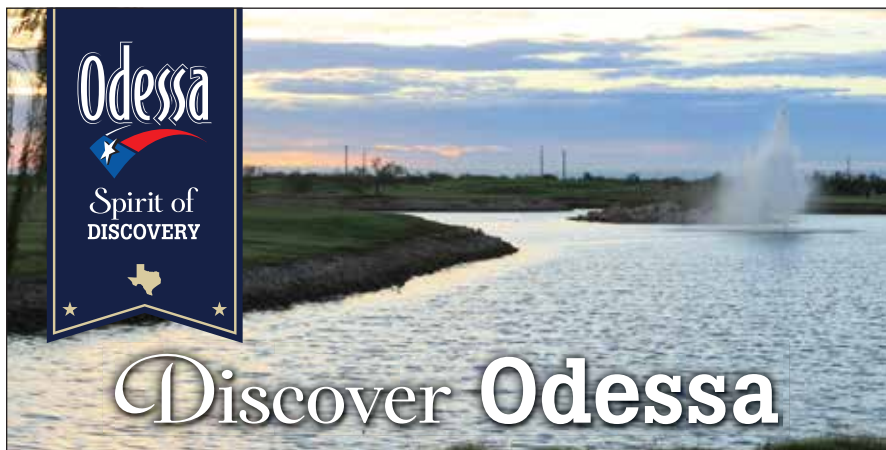
**KERRVILLE: Dec. 1 Hill Country Chorale in Concert** Hear Christmas music both old and new from chorale and instrumental selections. The Salvation Army Kroc Center, 201 Holdsworth Drive. 830-353-1635; hillcountrychorale.org

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 1 Hill Country Swap Meet** This shopping experience is like a giant community garage sale, flea market, and trade days all in one. Buy or sell new, used, antiques, collectibles, arts and crafts, knives, books, furniture, tools, clothing, kitchen supplies, household items, and more. Kerr County Hill Country Youth Event Center, 3785 SH 27. 830-459-6198; kerrmarketdays.org

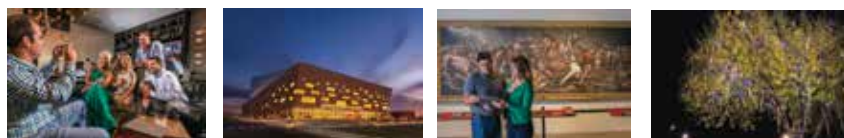
**KERRVILLE: Dec. 1 Kerr County Market Days** Shop an indoor marketplace with vendors of original handcrafted goods, artwork, and homegrown plants and produce. Kerr County Hill Country Youth Event Center, 3785 SH 27. 830-895-7524; kerrmarketdays.org

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 4 The Kerrville Ministerial Alliance Christmas Walk** Five downtown churches each have a 20-minute Christmas-themed service retelling the Christmas story in five parts. Notre Dame Church, 909 Main St. 830-792-9844

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 6 Symphony of the Hills in Concert** Hear the magnificent



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sounds of the symphony, and settle in at the wine and cheese reception. *Cailloux Theater*, 910 Main St. 830-792-7469; [symphonyofthehills.org](http://symphonyofthehills.org)

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 8 Camerata San Antonio Concert** Enjoy a chamber music concert inspired by the strength of the human spirit in the face of the depths of human cruelty, featuring violinist Anastasia Parker, violist Emily Freudigman, cellist Ken Freudigman, and pianist Viktor Valkov. *Schreiner University*, 2100 Memorial Blvd. 210-492-9519; [camerataso.org](http://camerataso.org)

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 8-9 Hill Country Gun Show** Shop from approximately 70 vendors at the show. *Hill Country Veterans Center*, 411 Meadowview Lane. 830-315-3101

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 8 White Christmas in the Hills** Kerrville School of Dance and San Antonio Performing Arts Classical Ballet present a colorful Christmas program. *Cailloux Theater*, 910 Main St. 830-896-6116; [caillouxtheater.com](http://caillouxtheater.com)

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 13 Christmas Ladies Night Out** Take part in shopping, sales, fun, food, and refreshments in historic downtown Kerrville. *Various locations*. 830-739-2519; [downtownkerrville.com](http://downtownkerrville.com)

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 14 Christmas Skate Extravaganza** Skate on the synthetic ice rink under the FBC Pavilion. It's just like ice skating but without the ice. *First Baptist Church*, 625 Washington St. 830-257-5033; [fbckerrville.com](http://fbckerrville.com)

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 15 Christmas at the Kroc** Join in on this community-wide event to celebrate Christmas with friends and fellowship. *The Salvation Army Kroc Center*, 201 Holdsworth Drive. 830-315-5762; [kerrvillekroc.org](http://kerrvillekroc.org)

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 16 "Fifties-Style Christmas Story"** This '50s-themed performance will make you nostalgic for Christmases past. *Zion Lutheran Church*, 624 Barnett St. 830-257-8411; [zionkerrville.org](http://zionkerrville.org)

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 21 Riders in the Sky in Concert** The "four-part harmonizing cowboys" don their sequined Yuletide outfits for this holiday musical show for the whole family, complete with singalongs. *Cailloux Theater*, 910 Main St. 830-896-9393; [caillouxtheater.com](http://caillouxtheater.com)

**KERRVILLE: Dec. 22-23 Texas Gun and Knife Show** New and used guns, knives, gold and silver coins, jewelry, camping gear, military supplies, and several businesses are all offered for sale under one roof. *Kerr County Hill Country Youth Event Center*, 3785 SH 27. 830-285-0575; [texasgunandknifeshows.com](http://texasgunandknifeshows.com)

**LAMPASAS: Nov. 22-Dec. 31 Christmas On The Creek** Enjoy a lighted Christmas village, Santa Claus, drinks, and family fun. *W. M. Brook Park*, US 281. 512-525-3580

**LAMPASAS: Nov. 30-Dec. 15 Christmas Tree and Gingerbread House Contest Display** The Lampasas County Museum hosts a Christmas tree and gingerbread house contest with an exhibit, which coincides with the Carol of Lights event. *Lampasas County Museum*, 303 S. Western Ave. 512-556-2224; [lampasasmuseum.org](http://lampasasmuseum.org)

**LAMPASAS: Dec. 1 Carol of Lights** Enjoy a lighted Christmas parade, a visit from Santa Claus, gingerbread house contest, shopping, a Christmas tree decorating contest, and more. *Lampasas Courtyard Square*, Live Oak and Third Street. 512-556-6262; [lampasasdowntown.com](http://lampasasdowntown.com)

**LAMPASAS: Dec. 1-2 Lampasas Trade Days** Meet the artists and craftsmen who create one-of-a-kind items. Merchandise includes antiques, collectibles, quilts, crafts, folk and fine art, and home furnishings. *Marigold's Antiques & More*, 2646 US 190. 512-734-1294; [marigoldsantiques.com](http://marigoldsantiques.com)

**LAMPASAS: Dec. 2 Holiday Tour of Homes** One of the largest fundraisers for the Lampasas County Museum, the tour allows ticket holders to visit select homes decorated for the holidays. *Various locations*. 512-556-2224; [lampasaschamber.org](http://lampasaschamber.org)

**LEANDER: Dec. 1 Old Town Christmas Festival** Every first Saturday of December, this event spreads Christmas joy throughout the community with the Old Town Rudolph Run 5K, Leander in Lights Parade, a snow zone, activities for the kids, pictures with Santa, local school performances and entertainment, a food court, and local vendors. *Old Town Leander*, 100 N. Brushy St. 512-259-1907; [visitleandertx.com](http://visitleandertx.com)

**LLANO: Nov. 23-Dec. 31 Starry Starry Nights Lighted Christmas Park** Sip hot chocolate and stroll along the Llano River enjoying all of the displays that light up Badu Park. *300 Legion Drive*. 325-247-5354; [llanostarrystarrynights.com](http://llanostarrystarrynights.com)

**LLANO: Dec. 1 Sip 'N Stroll and Lighted Christmas Parade** Ring in the holiday season on the courthouse square as local boutiques, restaurants, and shops stay open later for shoppers' convenience. Santa arrives for the parade as it circles the courthouse. *Llano Courthouse Square*, 832 Ford St. 325-247-5354; [llanochamber.org/events](http://llanochamber.org/events)

**LLANO: Dec. 1 Woman's Culture Club Christmas Home Tour** Tour several Llano homes decorated for the holidays. *Woman's Culture Club House*, 210 W. Sandstone St. 325-247-5354; [llanochamber.org](http://llanochamber.org)

**LLANO: Dec. 8 Snow Day** Badu Park transforms into a winter wonderland of cold, fluffy fun for the family. Sleds will be provided. *300 Legion Drive*. 325-247-5354; [llanostarrystarrynights.com/snow-day](http://llanostarrystarrynights.com/snow-day)

**MARBLE FALLS: Nov. 16-Jan. 1 Walkway of Lights** Celebrate the holidays at this free event featuring more than 2 million lights, 400 beautiful sculptures, photos with Santa, and more. *Lakeside Park*, 305 Buena Vista Drive. 830-693-2815; [marblefalls.org](http://marblefalls.org)

**MARBLE FALLS: Dec. 8 Christmas Market on Main** Merchants sell everything from fine art to homemade goodies, jewelry, organic soap, warm beverages, and more. Festivities include live music and Christmas activities for kids. *Historic Downtown Marble Falls*, Main Street. 830-693-2815; [marblefalls.org](http://marblefalls.org)

**MASON: Dec. 1 Sequist House Tour** Tour the historic three-story Victorian mansion. *Sequist House*, 400 Broad St. 325-347-4058; [masonxoc.com](http://masonxoc.com)

**MASON: Dec. 8 Joe Ely in Concert** The Texas country singer performs live at the historic theater. *The Odeon Theater*, 122 Moody St. 325-347-9010

**MASON: Dec. 29 Gary P. Nunn in Concert** The country singer—most known for "London Homesick Blues," the theme song for the "Austin City Limits" television show for more than 30 years—performs live. *Lea Lou Co-Op*, 114 S. Live Oak St. 325-347-1234 or 325-347-5758; [masonxoc.com](http://masonxoc.com) or [facebook.com/lealoumason](https://facebook.com/lealoumason)

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Through Jan. 31 "War Stories: New Braunfels in World War I"**

This exhibit is presented as part of the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of America's role in WWI. New Braunfels' German character compelled its citizens to respond with fervor once America was at war with Germany. On view will be artifacts from the Sophienburg's rich collections—posters, photographs, uniforms, and other historical objects to showcase events, individuals, and ideology during 1914-1919—and an exploration of The Great War's lasting impact on America and on this German community. *Sophienburg Museum & Archives*, 401 W. Coll St. 830-629-1572; [sophienburg.com](http://sophienburg.com)

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Nov. 30-Dec. 1 Christkindlmarkt** Commemorate the German heritage of the city with Christkindlmarkt—an open-air Christmas market where visitors will enjoy German-inspired food, craft beer, and live entertainment. Shop for Christmas ornaments, toys, books, and more. Family-friendly activities include face painters, a rock climbing wall, bungee trampolines, and walk-on-water balls. Parking and admission are free. *New*



Braunfels Conservation Plaza, 1300 Church Hill Drive. 830-542-8448; ckmnbt.org

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Dec. 5-7 "The Grand Ol' Christmas Show"** This variety show is a tribute to the original, traditional, old fashioned "Christmas Show." Presented in the format of a live radio broadcast, it features American band Blue Water Highway, along with a 12-piece big band, gospel choir, and some of the best singers and entertainers in Texas. *Brauntex Performing Arts Theatre, 290 W. San Antonio St. 830-627-0808; brauntex.org*

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Dec. 6 Wassailfest** The annual festival begins with the official toast to kick off the event, and includes an evening of music, fun, food, great shopping, thousands of twinkling lights, and, of course, lots of free wassail to sample. *Downtown New Braunfels, Main Plaza. 830-221-4000; nbtexas.org*

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Dec. 13 Suzy Bogguss in Concert** The Grammy-winning singer and her band grace the stage for her acoustic Swingin' Little Christmas Show. Bogguss has topped the charts with "Someday Soon" and "Letting Go" and has performed on "Austin City Limits," on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," and "Good Morning America." *Brauntex Performing Arts Theatre, 290 W. San Antonio St. 830-627-0808; brauntex.org*

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Dec. 14 Christmas Favorites with Richard Novak** Accompanied by a chamber orchestra, tenor Richard Novak will present an evening of classical and traditional Christmas songs with some surprise guest appearances. *Brauntex Performing Arts Theatre, 290 W. San Antonio St. 830-627-0808; brauntex.org*

**OZONA: Nov. 1-Dec. 15 Remembering Crockett County Veterans Exhibit** Each year, the Crockett County Museum honors our veterans both past and present with an exhibit featuring photos, artifacts, and memorabilia submitted by local families. There are hundreds of photos and other items dating back to the Civil War. *Crockett County Museum, 404 11th St. 325-392-2837; ozona.com/eventscalendar*

**OZONA: Dec. 1 Crockett County Deerfest** Join a communitywide appreciation banquet for hunters. Attendees are fed a meal of chicken-fried deer, turkey, axis deer, deer sausage, deer chili, deer tamales, and brisket. Door prizes are up for grabs, and previous years' door prizes included guns, \$10,000 in Cabela's gift cards, and a Polar- is Ranger. *Crockett County Fair Park Convention Center, 1303 Avenue AA. 325-227-9345; deerfest.org*



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**MAGNOLIA  
HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS  
FAMILY DAY  
NIGHTTIME PARADE  
TREE LIGHTING**

**2019**

**FEB 23:**  
**MAGNOLIA MARDI GRAS &  
CAJUN READY MIX COOK-OFF**

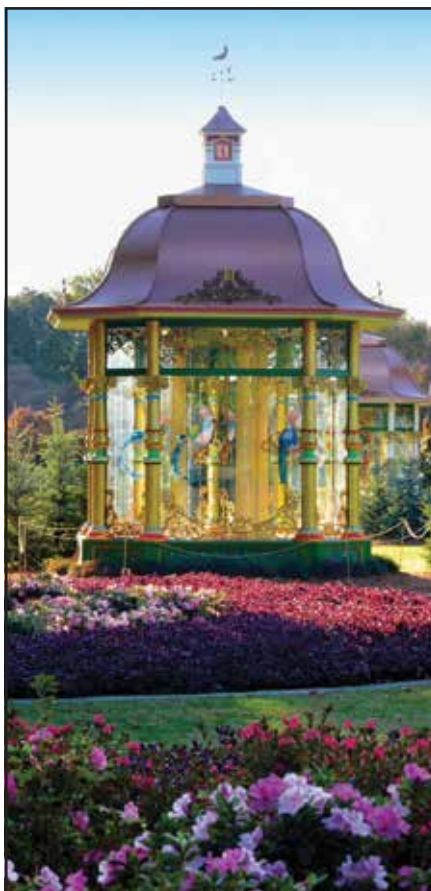
**MAR 9:**  
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**DallasArboretum.org**  
8525 Garland Road • Dallas, Texas 75218

The Dallas Arboretum is a non-profit organization supported, in part, by funds from Dallas Park & Recreation.

**OZONA: Dec. 1 Crockett County Museum Wool and Mohair Style Show** This annual show gives away lots of door prizes to benefit the Crockett County Museum. *Crockett County Helping Hands Senior Citizens Center, 2 SH 163 North. 325-392-2837*

**OZONA: Dec. 6 Evening on the Town** Shoppers are treated to special delights, including discounted prices, refreshments, and other exciting experiences at local businesses. *Various locations. 325-392-3737; ozona.com/eventscalendar*

**OZONA: Dec. 15 Crockett County 4-H Junior Livestock Show** Area youth bring their best livestock for judges to review. Open to the public. *Crockett County 4-H Barn, 1303 Avenue AA. 325-392-2721; ozona.com/eventscalendar*

**SAN MARCOS: Nov. 28-Dec. 8 Sights and Sounds of Christmas** Enjoy eight full evenings over two weeks of holiday festivities. Highlights include carnival rides, arts and crafts, pictures with Santa, local school performances, a live nativity scene, and a food court. *San Marcos Plaza Park, 206 N. CM Allen Parkway. 512-393-8400; sights-n-sounds.org*

**SAN MARCOS: Dec. 14 Wine and Wassail Walk Weekend** Retail businesses serve a variety of wines, homemade wassail, and paired hors d'oeuvres. Participants receive a commemorative wine glass and can enjoy live entertainment. *Downtown San Marcos, 111 E. San Antonio St. 512-393-8430; smtxwinewalk.com*

**SPICEWOOD: Dec. 15 Spicewood Vineyards Half-Marathon and 10K** Experience the beauty of the Hill Country, the warmth of the holiday season, and a well-earned post-race wine tasting at an award-winning Texas vineyard. After completing a challenging yet rewarding course on rural roads, you'll return to the winery for your finisher medal, souvenir wine glass, wine tasting, and a catered meal. Show your spirit with the holiday costume contest. Winners take home a bottle of wine. *Spicewood Vineyards, 1419 CR 409. 210-651-6096; runintexas.com*

**STONEWALL: Dec. 16 LBJ Tree Lighting** This 49th annual celebration offers carolers, a live nativity, Santa Claus, refreshments, and a spectacular tree lighting. *Lyndon B. Johnson State Park and Historic Site, 199 Park Road 52. 830-644-2252; tpwd.texas.gov/calendar/lyndon-b-johnson*

**UVALDE: Dec. 1 Breakfast with Santa** Celebrate the holidays with breakfast and photos with Santa. *Uvalde Opera House, 104 W. North St. 830-278-4184; uvaldeoperahouse.org*

**UVALDE: Dec. 6-8 "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play"** This beloved American holiday classic comes to life as a live 1940s radio broadcast. With the help of an ensemble that brings a few dozen characters to the stage, the story of idealistic George Bailey unfolds as he considers ending his life one fateful Christmas Eve. Adapted by Joe Landry. *Uvalde Opera House, 104 W. North St. 830-278-4184; uvaldeoperahouse.org*

**UVALDE: Dec. 7-8 Briscoe Ranch Barbecue Cookoff at the Crossroads** With average high temperatures in the mid-70s in December, cooking conditions are favorable for guests visiting the Crossroads of America. Sanctioned by the International Barbecue Cookers Association, barbecue teams compete for prizes in categories including beef brisket, pork spare ribs, chicken halves, and jackpot rib-eye steak. Proceeds benefit student scholarships at Southwest Texas Junior College. *Uvalde County Fairplex, 215 Veterans Lane. 830-486-7055; uvaldebbq.com*

**UVALDE: Dec. 14 Four Square Friday** Enjoy late-night shopping, food, live music, and art. *Historic Downtown Uvalde. 830-278-4115; visituvalde.com*

**WIMBERLEY: Nov. 9-Dec. 2 "The Lion in Winter"** Betrayal, treachery, and a knife fight: Every family has its ups and downs. *Wimberley Playhouse, 450 Old Kyle Road. 512-847-0575; wimberleyplayers.org*

**WIMBERLEY: Nov. 24-Dec. 28 Trail of Lights** Stroll a walking path with more than 100 lighted exhibits with live entertainment and marshmallow roasting. *EmilyAnn Theatre and Gardens, 1101 FM 2325. 512-847-2201; emilyann.org*

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Guided Tours of Jacob's Well Natural Area** Explore Jacob's Well with knowledgeable volunteers. Tours are led by master naturalist volunteers from the local Hays County Chapter who have a passionate focus on the aquifer that sustains Jacob's Well, a natural artesian spring. The guides speak in-depth about the history of the well and the several species of wildlife that thrive in the surrounding habitat. The tour group starts off at the Nature Center. Bring drinking water, good walking shoes, and binoculars. *Jacob's Well Natural Area, 1699 Mount Sharp Road. 512-214-4593; co.hays.tx.us/jwna.aspx*

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 1 Market Days** More than 400 booths aligned along shaded paths offer treasures of all kinds for your holiday shopping needs. Live music, lots of food, and beverage options

make a unique shopping experience. *Lions Field, 601 FM 2325. 512-847-2201; shopmarketdays.com*

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 7-9 Christmas Concerts** The Wimberley Community Chorus performs holiday favorites. *Chapel in the Hills, 14601 RM 12. 512-847-6056; wimberleycommunitychorus.org*

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 8 Holiday Bazaar** The market has gifts for everyone for the holidays, including jewelry, clothing, candles, handmade items, gourd art, toys, home decor, metal, and glass and wood art. *Wimberley Community Center, 14068 RM 12. 512-847-5162; wimcc.org*

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 8-9 Second Saturday Gallery Trail** Galleries in and around the Wimberley Square stay open late and offer great art, wine, and appetizers. *Wimberley Square. 269-290-5001; gallerytrail.com*

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 8 Winter's Eve** Enjoy live music, food, drinks, raffles, prizes, and Santa. *Wimberley Square. 512-757-3158; wimberleymerchants.com*

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 15 Blue Christmas** This annual event features horse carriage rides, an ugly sweater contest, a roaring fire, local music groups leading carols, hot chocolate, Santa, and blue lights everywhere. *Blue Hole Regional Park, 101 Blue Hole Lane. 512-660-9111; cityofwimberley.com*

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 16 Christmas Concert** The Starlight Symphony Orchestra performs holiday classics. *Wimberley First Baptist Church, 15951 Winters Mill Parkway. 512-902-1361; starlightsymphony.org*

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 20 Susanna's Kitchen Coffeehouse Concert Series** Every third Thursday, the best musical talent from the Texas Hill Country performs in an intimate setting. *Wimberley United Methodist Church, 1200 CR 1492. 512-847-3109; wimberleyumc.org/susannas-kitchen*

## PANHANDLE PLAINS

**ALBANY: Through Feb. 2 "René Treviño: A New Codex"** Contemporary Mexican-American artist René Treviño will create an installation comprised of his own work alongside his personal selections from the Old Jail Art Center's pre-Columbian collection. *Old Jail Art Center, 201 S. Second St. 325-762-2269; theojac.org*

**ALBANY: Through Feb. 2 "Texas Moderns: Sam Gummelt"** The artist's reputation as one of Texas' leading abstract artists began in the 1970s coinciding with the post-modern trend. Since that time, Gummelt has continued to stay the course and commit



himself to modernist investigations. Boarded storefronts, doorways, windows, and other geometric structures are the inspiration for many of his multimedia creations. *Old Jail Art Center, 201 S. Second St. 325-762-2269; theojac.org*

**ANSON: Dec. 8 Miss Merry Christmas Pageant** A time-honored celebration of the lovely young people in the Anson community, this pageant is held in conjunction with the Parade of Lights. Downtown comes alive with shopping, food trucks, and people celebrating the joy of the season. *Downtown Anson. 325-823-3259*

**BIG SPRING: Dec. 2-25 Comanche Trail Festival of Lights** The trail boasts more than a million lights. Visit the gift shop and mark your calendars for Santa's visits to the festival. *Comanche Trail Park, 100 Whipkey Drive. 432-263-8235; visitbigspring.com*

**BIG SPRING: Dec. 15 "Home for the Holidays"** Big Spring Symphony presents a show celebrating native and adopted-native expertise: Tara Trowbridge, soprano Lawrence Thibeault, tenor Gershom Garcia, and the Big Spring High School Choir. *Municipal Auditorium, 310 E. Third St. 432-816-5196; bigspringsymphony.com*

**CANADIAN: Through Dec. 21 "Sordid and Sacred: The Beggars in Rembrandt's Etchings"** This exhibit of original works by 17th-century Dutch artist Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669) features 36 framed etchings executed between 1629 and 1654. Highly regarded as one of the greatest visual artists in the history of art, Rembrandt produced 300 prints during his lifetime to depict a body of work incomparable by none. *The Citadelle Art Foundation, 520 Nelson Ave. 806-323-8899; thecitadelle.org*

**CLAUDE: Dec. 8-9 "A Christmas Story"** The historic Gem Theatre presents its production of the classic holiday play. *The Gem Theatre, 120 N. Trice St. 806-226-2187; charlesgoodnight.org*

**DALHART: Dec. 8 Christmas Arts and Crafts Bazaar** Shop from exhibitors from the five-state area at this free-admission event, complete with door prizes, arts and crafts, and delicious food. *Rita Blanca Coliseum, 1219 FM 281.*

**DALHART: Dec. 9 Tour of Homes** Tour several of Dalhart's finest homes, and enjoy a bake sale and Christmas tree raffle. *Various locations. dalhart.org*

**DALHART: Dec. 15 Flying J Wranglers in Concert** Join this Western instrumental and vocal group for a night of music and laughter. *La Rita Theatre, 311 Denrock Ave. 806-244-5646; larita.org*



Outdoor Ice Rink

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Holiday Lights

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- Historical Museums / Monuments / Attractions
- Family-friendly Festivals / Special Events
- Craft Beverages / Dining / Nightlife / Entertainment
- Comfortable Lodging / Spacious Event Center
- Nov 23 - Dec 31 – Holiday Lights – Loy Lake
- Nov 23 - Jan 1 – Denison on Ice – Downtown
- Dec 6 – Christmas Parade/Tree Lighting – Main St
- Dec 8 – Loft Tours – Downtown

# Retreat. Relax.

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**Symphony of The Hills**

Dec 6 - "Peace on Earth"  
Jan 5 - "The Fabulous 50's" • Feb 28 - "A New World"  
Symphonyofthehills.com

**"Balsam Range"**

Dec 2 - "Riders in the Sky Cowboy Christmas"  
Feb 9 - "Balsam Range"  
CaillouxTheater.com

**KERRVILLE**  
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**DENVER CITY: Dec. 6 Christmas Parade**  
This annual lighted parade includes clubs, bands, commercial entries, and colorful floats followed by a visit with Santa in the Santa House. *Main Street. 806-592-5424; denvercitychamber.com*

**HAMLIN: Dec. 1 Big Green Christmas**  
Businesses are open all day for holiday shopping, and vendors fill the downtown sidewalks. A lighted Christmas parade takes place in the evening. *Various locations. 325-576-3501; hamlinchamber.com*

**LEVELLAND: Dec. 8-10 South Plains Showdown**  
This event is a jackpot pig show. *Mallet Event Center and Arena, 2320 US 385 South. 806-500-6527; malleteventcenter.com*

**LEVELLAND: Dec. 13 Fa La La Fun for the Girls**  
More than 300 ladies under one roof can enjoy three hours of food, fun, pampering, entertainment, and shopping. *Mallet Event Center and Arena, 2320 US 385 South. 806-894-3157; levelland.com*

**LEVELLAND: Dec. 14-16 Christmas Cash Classic**  
This event is a jackpot pig show. *Mallet Event Center and Arena, 2320 US 385 South. 806-786-5528; facebook.com/christmascashclassic*

**LUBBOCK: Through Jan. 14 "Work, Fight Give: American Relief Posters of WWII"**  
This traveling exhibition offers a wide-ranging collection of original relief posters and memorabilia that provides a new window on understanding WWII. *Silent Wings Museum, 6202 I-27 North. 806-775-3049; silentwingsmuseum.com*

**LUBBOCK: Dec. 7-Jan. 20 West Texas Watercolor Society Winter Show**  
This exhibition and sale of water media art is supported in part through a grant from the city of Lubbock. *Buddy Holly Center, 1801 Crickets Ave. 806-794-4655; wtws.org*

**POST: Dec. 1-2, 8-9, 15-16 "Bethlehem"**  
This live biblical drama tells about the creation of man and ends with the birth of Jesus. Performances are on Saturdays and Sundays. *Ragtown Gospel Theater, 870 Ragtown Road. 877-724-8696; ragtown.com*

**POST: Dec. 1 Lighted Christmas Parade**  
Main Street comes alive with lighted entries. *Various locations. 806-495-3461*

**POST: Dec. 1, 7-9 Old Mill Trade Days**  
Enjoy unique shopping, food, and entertainment. *Various locations. 432-934-1479*

**SAN ANGELO: Through Aug. 18 Richard and Pam Salmon Sculpture Competition**  
The fifth biennial juried competition features 12 large outdoor sculptures. *Sunken Garden Park, 704 S. David St. 325-653-3333; samfa.org*

**SAN ANGELO: Through Jan. 20 "Inside Out"**  
Learn about women's status and roles through fashion, from foundation to silhouette. *San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love St. 325-653-3333; samfa.org*

**SAN ANGELO: Nov. 30-Dec. 31 Concho Christmas Celebration**  
The 25th annual celebration and Tour of Lights has grown into a 2.5-mile drive along the banks of the Concho River featuring more than 3 million lights. The event consists of a live nativity scene, the community tree lighting ceremony, the Lights of Christmas parade, a bicycle ride with Santa; a walk/run event; the annual Tuba Christmas concert, FM radio broadcast, and an extraordinary light show. *Concho River, Downtown San Angelo, West First Street, and Park Drive. 325-944-4444; conchochristmascelebration.com*

**SAN ANGELO: Dec. 7-9 Christmas at Old Fort Concho**  
Celebrate three days full of Christmas cheer including shopping, living history, a special area for children, and on-going entertainment as well as special scheduled shows, all on the historic fort grounds. *Fort Concho National Historic Landmark, 630 S. Oakes St. 325-657-4444; fortconcho.com*

**SAN ANGELO: Dec. 14-16 "The Nutcracker"**  
This performance brings great Christmas tradition in its second year of production. *Murphey Performance Hall, 72 W. College Ave. 325-284-3825; sanangelopac.org*

**SNYDER: Dec. 1 Lighted Christmas Parade**  
See the detailed floats in this holiday parade, plus beautiful lights and Santa flying in from a helicopter. *Downtown Square. 325-573-3558; snyderchamber.org*

**SWEETWATER: Dec. 1 Applause Music Series: "Christmas Special"**  
The Wayland Baptists Church University choirs and band perform. A cookie and punch reception follows the concert. *Sweetwater Municipal Auditorium, 400 Locust St. 325-235-1418; sweetwatertexas.org/municipal-auditorium*

**SWEETWATER: Dec. 1-2 Christmas Craft Show**  
Kick off the Christmas season and find handcrafted gifts. *Nolan County Coliseum, 220 Coliseum Drive. 325-235-3484; nolancountycoliseum@gmail.com*

**SWEETWATER: Dec. 1 Santa In Sweetwater**  
Take pictures with Santa and explore the National WASP WWII Museum. *210 Avenger Field Road. waspmuseum.org 325-235-0099*

**SWEETWATER: Dec. 3 Parade of Lights**  
This annual family-friendly parade features creative, lighted floats with Christmas themes and holiday music. *Various locations. 325-235-5488; sweetwatertexas.org*

**VEGA: Dec. 3 Christmas on the Square**  
The sights and sounds of the season kick off with this holiday celebration featuring music, food, and fun. Stroll around to local businesses offering Christmas treats. Santa Claus makes a stop at City Hall for photos and to hear wishes from all the children. *Oldham County Courthouse Square. 806-267-2828; oldhamcofc.org*

**WICHITA FALLS: Nov. 16-Dec. 14 Santa's Mailbox**  
Children can mail their letters to Santa in the colorful mailbox located next to the flagpole at the MSU Fantasy of Lights. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope along with your letter to Santa and he will send a return letter from the North Pole. *Midwestern State University Fantasy of Lights, 3400 Taft Blvd. 940-397-4972; wichitafallstx.gov*

**WICHITA FALLS: Nov. 19-Dec. 29 MSU-Burns Fantasy of Lights**  
One of the largest holiday displays of its kind, the show's purpose is to provide a festive holiday atmosphere on campus, to serve as an outreach to the community, and to be a focal point for holiday activities in North Texas. The event is filled with individual displays that showcase characters from well-known children's stories, fairy tales, and holiday themes. *Midwestern State University, 3410 Taft Blvd. 940-397-4972; fol.mwsu.edu*

**WICHITA FALLS: Nov. 22-Dec. 25 The Polar Express**  
Climb aboard and sing along to Christmas favorites while enjoying the beautiful lights. *Midwestern State University, 3410 Taft Blvd. 940-781-0877; polarexpresswf.com*

**WICHITA FALLS: Nov. 23-Dec. 15 "White Christmas"**  
Based on the beloved, timeless film, this heartwarming musical adaptation is about veterans Bob Wallace and Phil Davis, who have a successful song-and-dance act after World War II. With romance in mind, the two follow a duo of beautiful singing sisters en route to their Christmas show at a Vermont lodge. Will they find love this Christmas? *Backdoor Theatre, 501 Indiana Ave. 940-322-5000; backdoortheatre.org*

**WICHITA FALLS: Nov. 23-Dec. 24 Carriage Rides**  
Take a tour of the Christmas light displays through a beautiful country club neighborhood while riding in a carriage with a warm blanket and a drink in hand. *Midwestern State University parking lot, 3410 Taft Blvd. 940-636-4404; ptlcarriages.com*

**WICHITA FALLS: Nov. 28-Dec. 7 Santa House**  
Santa and company invite guests for a visit to their Texas home for the holidays. Santa's elves guide visitors of all ages



through a magical Christmas wonderland, including the original play “The Magical Rocking Horse, Part III,” a visit with Santa, a stop in Mrs. Claus’ kitchen for a cookie, and a stop in Santa’s workshop to make an ornament. *Kell House Museum, 900 Bluff St. 940-723-2712; wichita-heritage.org*

**WICHITA FALLS: Nov. 30-Dec. 22**

**ElectriCrittters** With the flip of a switch, more than 60,000 lights on more than 150 lighted displays glitter and sparkle. Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the Butterfly Queen make an appearance each night. After exploring the lighted grounds, stop by the Candy Cane Cafe and enjoy hot chocolate, apple cider, hot cookies, and popcorn, and shop for holiday gifts and stocking stuffers. *River Bend Nature Center, 2200 Third St. 940-767-0843; riverbendnaturecenter.org*

**WICHITA FALLS: Dec. 1 Christmas in the Park**

Ring in the Christmas season at this event, which features Santa’s Great Candy Cane Scramble, where more than 10,000 candy canes—including prize candy canes—are scattered over a designated area. Visits with Santa, train rides, and free carnival games also offer fun for all. *Scotland Park Elementary School Gym, 1415 N. Fifth St. 940-761-7490; wichitafallstx.gov*

**WICHITA FALLS: Dec. 1 Fantasy of Lights 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run** Dash through streets and buildings adorned with thousands of twinkling lights during this festive 5K and 1-mile fun run. *Midwestern State University, 3400 Taft Blvd. 940-397-4972; fol.mwsu.edu/5k-run.php*

**WICHITA FALLS: Dec. 1 The Nutcracker**

The Wichita Falls Ballet Theatre’s 56th annual production features live music performed by the Wichita Falls Community Orchestra. *Memorial Auditorium, 1300 Seventh St. 940-500-0175; wichitafalls.boxofficesales.com*

**WICHITA FALLS: Dec. 6-13 City Lights**

**Trolley Tour** Ride the trolley and visit with Santa. The trip begins with hot chocolate and cookies with Santa and ends at the same location after a trolley tour through the Fantasy of Lights and Country Club. *Wichita Falls Recreation Center, 10th Street and Indiana Avenue, Room 202. 940-761-7490; wichitafallstx.gov*

**WYLIE: Dec. 1 Wylie Arts Festival**

Shop for fine art and unique, handmade crafts from more than 140 vendors while enjoying the sounds of the season and festive foods. *First Baptist Church Wylie Event Center, 200 N. Ballard Ave. 972-516-6016; wylietexas.gov*

**PINEY WOODS**

**CONROE: Dec. 2 Texas 10 Series Running**

**Race** Conroe 10, the last showdown of the six city races, offers runners a nice path through northern Montgomery County starting and finishing at Lone Star Community College’s Conroe Campus. The 5-mile, two-loop course challenges runners to push themselves while running for a personal best or finishing their first 10-mile or 5-mile. *Lone Star College, Conroe Center, 777 Conroe Park N. Drive. 936-588-9966; texas10series.com*

**CONROE: Dec. 9 Lake Conroe Christmas Boat Parade**

Have a boat? Decorate it and join the parade. Have a lakefront home? Throw a party, take pictures, and have a merry time. Don’t have a boat? Join in at the restaurants around the lake for their festivities and watch the parade. The event raises funds for local kids in need. *Lake Conroe Park, 14968 SH 105 West. 936-522-3500; livelakeconroe.com/christmasboatparade*

**CROCKETT: Dec. 18 Texas Tenors in Concert**

The No. 1 vocal group in the history of “America’s Got Talent” brings Christmas cheer with their holiday production “Deep in The Heart of Christmas.” *Crockett Civic Center, 1100 Edmiston Drive. 936-544-4276; pwfaa.org*

# Christmas in Cuero

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**Christmas in Downtown**  
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Snowzilla • Bungee Bounce • Trackless Train  
Horse Carriage Rides • Entertainment  
Shopping • Artisans Market  
Dec. 7th & 8th

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**HENDERSON: Dec. 1 *Lighting of the Trees*** Trees are lit for spectacular holiday scenery. Lake Forest Park, 1500 Lake Forest Parkway. 866-650-5529; [visithenderson.tx.com](http://visithenderson.tx.com)

**HUNTSVILLE: Nov. 30-Dec. 1 *Journey Through Bethlehem*** A multidenominational presentation of Bethlehem as it was on the night Jesus was born. *Walker County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Road.* 936-295-7459

**HUNTSVILLE: Dec. 1 *Christmas Fair*** Enjoy snow, Santa, food, vendors, train rides, and holiday entertainment. *Historic Downtown Huntsville, 1203 University Ave.* 936-291-9726; [huntsvillemainstreet.com](http://huntsvillemainstreet.com)

**HUNTSVILLE: Dec. 1 *Houston Family Christmas*** Enjoy historical demonstrations, holiday goodies, free admission to the main museum, craft projects, a discount at the museum store, and visiting with Santa. *Sam Houston Memorial Museum, 1836 Sam Houston Ave.* 936-291-9726

**HUNTSVILLE: Dec. 4-9 *"A Wynne Home Nutcracker"*** The whole family can experience "The Nutcracker" story from the inside, attending the Christmas party at The Wynne Home and traveling through the snow to the Land of the Sweets. *The Wynne Home Arts Center, 1428 11th St.* 936-291-9726; [huntsvilletexas.com](http://huntsvilletexas.com)

**JASPER: Nov. 24-Dec. 15 *Christmas in the Park*** This annual event offers food, arts and crafts, live music, and fireworks on opening day. Enjoy train rides through the park on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights through Dec. 15. *Sandy Creek Park, Marvin Hancock Drive.* 409-384-4651; [christmasinjaspertx.com](http://christmasinjaspertx.com)

**JEFFERSON: Nov. 29-Dec. 8 *Jefferson Candlelight Tour of Homes*** Tour historic homes normally not open to the public. *Various locations.* [jeffersoncandlelight.com](http://jeffersoncandlelight.com)

**JEFFERSON: Dec. 1, 7-8, 14-15 *Jefferson Flea Market*** Shop for new and antique items, arts and crafts, furniture, fixtures, books, dishes, office supplies, and more. *Jefferson Flea Market, 213 W. Broadway St.* 903-431-0043; [jeffersonfleamarket.net](http://jeffersonfleamarket.net)

**JEFFERSON: Dec. 14-15 *Gun & Knife Show*** Shop for new and antique guns, knives, knife-sharpening equipment, ammo, gun parts, archery, reloading equipment and supplies, scopes, holsters, and many other shooting related items, all in a safe, fun, and family-oriented environment. Bring your unloaded gun for trading. *Jefferson Visitor Center, 305 E. Austin St.* [tandkpromotions.com](http://tandkpromotions.com)

**KILGORE: Dec. 8 *Kilgore Geekend Presents Holiday Bizarre*** Enjoy holiday music (provided in part by Kilgore's own Jericho March) while browsing some of the best

vendors and artists from East Texas and beyond. The East Texas Hive collect toys and books for children in need, and Santa Claus makes an appearance for photos. *Downtown Kilgore.* 512-299-8722; [facebook.com/kilgoregeekend](http://facebook.com/kilgoregeekend)

**KILGORE: Dec. 15 *Jingle All The Way*** Bring the kids for a fun time while you finish some last-minute Christmas shopping in historic downtown Kilgore. The whole family can enjoy Christmas characters, outdoor entertainment, and festive fun. *Historic Downtown Kilgore.* 903-988-4117; [kilgoremainstreet.com](http://kilgoremainstreet.com)

**LIBERTY: Dec. 8, 29 *Liberty Opry*** Enjoy live, family-oriented musical entertainment with a different theme for every show. Popular themes include gospel, country, '50s, '60s, '70s, specialties, and always a little comedy. Food and nonalcoholic beverages are available. *Liberty Opry, 1816 Sam Houston St.* 936-336-5830; [libertyopry.com](http://libertyopry.com)

ensemble of songwriters, singers, and musicians have combined technical skill with showmanship for more than a decade. The band combines the best of beloved genres in a style that unifies audiences—young and old, classical connoisseurs and roots enthusiasts, jazz aficionados and bluegrass buffs. *The Pines Theater, 113 S. First St.* 936-633-0359; [thepineslufkin.com](http://thepineslufkin.com)

**LUFKIN: Nov. 15 *"Junie B. in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!"*** Everyone's favorite first grader, Junie B. Jones, is live onstage in this fun-for-all holiday tale that delivers a special lesson about giving. *Temple Theater, 3500 S. First St.* 936-633-5454; [angelinaarts.org](http://angelinaarts.org)

**MAGNOLIA: Dec. 1 *The Magic of Christmas Parade of Lights*** A festive parade ignites the spirit of the season. *Unity Park, 19450 Unity Park Drive.* 281-356-1488; [greatermagnoliaparkwaycc.org](http://greatermagnoliaparkwaycc.org)

**MARSHALL: Nov. 21-30 *Wonderland of Lights*** Millions of white lights illuminate the historic Harrison County Courthouse as downtown Marshall is transformed into a winter wonderland featuring two trains, a vintage carousel, outdoor ice skating, and horse-drawn carriages. Enjoy the free Santa's Village to decorate a cookie, build a toy, and visit with the big guy himself. Live entertainment nightly and special events on Saturdays. *Downtown Marshall, 1 Peter Whetstone Square.* 903-702-7777

**MONTGOMERY: Dec. 8 *Christmas in Historic Montgomery*** Ring in the holiday season with events all day in historic Montgomery, the birthplace of the Texas flag. Events include breakfast with Santa, arts and crafts, shopping, a parade, the famous cookie walk, and the candlelight home tour. Various locations. 936-524-3402 [montgomerytexas.gov](http://montgomerytexas.gov) or [facebook.com/experiencemontgomery](http://facebook.com/experiencemontgomery)

**PALESTINE: Nov. 17-Dec. 22 *Grinch's Lair*** The who's who of Whoville greets visitors before being sent up into the lair for a tour with Mr. Grinch through his Texas Jail House dwelling. You never know what ridiculousness he'll be up to. *Texas Jail House, 704 Avenue A.* 903-373-8158; [texasjailhouse.com](http://texasjailhouse.com)

**PALESTINE: Nov. 17-Dec. 27 *Polar Express Train Ride*** Read along with the story as the historic steam train makes its magical round-trip journey from the Palestine Depot to the North Pole. Meet Santa and enjoy caroling, hot cocoa, treats, and gifts. *Texas State Railroad Depot, Park Road 70.* 855-632-7729; [texasstaterailroad.net](http://texasstaterailroad.net)

**PALESTINE: Dec. 1 *"A Country Christmas" by Dogwood Jamboree*** This Bran-



**FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM**

When you're out and about at various events across the state this fall, post your photos on Instagram so we can join in on the fun. Tag @TexasHighways and include #TrueTexas in your caption for a chance to be featured.

**LONGVIEW: Dec. 1 *Gingerbread Bash*** Families can enjoy several gingerbread-related activities and crafts all day long. *Longview World of Wonders, 112 E. Tyler St.* 903-212-4969; [longviewwow.org](http://longviewwow.org)

**LUFKIN: Dec. 4 *Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis*** Ring in the holidays with this legendary jazz trumpeter and jazz orchestra, comprised of 15 of the finest jazz soloists and ensemble players in the world. *Temple Theater, 3500 S. First St.* 936-633-5454; [angelinaarts.org](http://angelinaarts.org)

**LUFKIN: Dec. 13 *The Pines Presents: The Annie Moses Band*** A captivating blend of folk and classical, this talented



son-style music show is filled with laughter and some of the golden hits in country music performed live on stage. *Palestine High School Auditorium, 1600 S. Loop 256. 903-729-7080; dogwoodjamboree.com*

**PALESTINE: Dec. 1 Frost Fest**

Activities include the historic home tour that showcases Palestine's selection of historic properties, the snow play square, the wassail stroll with downtown businesses preparing wassail recipes for free tastings, and a Taste and Talk walking tour with samplings of local specialties led by a local history expert. *Downtown Palestine, 401 W. Main St. 903-729-6066; palestinefrostfest.com*

**PALESTINE: Dec. 8 Main Street Wine**

**Swirl** Walk, shop, and sip your way through historic downtown Palestine. Enjoy culinary delights perfectly paired with fine wines from Texas wineries. *Historic Main Street. 903-723-3014; visitpalestine.com*

**PALESTINE: Dec. 14-16 "Gift of the Magi:**

**The Musical"** Enjoy the ultimate Christmas love story inspired by the classic story of O. Henry: A young husband and wife deal with the challenge of buying secret Christmas gifts for each other with very little money. *Texas Theatre, 213 W. Crawford St. 903-723-9595; thetexasheater.com*

**PALESTINE: Dec. 20-21 "The Nutcracker"**

The Ballet North Texas performs a holiday classic. *Performing Arts Center of Palestine, 1819 W. Spring St. 903-723-2026; visitpalestine.com*

**PITTSBURG: Dec. 2 Kansas City Southern's**

**Holiday Express** The Holiday Express train is planning to stop at the Texas Street Crossing in Pittsburg. In its 18th annual trip across Kansas City Southern's U.S. rail network, the six-car train brings Santa Claus for a visit with the kids and offer visual displays inside for the young and young-at-heart alike. *Texas Street Crossing, 105 S. Texas St. 903-856-3621; pittsburgtexas.com*

**PITTSBURG: Dec. 8 Pittsburg by Candle-**

**light** This event offers a historic walking tour of seven historical sites in Pittsburg, including The Holman House, The Abernathy House, The Heath House, The First United Methodist Church, the Farmstead Museum, the Ezekiel Airship Museum, and the Shelby building. *200 Rusk St. 903-856-3621; pittsburgtexas.com*

**TEXARKANA: Dec. 3 Christmas Parade**

Celebrate the holidays with a festive downtown parade. *Downtown Texarkana, 500 N. State Line Ave. 903-792-7191; mainstreettexarkana.org*

**THE WOODLANDS: Nov. 17-Jan. 21 The**

**Ice Rink** Enjoy ice skating this holiday season at a 21,000-square-foot facility. *The Ice Rink, 2005 Lake Robbins Drive. 281-419-5630; visitthewoodlands.com or thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov*

**THE WOODLANDS: Dec. 20 Holiday Party with Woodlands Symphony**

**Orchestra Brass** Experience a multidisciplinary and collaborative chamber concert series delivered by The Woodlands Symphony Orchestra under the artistic direction of Darryl Bayer. *Glade Cultural Center, 2000 Woodlands Parkway. 832-557-8781; visitthewoodlands.com or gladeculturalcenter.com*

**TYLER: Through Jan. 6 "This and That:**

**Recent Acquisitions"** The Tyler Museum of Art was the recent beneficiary of an extraordinary opportunity to bring back more than 30 works dispersed from the permanent collection of The Contemporary Austin. This exhibition showcases the highlights of these and other recently acquired pieces for the TMA's permanent collection, including works by Otis Dozier, Michael Frary, Larry Graeber, and Julie Speed. *Tyler Museum of Art, 1300 S. Mahon Ave. 903-595-1001; tylermuseum.org*

**TYLER: Nov. 29-Dec. 2 Texas Rose Horse**

**Breed Show** This all-breed horse show—Andalusian, Lusitano, Welsh, and Friesian breeds, to name a few—offers in-hand classes, carriage driving, and jumping. *Texas Rose Horse Park, 14078 SH 110 N. 903-882-8696; texasrosehorsepark.com*

**TYLER: Dec. 1-31 Azalea District Trail of**

**Lights** You've seen the beautiful colors of the Azalea District and Brick Street Village during the spring; now see them come to life with color, once again, during the holiday season. Take a driving or walking tour and enjoy the historic homes and businesses dressed up for the holiday season in all its splendor. *Azalea District, One half mile south of downtown Tyler. 903-592-1661; visitityler.com*

**TYLER: Dec. 1-Jan. 4 Santa Land Drive-**

**Through Christmas Park** Experience the sights and sounds of Christmas with more than 2.5 million lights illuminating your path. Take a ride on Santa's Trailer or remain in the warmth of your own vehicle as you drive through Santa Land's 24 acres of unforgettable adventure designed for the entire family. Before you leave, shop the 4,000-square-foot gift shop. *Santa Land, 11455 I-20 West. 903-882-1518; santalandtylertx.com*

**TYLER: Dec. 8 Hit the Bricks: Second**

**Saturday and Blue Santa Crawl** Every second Saturday, downtown Tyler bursts with entertainment. December's event is

the Blue Santa Crawl. "Crawl" around downtown and collect pieces of a Santa costume while making a difference with special activities for "elves" as well. Each ticket sold sponsors a child for the annual Fraternal Order of Police Tyler Blue Santa program. Have fun and change a child's life this Christmas. *Tyler Downtown Square, 100 N. Broadway Ave. 903-592-1661; visitityler.com/secondsaturday*

**TYLER: Dec. 8 Holiday in the Garden and**

**Bazaar** More than 50 vendors are on hand at this 13th annual celebration. Enjoy live entertainment on the Queen's Court in the Garden, story time with Mrs. Claus, and garden decorations after dark. *Tyler Rose Garden, 420 Rose Park Drive. 903-531-1214; tylerparkandrec.com*

**TYLER: Dec. 8-9 Interscholastic Equestrian Association—Hunt Seat Horse**

**Show** The Interscholastic Equestrian Association has remained true to its mission: Introduce students in private and public middle and secondary schools (primarily ages 11 through 19) to equestrian sport. No rider needs to own a horse to participate in the IEA—a mount and tack is provided to each youngster at every event, from local shows to the national finals. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify through the IEA Benevolent Fund. *Texas Rose Horse Park, 14078 SH 110 N. 817-683-8284 or 903-882-8696; texasrosehorsepark.com*

**TYLER: Dec. 8 The Robert Cray Band**

With five Grammys, 15 Billboard chart-topping releases, and numerous W.C. Handy Blues Awards, Robert Cray is one of the most successful blues artists of our time. His remarkable career earned him a spot in the Blues Hall of Fame in 2011. *R. Don Cowan Fine & Performing Arts Center, 3900 University Blvd., FAC 1120. 903-566-7424; cowancenter.org*

**TYLER: Dec. 16-March 17 "Lagniappe:**

**The Art of Letitia Huckaby"** This solo exhibition spotlights the family narratives and African American history themes prevalent in the work of acclaimed photographer and multimedia artist Letitia Huckaby. *Tyler Museum of Art, 1300 S. Mahon Ave. 903-595-1001; tylermuseum.org*

## PRAIRIES AND LAKES

**ADDISON: Nov. 24-Jan. 1 Vitruvian**

**Lights** More than 1.5 million sparkling LED lights transform the park into a holiday wonderland. The lights remain on every evening and every Saturday guests can enjoy live music, photos with Santa, an elf balloon artist, gourmet food trucks,

delicious desserts and retail booths for gift browsing. *Vitruvian Park, 3875 Ponte Ave. 800-233-4766; visitaddison.com or vitruvianpark.com*

**ARLINGTON: Nov. 17-Dec. 31 Holiday in the Park** Celebrate the most magical time of the year with enchanting experiences that help create special family-fun outings. *Six Flags Over Texas, 2201 E Road to Six Flags St. 817-640-8900; sixflags.com/overtexas*

**ARLINGTON: Nov. 23-Dec. 30 Enchant: The World's Largest Christmas Light Maze & Market** Enjoy an ice skating rink, more than two acres of lighted Christmas mazes and displays, visits with Santa, live entertainment, and winter-themed drinks while browsing through the vendor village. *817-265-7721; enchantchristmas.com*

**ARLINGTON: Nov. 30-Dec. 16 "Miracle on 34th Street"** By chance, Kris Kringle, an old man in a retirement home, gets a job working as Santa for Macy's. Kris unleashes waves of good will with Macy's customers and the commercial world of New York City by referring parents to other stores to find exactly the toy their child has asked for. Seen as deluded and dangerous by Macy's vocational counselor, who plots to have Kris shanghaied to Bellevue Psychiatric Hospital, Kris ends up in a court competency hearing. Especially at stake is one little girl's belief in Santa. In a dramatic decision, the court confirms Kris as the true Santa, allowing Susan and countless other children to experience the joy of childhood fantasy. *Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St. theatrearlington.org 817-275-7661*

**ARLINGTON: Dec. 1 Big 12 Championship Game** The top two football teams in the Big 12 Conference face off in the championship game. *AT&T Stadium, 1 AT&T Way. 817-892-4000; attstadium.com*

**ARLINGTON: Dec. 8 Holiday Lights Parade** Spend time with your family and friends by setting up camp along the parade route to enjoy hot chocolate and sounds of the season. The tree lighting follows the parade. *Downtown Arlington. holidaylightsparade.com*

**ARLINGTON: Dec. 19-22 UIL High School Football Championships** UIL football teams across Texas compete for state championship titles. *AT&T Stadium, 1 AT&T Way. 800-892-4000; uil texas.org/football*

**ARLINGTON: Dec. 29 Cotton Bowl Classic** The Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic brings two college football powerhouses neck to neck. *AT&T Stadium, 1 AT&T Way. 817-892-4000; goodyearcottonbowl.com*

**BASTROP: Nov. 23-Dec. 31 Lost Pines Christmas** Celebrate the holiday season in Historic Downtown Bastrop. From an old-fashioned Main Street Christmas to a dazzling nighttime holiday parade, food and wine events, and activities for the entire family, Bastrop shares the season during this monthlong holiday event. Downtown Merchants offer extended shopping hours throughout the holiday season. *Downtown Bastrop, 927 Main St. lostpineschristmas.com*

**BASTROP: Dec. 8 Bastrop Holiday Homes Tour** Catch a glimpse of Bastrop's storied past as volunteer docents lead tours of some of Bastrop's finest historic homes and buildings, elaborately decorated for the holidays. Bastrop Holiday Homes Tour is sponsored by the Bastrop County Historical Society. *Various locations. 512-303-0057; bastropcountyhistoricalsociety.com*

**BONHAM: Dec. 8 Holiday Open House** Enjoy free Christmas-themed tours. *Sam Rayburn House State Historic Site, 890 SH 56 West. 903-583-5558; visitsamrayburnhouse.com*

**BOWIE: Dec. 1 Fantasy of Lights Parade and Festival** The 27th annual event includes a Christmas parade, tree lighting, sip-and-stroll shopping through downtown Bowie, and Christmas shopping specials. Colorful floats, vehicles, riding groups, and marching groups light up the night. *Downtown Bowie. 940-872-6246*

**BRENHAM: Nov. 30-Dec. 1 Christmas Stroll and Lighted Parade** The annual two-day event begins Friday with the lighting of the courthouse square followed by caroling and other activities including rides on the Firetruck Invader. Saturday brings more fun with story time, entertainment, and the lighted Christmas parade with an appearance from Santa Claus. Downtown businesses stay open late for the festivities. The Jingle Bell Market is open during the event as well and features a large variety of indoor vendors. *Downtown Brenham. 979-836-3696; visitbrenhamtexas.com*

**BRENHAM: Dec. 1-9 Holiday Crystal Wine Trail** Get a jump start on your holiday gift giving by touring the Holiday Crystal Wine Trail on the first two weekends of December. Your trail ticket allows you to enjoy two specially selected wine tastings, paired with a holiday food sample at each winery on the trail. As an added bonus, receive a Bluebonnet Wine Trail commemorative keepsake at the sixth winery visited, while supplies last. Guests can start at the winery of their choice. *Various locations. 979-836-3696; texasbluebonnetwinetrail.com*

**BURTON: Dec. 8 Christmas Village** Enjoy Christmas in the country with Burton Christmas Village and Tannenbaum Tour. Christmas shopping and fun activities for kids of all ages are at the Krist Kindl Market at the Texas Cotton Gin Museum. *Texas Cotton Gin Museum, 307 N. Main St. 979-289-3378; burtontexas.org*

**CAMERON: Dec. 6 Cameron Christmas Parade** This year's theme is Merry Texas Christmas, Y'all! Come for a real Texas Christmas at the annual Christmas parade on the downtown square. Explore decorated historic downtown and museums, get your picture taken with Santa, enjoy food and drinks, arts and crafts, and the parade floats created by local businesses and organizations. *Downtown Cameron, 102 E. First St. 254-697-4979; cameron-tx.com*

**CAMERON: Dec. 27-28 Cameron Chamber of Commerce Christmas Basketball Classic Tournament** Come to the annual Christmas Basketball Classic Tournament to watch Central Texas teams compete with teams from Australia. *C.H. Yoe High School Gym, 303 E. 12th St. 254-697-4979; cameron-tx.com*

**CHAPPELL HILL: Dec. 8 Christmas Homes Tour** Tour homes in the area decorated for Christmas. *Main Street. 713-562-6191; chappellhillgardenclub.com*

**CLEBURNE: Nov. 19-Dec. 31 Whistle Stop Christmas Lighting Ceremony** Experience a Christmas wonderland with more than 3.5 million lights decorating Hulen Park. The event will light up on Nov. 19 in a ceremony featuring Christmas carols, vendors, and more. Lights on every evening in Hulen Park. *900 Hillsboro St. 817-645-2455; whistlestoptchristmas.org*

**CLEBURNE: Dec. 1-22 "A Christmas Carol"** Back for it's every-other-year production at Plaza Theatre Company, "A Christmas Carol" once again tells the story of the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge and his journey to redemption at Christmastime through the appearance of ghosts of his past, present, and future. Adorned with classic carols of the season throughout, "A Christmas Carol" is a tradition unmatched for the joy and pleasure it brings to every holiday season. *Plaza Theatre at Dudley Hall, 305 S. Anglin St. 817-202-0600; plaza-theatre.com*

**CLEBURNE: Dec. 1-9 "The Homecoming"** The Cleburne Carnegie Players present "The Homecoming." The special strength of a loving family is at the heart of this play based on the book by Earl Hamner Jr., which also inspired a television series of exceptional quality, "The Waltons." In the original book however, they were called



“the Spencers,” and instead of “John Boy” it’s Clay-Boy—and that’s how they’re named in this play. *Cleburne Performing Arts Center, 1501 W. Henderson St. 682-317-3644; carnegieplayers.org*

**CLEBURNE: Dec. 6 Sip, Shop, and Stroll**  
Our merchants keep their doors open late every first Thursday of the month. Shops offer special promotions, refreshments, and diva delights for your shopping pleasure. Grab your mom, daughters, and girlfriends and come down and shop historic downtown. *Downtown Cleburne. 817-641-9861; visitcleburne.com*

**CLEBURNE: Dec. 7 Lighted Christmas Parade**  
The parade is held the first Friday in December and offers vendors and pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus after the parade at Market Square. *Downtown Cleburne. 817-645-2455; visitcleburne.com*

**CLEBURNE: Dec. 8 Candlewalk Tour of Homes**  
Tour local, historic homes that have been decorated for the holiday season. Numerous local business are also open to ticket holders with special activities, music, or exhibits. *Various locations. 817-645-0940; visitcleburne.com*

**CLEBURNE: Dec. 11 Brazos Chamber Orchestra Christmas Concert**  
Enjoy an evening with friends and family as a 50-piece orchestra plays an eclectic blend of orchestral music including Christmas music, classical, big band, movie tunes, Americana, and pop. First Baptist Church of Cleburne, 414 N. Main St. *brazos-chamberorchestra.org 817-645-8067*

**CLIFTON: Nov. 30-Dec. 1 Arts of Christmas**  
The Bosque Arts Center is aglow with special holiday decor, visits from Santa, and vendors selling pottery, quilts, and art just in time for Christmas shopping. Artists are also demonstrating their skills. Free refreshments are available. *Bosque Arts Center, 215 College Hill Drive. 254-675-3724; bosqueartscenter.org*

**CLIFTON: Nov. 30-Dec. 1 Norwegian Country Christmas Parade and Tour**  
This holiday parade in downtown Clifton kicks off the weekend’s Norwegian Country Christmas Tour, celebrating the town’s unique status as the Norwegian Capital of Texas. After the parade is the tour of homes and historic sites, shopping, performances, and more. The self-guided tour includes sites in Clifton and Norse Historic District. *Historic Downtown Clifton, 115 N. Avenue D. 254-675-3720; cliflontexas.org*

**COLLEGE STATION: Nov. 30-Dec. 8 Christmas in the Park**  
Two weekends full of holiday fun include old-fashioned hayrides, cookies and hot cocoa, live enter-

tainment, a petting zoo, inflatables, real snow slides, and photos with Santa. Guests may bring their own refreshments. Coolers must be 48 quarts or smaller. Alcohol, glass containers and pets are not allowed. Guests are allowed to bring their own cameras to take a photo for free. Food vendors are also available. The holiday celebration doesn’t stop there. Guests can continue the family tradition of viewing more than 1 million lights that decorate the beautiful 47-acre park each evening starting on Thanksgiving and ending after New Year’s. *Stephen C. Beachy Central Park, 1000 Krenek Tap Road. 979-764-3486; cstx.gov/christmas*

**COLLEGE STATION: Dec. 3-4 Celtic Woman in Concert**  
Celebrate this holiday season with the celestial voices of Irish singing sensation Celtic Woman as they present The Best of Christmas Tour. *Rudder Auditorium, Joe Routh Boulevard. 979-845-1234; mscopas.org/celtic\_woman*

**COLUMBUS: Dec. 6 Ladies Night Out**  
Enjoy an evening of wine tasting and shopping in downtown Columbus. Forty or more vendors are set up in the historic Stafford Opera House selling clothing, jewelry, candles, canned goods, cookies, leather goods, and much more. *Downtown Columbus, 425 Spring St. 979-732-8385; business.columbus-texas.org*

**COMANCHE: Nov. 24-Jan. 2 Comanche County Christmas Lights**  
Celebrate the season with this sixth annual light show. Featuring more than 30,000 state-of-the-art animated lights plus creative displays set to traditional and contemporary Christmas music, the show delights visitors young and old with Santa’s workshop, the Polar Express, and more. *Comanche County Courthouse, 101 W. Central Ave. 817-673-7963; facebook.com/comanchecountychristmas*

**CUERO: Nov. 19-Jan. 1 Christmas in the Park**  
This lighted, self-guided drive includes 250 festive scenes. Thursday evenings are hot chocolate nights when guests can warm up with a free cup of hot chocolate. *Cuero Municipal Park, Leonard Roy Harmon Drive, off US 87 South. 361-275-2112; cuero.org*

**CUERO: Dec. 7-8 Christmas in Downtown**  
Celebrate the season with Main Street’s annual two-day event. There are Christmas attractions, shopping, dining, and entertainment. *Main Street. 361-275-2112; cueromainstreet.com*

**DALLAS: Nov. 17-Jan. 6 The Trains at NorthPark**  
This year marks the 20th year of The Trains at NorthPark, with more than 750 railcars on a 1,600-foot elaborate con-



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figuration of tracks and scenes. The Trains at NorthPark features cityscapes like Dallas, replete with the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge and Fair Park; New York with Times Square and Grand Central Terminal; Washington, D.C. with The White House; and San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge. Other highlights include New England's fall foliage, the Grand Canyon, Garden of the Gods, Mount Rushmore, and Route 66. The charming exhibit has been seen by around two million since its original run over 30 years ago. *NorthPark Center, 8687 North Central Expressway. 214-631-7354; thetrainsatnorthpark.com*

**DALLAS: Nov. 27-Dec. 30 Christmas Lights, Chocolate, and Sips Tours**

View holiday lights in sweet style via private heated motor coach. Begin by tasting scrumptious treats from premier local dessert venues, then relax while gliding past Dallas' most spectacular holiday displays in the Park Cities and downtown Dallas. While touring, sip hot chocolate, soft drinks and water as well as other great beverages. All ages welcome. *Dallas by Chocolate, 4925 Greenville Ave. 972-814-5997; dallasbychocolate.com*

**DALLAS: Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Winery, Chocolate, Pizza and Live Music Tour**

Dallas by Chocolate presents Saturday nights on the town with a wine tasting paired with a yummy cheeseboard and great pizza at a terrific winery, followed by scrumptious desserts in some of the area's sweetest hot spots. Then check out live music at a fun venue. Includes transportation via private motor coach, food and dessert samples, and beverages on the motor coach (you may also BYOB). *Two Corks and a Bottle, 2650 Laclede St. 972-814-5997; dallasbychocolate.com*

**DALLAS: Dec. 1-Jan. 1 Zoo Lights**

The zoo transforms into a winter wonderland with over one million twinkling lights that illuminate the zoo throughout the holiday season. *Dallas Zoo, 650 S. R.L. Thornton Freeway. 469-554-7500; dallaszoo.com*

**DALLAS: Dec. 8 The Hidden Dallas Tour**

Discover secret places in Dallas and check out whimsical sculptures, waterfalls, and the last home built by one of America's most famous architects. Stop along the way for delicious snacks at culinary gems. Some walking is involved. The tour includes transportation, a tour guide, snacks, and beverages on the bus. *World Market, 3888 Oak Lawn Ave. 972-814-5997; dallasbychocolate.com*

**DALLAS: Through Dec. 9 "Dalí: Poetics of the Small"**

View the first in-depth ex-

ploration of the small-scale paintings of Salvador Dalí (1904–1989). While many of Dalí's canvases are known around the world and are among the defining works of the Surrealist movement, the small size of many of these works is frequently overlooked. Nearly half of the artist's paintings during the early part of his Surrealist period (1929–1936) were actually small format works: some measuring just over a foot, and others were as small as 3 x 2 inches. This exhibit is organized by the Meadows as part of its mission to present Spanish art in America. *Meadows Museum, 5900 Bishop Blvd. 214-768-2516; meadowsmuseumdallas.org*



**FIND MORE EVENTS ONLINE**

Texas Highways Events Calendar listings can be found online with additional details about these events and others. Visit [texashighways.com/events](http://texashighways.com/events) or [traveltexas.com](http://traveltexas.com) for a searchable list of events.

**DALLAS: Dec. 28-29 Lights All Night**

Celebrating its ninth year on New Year's Eve weekend, this festival features performances from some of today's top electronic and hip-hop acts, including Diplo, Gucci Mane, and Tiësto. *Dallas Market Hall, 2200 Stemmons Freeway. lightsallnight.com*

**DALLAS: Through Dec. 30 The Lady From the Sea by Henrik Ibsen**

Undermain returns the Classics with Ibsen's rarely seen drama, "The Lady From the Sea." Ellida, a lighthouse-keeper's daughter, is trapped on an island in her marriage and longs for the sea. Written in 1888, *The Lady from the Sea* continues Ibsen's exploration of the imbalances of marriage and a woman's need for freedom. It is haunting and delightfully real in its display of this world and the other-world, with both containing an intoxicat-

ing desire to be set free. *Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St. 214-747-5515; undermain.org*

**DALLAS: Through Dec. 31 "Slavery at Jefferson's Monticello: Paradox of Liberty"**

This landmark exhibition brings to life the story of slavery at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello through more than 300 objects, works of art, documents, and artifacts unearthed at the storied plantation. *African American Museum in Dallas at Fair Park, 3536 Grand Ave. monticello.org*

**DALLAS: Through Dec. 31 The 12 Days of Christmas**

The elaborately decorated Victorian-style gazebos are on display for the final year at the Dallas Arboretum. Guests are invited to experience Dallas' delightful holiday tradition with a festive stroll through the gardens and revel in The 12 Days of Christmas exhibition with a dozen breathtaking gazebos depicting each day in the beloved Christmas carol. *Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden, 8525 Garland Road. 214-515-6525; dallasarboretum.org*

**DALLAS: Through Jan. 6 "The Nature of Arp"**

The first major North American museum exhibition dedicated to Jean (Hans) Arp in three decades, with works rarely seen in the U.S. *Nasher Sculpture Center, 2001 Flora St. 214-242-5100; nashersculpturecenter.org*

**DALLAS: Through Jan. 6 "Ultimate Dinosaurs"**

Based on groundbreaking research from scientists around the world, this exhibit reveals a new breed of dinosaurs that evolved in isolation in South America, Africa, and Madagascar—dinosaurs that are unfamiliar to most North Americans. Through hands-on activities and augmented reality technology, guests discover that an amazing diversity of species evolved as a result of continental drift. *Perot Museum, 2201 N. Field St. perotmuseum.org*

**DALLAS: Through April 7 "Jacob Hashimoto: Clouds and Chaos"**

Exploring this universally compelling phenomenon of nature, the Crow Museum of Asian Art in Dallas presents this solo exhibition's central work, "Nuvole," is a large-scale site-specific installation on view in Gallery III. It is the first major exhibition to debut in the newly renovated museum, which recently completed a multimillion-dollar expansion including the addition of a new gallery, a reimagined Lotus Shop, interactive "street-side" Pearl Art Studio, and Center for Contemplative Leadership. *Crow Museum of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. 214-979-6430; crowmuseum.org*



**DECATUR: Dec. 1 Moonlight Madness** Experience a lighted Christmas parade. Downtown. 940-399-9558; decaturtx.com

**DENISON: Dec. 1 Homefront Christmas Saturday** Visit the Eisenhower Birthplace to experience the sights, sounds, and smells of Christmas in Denison during World War II, including a 1940s-themed tree. Take part in family activities, crafts, and special tours about Christmas on the "homefront." Visit the museum store for Christmas shopping. Eisenhower Birthplace State Historic Site, 609 S. Lamar Ave. 903-465-8908; visiteisenhowerbirthplace.com

**DENTON: Nov. 30-Dec. 1 Wassail Weekend** The Denton Main Street Association merchants host this event during the Friday of Denton's Holiday Lighting Festival and hold special tasting times again the day after. Wassail is a fussy old English word for hot cider. Some downtown merchants stir up their best recipe to give free tastings for all ages during the city's annual holiday festivities. More merchants hold tastings that Saturday to win a coveted Wassail crown. Visitors are encouraged to taste the secret recipes of the warm holiday-spiced punch and then cast a vote for their favorite. Downtown Denton Square, 110 W. Hickory St. 940-349-8529; dentonmainstreet.org

**DENTON: Dec. 1 North Texas Horse Country Tour** Wind your way through the beautiful North Texas Horse Country aboard a luxury motor coach while a fun and knowledgeable guide narrates the facts and back story of the area. The tour visits two premier horse ranches where you can get an up close and personal look at the equine industry. City of Denton Development Services Parking Lot, 216 W. Mulberry St. 940-382-7895; horsecountrytours.com

**DENTON: Dec. 1 UNT Opera: "Leos Janáček—The Cunning Little Vixen"** This production features a pre-concert lecture and a chamber orchestra and is presented as part of the third UNT International Festival of Czech Music. Murchison Performing Arts Center—Lyric Theater, 2100 S. I-35 East. 940-369-7802; calendar.music.unt.edu

**DENTON: Dec. 7-Feb. 15 "Life Stories Told Through Quilts"** This exhibit features the work of Barbara McCraw, a retired professor, pathologist, and master quilter whose pieces have been exhibited across North America and Europe. She has created quilts celebrating figures like Nelson Mandela, Bishop Desmond Tutu, and the Obamas. Her pieces are in numerous collections, including the Smithsonian. Gough Gallery, Patterson-Appleton Arts Center, 400 E. Hickory St. 940-382-2787; dentonarts.com

**DENTON: Dec. 7 UNT Sounds of the Holidays: A Festival of Carols and Holiday Classics** Join the UNT concert orchestra and combined choirs to celebrate the season with Christmas carols and holiday classics with more than 300 voices. University of North Texas—Winspear Performance Hall, 2100 S. I-35 East. 940-369-7802; thempac.music.unt.edu

**ELGIN: Dec. 1 Holiday by the Tracks** Activities include a visit to the Elgin Depot Museum, a holiday bazaar, a hot cocoa sip and stroll, shopping specials throughout downtown, and pictures with Santa throughout December. The Lighted Christmas Parade on Main Street begins at dusk, sponsored by the Elgin Volunteer Fire Department. St. Peter's Lutheran Church performs a live nativity after the parade. Downtown Elgin, 114 Central Ave. elgintx.com

**ELGIN: Dec. 1 Hot Cocoa Stroll and Holiday by the Tracks** Sample a variety of hot cocoa from downtown businesses and vote for your favorite during this festive stroll. The lighted Christmas parade starts at dusk, followed by a live nativity by St. Peter's Lutheran Church. Elgin Public Library and Historic Downtown Elgin, 404 N. Main St. elgintx.com

**ELGIN: Dec. 8 Holiday Sweater Weekend** Those wearing holiday sweaters while shopping downtown could win prizes and discounts. Enjoy yoga in holiday sweaters and participate in the Tackiest Holiday Sweater Contest. Various locations. elgintx.com

**ELGIN: Dec. 13 Sip, Shop, and Stroll** Sip a little wine and shop as you stroll through the stores in Historic Downtown Elgin. Find diverse merchandise, eclectic decor, artwork by local artists, and live music in many of the venues. Enjoy wine and beer tastings, samples, and refreshments throughout the evening. Historic Downtown Elgin. elgintx.com

**ENNIS: Dec. 1 Lucky CC Car Show and Toy Drive** Enjoy hot cars, cool tunes, and good food. Drop off an unwrapped toy to gift to a local child for Christmas. Downtown Ennis, 204 W. Knox St. 972-878-4748; visitennis.org

**ENNIS: Dec. 6-16 "A Doublewide Texas Christmas"** It's Christmastime in the newest and tiniest town in Texas. And it's beginning to look a lot like trouble in Doublewide. Not only are the trailer park residents dealing with the stress of the holiday season, but they've just discovered that Doublewide is being double-crossed by the county. Determined to bolster their legitimacy, they first set their sights on the countywide "Battle of the Mangers" competition. By the time this full-tilt rocket ride

of lunacy climaxes in a what-else-can-go-wrong live television presentation, you'll have doubled your Christmas spirit. Ennis Public Theatre, 113 N. Dallas St. 972-878-7529; ennispublictheatre.com

**ENNIS: Dec. 7-22 "Where's Santa?"** In this live theatrical production, the sheriff's son is intrigued and enlists his friends when a mysterious visitor ends up in the small town jail on Christmas Eve. Theatre Rocks!, 505 NW Main St. 972-878-5126; theatrerocks.com

**FLATONIA: Dec. 1 Christmas in Flatonia** Celebrate the Christmas season with this arts and crafts event, featuring a visit from Santa. Candies and cookies made by locals are available for purchase by the pound at the Cookie and Candy Carnival. Flatonia Civic Center, 208 E. North Main St. 361-865-3920; flatoniachamber.com

**FORT WORTH: Through Jan. 27 "Laurie Simmons: Big Camera/Little Camera"** Simmons's career-long exploration of archetypal gender roles, especially women in domestic settings, is the primary subject of this exhibition and is a topic as poignant today as it was in the late 1970s, when she began to develop her mature style by using props and dolls as stand-ins for people and places. Often isolating the dolls and photographing them situated in tiny, austere settings, Simmons uses fictional scenes to make observations about real life. The Modern, 3200 Darnell St. 817-738-9215; themodern.org

**FORT WORTH: Dec. 1 Christmas in the Stockyards** Start the holiday season with a Western twist and fun activities the whole family can enjoy, including armadillo races, face painting, live Western music, story time with Mrs. Claus, photos with Santa, chuckwagon poetry, and a Western Christmas parade to end the evening. Fort Worth Stockyards, 131 E. Exchange Ave. 817-625-9715; fortworthstockyards.com

**FORT WORTH: Dec. 3 Handel's Messiah: Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra** The joy of the season comes to life in Handel's majestic Messiah. Let the thrilling choruses, soaring solos, and triumphant orchestration be a joyful and powerful beginning to your holiday celebrations. Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St. 940-565-2791; calendar.music.unt.edu

**FORT WORTH: Dec. 22 Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl** For the second straight year, this bowl game is on a Saturday afternoon. This year's matchup features the Big 12 Conference versus the American Athletic Conference. Amon G. Carter Stadium, 2850 Stadium Drive. 817-810-0012; armedforcesbowl.com

**GARLAND: Dec. 1-15 Christmas on the Square** This year's celebration features holiday fun during the first three weekends of December. Downtown Garland Square plays host to different activities including holiday movies, carolers, and photos with Santa. There is plenty of holiday cheer, so invite friends and family to come downtown to enjoy the light show and stay for holiday festivities. *Downtown Garland Square, 520 W. State St. 972-205-2633; christmasonthesquare.com*

**GIDDINGS: Dec. 6 Christmas at the Courthouse** This holiday event includes Christmas carols, a live band, and a tree lighting with refreshments of cookies and cocoa, and Santa for the children. *Lee County Courthouse, 200 S. Main St. 979-542-3455; giddingstx.com*

**GLEN ROSE: Dec. 3 Dyeing To Discover Insects** One Texas insect is the source of a beautiful red dye. After an overview of insects, find this insect in the wild then learn about it and the dye made from it. Then, dye a bandana to take home. This event is for homeschool students. *Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, 1985 CR 2009. 254-897-2960; fossilrim.org*

**GLEN ROSE: Dec. 10 Wolves Behind-the-Scenes Tour** The relationship between man and wolf has been a rocky one, and you will learn how that interaction has evolved over the years. Fossil Rim has Mexican gray wolves, red wolves, and maned wolves. Discover the habits and history of these amazing animals and enjoy the unique opportunity to view the resident wolves—possibly all species. This event is designed for homeschoolers ages seven and up. *Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, 1985 CR 2009. 254-897-2960; fossilrim.org*

**GRAND PRAIRIE: Nov. 22-Dec. 30 Prairie Lights** Prairie Lights runs nightly with a 2-mile drive that features four million lights and new custom displays. Carnival rides, holiday show and walk-thru are included with the entrance fee. Kids of all ages can ride the carnival rides and enjoy a hot cup of cocoa at the Holiday Village. *Prairie Lakes, 5610 Lake Ridge Parkway. 972-237-8110*

**GRAND PRAIRIE: Dec. 1-9 "Scrooge: The Musical"** The classic story tells of a stingy, bitter old man named Ebenezer Scrooge, who is transformed into a kind person after visits by the ghost of his former partner, and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come. Renowned writer-composer-lyricist Leslie Bricusse adapted the classic Charles Dickens tale, "A Christmas Carol," into the hit screen musical. *Uptown Theater, 120 E. Main St. 972-237-8786; artsgp.org*

**GRAND PRAIRIE: Dec. 1 Funny and Famous Comedy Show** Come laugh all evening at K104 DeDe In The Morning's Funny and Famous comedy show hosted by DeRay Davis. *The Theatre at Grand Prairie, 1001 Performance Place. 888-929-7849; verizontheatre.com*

**GRAND PRAIRIE: Dec. 1-23 Holiday Market with Santa** Kids of all ages can have their photo taken with Santa, and thousands of dealers are selling holiday gifts of all kinds. *Traders Village, 2602 Mayfield Road. 972-647-2331; tradersvillage.com/grand-prairie*

**GRAND PRAIRIE: Dec. 7 "The Price is Right" Live** Come experience the hit interactive stage show "The Price is Right" live with chances to win prizes. *The Theatre at Grand Prairie, 1001 Performance Place. 972-854-5050; verizontheatre.com*

**GRAPEVINE: Through Jan. 1 ICE! and Lone Star Christmas** This walk-through holiday attraction, kept at a chilly 9 degrees, features 2 million pounds of hand-carved ice sculptures and five slides. Experience your favorite scenes from "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" as they are brought to life. *Gaylord Texan Resort, 1501 Gaylord Trail. 817-410-3185; grapevintexasusa.com*

**GRAPEVINE: Nov. 16-Dec. 30 Ornament-Making Workshop** Shop for hand-blown glass art and attend special events that allow guests to work alongside professional glassblowers to help create their own glass holiday ornaments. *Cotton Belt Railroad District, 701 S. Main St., Suite 103. 817-410-3185; grapevintexasusa.com*

**GRAPEVINE: Nov. 16-Dec. 30 Texas Star Dinner Theater** This year's holiday show, "A Cold-Hearted Christmas," is about finding Christmas cheer. Join the posse and help find out who's been naughty and who's been nice in this comedic interactive dinner experience. *Historic Downtown Grapevine, 816 S. Main St. 817-410-3185; grapevintexasusa.com*

**GRAPEVINE: Nov. 23-Dec. 23 North Pole Express** Board the beautifully decorated Victorian rail coaches and watch Santa's helpers sing traditional Christmas music. As the train draws closer to the North Pole, Mrs. Claus makes a special appearance to give each child a "We Believe" silver Santa bell. Arrive at the North Pole and walk along a snowy Christmas tree forest. *Grapevine Vintage Railroad, 705 S. Main St. 817-410-3185; gvrr.com*

**GRAPEVINE: Nov. 24-Dec. 24 Snowland** Spend the winter under the spell of Snowland's twinkling lights, holiday trees, and

indoor snow showers. *Great Wolf Lodge, 100 Great Wolf Drive. 817-410-3185; grapevintexasusa.com*

**GRAPEVINE: Dec. 1 Victorian Christmas Tours** Step back in time and experience traditional Christmas on the farm. Gather at the Pole Barn before taking a tour through the historic barn and around to the farmhouse, ending at the campfire with cider and cookies. *Nash Farm, 626 Ball St. 817-410-3185; grapevintexasusa.com/nash-farm*

**GRAPEVINE: Dec. 6 Parade of Lights** Bring the entire family to the largest lighted Christmas parade in North Texas. This Grapevine tradition features more than 100 lighted floats and marching bands. Look for Santa Claus on the last float. The theme is "Holiday Magic on Main." *Historic Downtown Grapevine, Main Street. 817-410-3185; grapevintexasusa.com*

**GRAPEVINE: Dec. 26-30 After Christmas Trains** Not ready to end the holiday cheer? Hop on the Grapevine Vintage Railroad for a festive excursion. *Grapevine Vintage Railroad, 705 S. Main St. 817-410-3185; gvrr.com*

**HARKER HEIGHTS: Dec. 1-2 Touch of Christmas Bazaar/Food Fight** New this year, visitors can help choose the best food truck in Central Texas. Vote for your favorite while visiting all kinds of vendors ready to help shoppers find perfect Christmas presents for everyone on their list. Fun, free family activities include photos with Santa, craft activities, and the Elfie Selfie Contest. *Moose Lodge No. 2179, 125 W. Veterans Memorial. 844-458-4208; phantomsupport.org/christmas-bazaar*

**HILLSBORO: Dec. 1-2 Tour of Homes** The tour features five homes from the historic district along with tours of the historic courthouse and library. *Various locations. 254-266-4484; hillsborochamber.org*

**HUBBARD: Dec. 1 Magnolia and Mistletoe** Come to this Christmas celebration with indoor and outdoor vendors, a Christmas parade, Santa meeting with the children, and indoor Christmas carols from the school kids. The Fire Department prepares a pancake breakfast, and downtown shops and antique stores are open. *Hubbard Civic Center, 300 N. Magnolia Ave. 254-580-5644; discoverhubbard.com*

**IRVING: Dec. 15 "Holiday of Color"** Feel the excitement of the holiday season as the Los Colinas Symphony Orchestra and Maestro Austin celebrate a "Holiday of Color." The orchestra is joined by vocalist Sara Gartland and performs Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" as well as Duke Ellington's "Three Black Kings." Other winter favorites will have sugar plum fairies dancing in your head as you take part in the annual



holiday singalong. *Irving Arts Center—Carpenter Hall, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. 972-252-4800; lascolinassymphony.org*

**LA GRANGE: Dec. 6 Schmeckenfest—Christmas Wassail Tasting Festival**

Entering into its 11th year, this community event attracts visitors to the square to sample more than 25 different types of wassail (hot cider) made by various business owners and community leaders. The wassail competition brings the allure of the coveted honor of being named Schmeckenmeister—an honor which lasts until the next Schmeckenfest festival. Festivities begin with a Christmas parade and lighting of the county Christmas tree on the courthouse lawn, and continue with music, treats, childrens activities, Schmecken-ball pit, Christmas cookie decorating, and a visit from Santa. *Fayette County Courthouse Square, 151 N. Washington St. 979-968-3017; visitlagrangetx.com*

**LEWISVILLE: Dec. 1 Old Town Holiday Stroll and Lewisville Lights**

Capture the magic of the holidays with a winter carnival area, local entertainers on stage, the tree lighting ceremony, and a movie in the plaza. The event also includes the Huffines Auto Dealerships' Christmas parade, Lewisville Morning Rotary pancake breakfast, photos with Santa, and the motorcycle toy run. *Wayne Ferguson Plaza in Old Town, 150 W. Church St. 972-219-3401; visitlewisville.com*

**LOCKHART: Dec. 1 Holiday Home Tour**

Visit some of the many beautiful private homes and intriguing public spaces that make Lockhart a special place. Go at your own pace and in any order you choose. Discounts are on hand to give intriguing info at each site. *Various locations. 512-557-9025; lockhartchamber.com*

**LULING: Nov. 21-Jan. 1 Lighted Yule Trail**

Drive the Yule Trail to see more than 100 lighted Christmas signboards and a giant antique Santa. *Downtown Luling, Davis Street. 830-875-3214; lulingmainstreet.com*

**LULING: Dec. 7 Cocoa & Carols** Local shops stay open late to offer hot cocoa, holiday shopping, caroling, and visits with Santa. *Downtown Luling, East Davis Street. 830-875-3214; lulingmainstreet.com*

**MADISONVILLE: Nov. 30-Dec. 1 Gingerbread Market** Relax with a glass of wine while shopping local vendors for Christmas and holiday gifts. There is also a parade and cookies and pictures with Santa following the parade. *MSCA Pavilion, 800 N. May St. visitmadisonville.org 979-703-6901*

**MADISONVILLE: Dec. 1 Night Time Christmas Parade**

Ring in the holiday season with lighted floats, shopping, music,

hot chocolate, and a visit from Santa. *Downtown Madisonville, 113 W. Trinity St. 936-348-3591; madisonchamber.net*

**MCGREGOR: Dec. 8 McGregor Christmas Parade**

This annual Christmas parade is a fantastic moving light show. The parade route follows Main Street, which is lit up for the holidays and features floats, classic cars, and tractors all decorated for Christmas. Santa arrives in style assisted by the local volunteer fire department who whisk him immediately following the parade to nearby Legacy Park. There, children have the opportunity to have cookies and hot chocolate with Santa and tell him their Christmas wishes. Snow machines are blowing and you might see an elf or perhaps baby Jesus in his manger, complete with baby lambs you can pet. Businesses are open, so visitors can shop while enjoying the Christmas music projected throughout the streets. *Historic Main Street, 200 Main St. 254-840-2292; mcgregorfoundersday.com*

**MCKINNEY: Through Feb. 18 "Dinosaurs Live!"**

Encounter the 46-foot T-Rex and nine new life-size animatronic dinosaurs along the nature trails. This year's exhibit also features an outdoor fossil dig. Note: The Heard is unable to animate the dinosaurs when temperatures drop below 35 degrees. *Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary, 1 Nature Place. 972-562-5566; heardmuseum.org/dinosaurslive*

**MCKINNEY: Dec. 1-2 Holiday Tour of Homes**

Each year, an elite group of homes and historic structures are decorated for Christmas and opened for the tour. Tickets are good for one visit to each house. You may use your tickets over the course of both days if you wish. *Chestnut Square Historic Village, 315 S. Chestnut St. 214-208-3692; chestnutsquare.org*

**MCKINNEY: Dec. 2 Community Band Holiday Concert**

The McKinney Community Band presents its annual Christmas concert, performing all kinds of favorite holiday tunes, including a singalong or two, plus an appearance by Santa. The band's concerts are always free and open to all ages. *McKinney Performing Arts Center, 111 N. Tennessee St. 214-208-3692; mckinneyband.com*

**MCKINNEY: Dec. 8 Christmas Parade of Lights**

Downtown McKinney is filled with holiday lights and music as floats and bands make the evening parade route around the historic square. *McKinney Historic Downtown Square. 972-547-2650; mckinneyparadeoflights.com*

**MCKINNEY: Dec. 14-15 Holidays at the Heard**

Guests can see lights and holiday decor along a half-mile Heard nature trail.

**COME SEE WHAT'S UP!**

Day or night, make the iconic Reunion Tower your first stop to explore fun things to see and do in Dallas.

Enjoy \$2 off adult general admission GeO-Deck tickets until 12/24/18! Present this coupon at ticket counter or visit [reuniontower.com](http://reuniontower.com) and enter promo code: **TXEVENTS**

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In keeping with the Heard's role as a nature preserve, this light display is designed to enhance rather than overpower the sanctuary's natural beauty. Take a photo with Father Christmas and Mother Nature in a festive setting, listen to live holiday music, and enjoy hot beverages and treats. *Heard Museum, 1 Nature Place. 972-562-5566; heardmuseum.org/holidays*

**NOCONA: Dec. 1 Christmas in Nocona**

This event offers a parade, drawings, kids activities, and a fireman's fish fry. Various locations. 940-825-3526; [facebook.com/christmasinnocona](https://facebook.com/christmasinnocona)

**NOCONA: Dec. 15 Christmas Ball with**

**Gary P. Nunn** Have fun at this festive BYOB dinner and dance. *Veranda Inn Events Center, 1523 E. US 82. 940-825-3526*

**PLANO: Dec. 1 Lantern Light Celebration**

Stroll around four acres amidst the glow of lantern light and delight in wagon rides, historic demonstrations, storytelling by the North 40 Story Tellers, scrumptious treats, unique children's crafts, and a visit with Santa Claus. Tour the Great Depression exhibit and holiday decor in the Farrell Wilson House. Strolling carolers and school choirs are scheduled throughout the event in the Historic Pole Barn, presenting songs of the season. *Heritage Farmstead Museum, 1900 W. 15th St. 972-881-0140; heritagefarmstead.org/events*

**PLANO: Dec. 2 Holistic Festival of Life and Wellness**

Learn about and sample a huge variety of life-enhancing modalities from highly skilled teachers and practitioners, including yoga, meditation, chakra balancing, intuitive guidance, herbal nutrition, skin care, aromatherapy, astrology, psychic readings, massage therapy, and more. *Plano Event Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. 972-750-1419; holisticfestivaloflife.com*

**PLANO: Dec. 2 Jingle Bell Run** Be part of the longest standing holiday-themed 5K race series anywhere, and fight to conquer arthritis. This is a festive race where you can get decked out in your favorite holiday gear all while racing to raise money. *Granite Park, 5601 Granite Parkway. 972-731-2380; visitplano.com*

**PLANO: Dec. 7-23 "A Christmas Carol"**

This adaptation of Dickens' beloved story has all the humor and spirit of the Christmas season. The narrator, who appears as Charles Dickens, takes audiences along each scene as the characters speak. *The Art Centre Theatre, 5220 Village Creek Drive. 214-810-3228; artcentretheatre.com*

**PLANO: Dec. 7-15 "Charlie Frown: A Holiday Carol"** Charlie Frown is tasked with

directing the Holiday Carol this year. However, what Charlie thought would be a simple play turned out to be much, much more. Music, murder, and mayhem fill this adult-themed late night just in time for Christmas. *The Art Centre Theatre, 5220 Village Creek Drive. 214-810-3228; artcentretheatre.com*

**PLANO: Dec. 7-15 "Hansel, Gretel, and Yetel"**

In the style of traditional pantomime, these performers bring you the story of Hansel and his sisters Gretel and Yetel as they eat a witch's house and try not to get eaten themselves. The performance is great fun for the audience with shout backs, props, singalongs, dance interludes, and lots of other fun surprises. *The Art Centre Theatre, 5220 Village Creek Drive. 214-810-3228; artcentretheatre.com*

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 Planning a trip?  
 Find real-time  
 highway conditions and  
 weather feeds online  
 at [drivetexas.org](http://drivetexas.org)  
 or by calling  
**800-452-9292.**

**PLANO: Dec. 7-16 "Scrooge!"** Ebenezer Scrooge has spent all his life accruing gold and allowing all his loved ones to slip through his hands. On Christmas Eve 1843, Scrooge is given the gift of one more chance to redeem himself for mankind and for his soul. The musical adaptation of "A Christmas Carol" reminds us to love one another and to hold each other close. *The Shops at Willow Bend, 6121 W Park Blvd. 972-422-2575; northtexasperformingarts.org*

**PLANO: Dec. 7-22 "The Fumbly Bumbly Angels"**

Appropriate for all ages, this fun musical looks at the holiday season through the eyes of the "littlest" angels. *The Art Centre Theatre, 5220 Village Creek Drive. 214-810-3228; artcentretheatre.com*

**PLANO: Dec. 8 Breakfast with Santa**

While enjoying tasty breakfast treats, cre-

ate your Santa wish list and holiday crafts. Little ones can enjoy some one-on-one time with Santa and receive a souvenir photo. *Carpenter Park Recreation Center, 6701 Coit Road. 972-208-8087; plano.gov*

**PLANO: Dec. 8 Plano Lions Christmas**

**Parade** See festive floats, flags, firetrucks, clowns, Santa, and more. Every Plano high school marching band, drill team, cheer squad and JROTC participates, as well as Boy and Girl Scouts, YMCA Guides and Princesses, church groups, and more. *Plano ISD Administration Building, 2700 W. 15th St. 972-985-8260; visitplano.com or christmas.planolions.org*

**PLANO: Dec. 8-16 The Gift of Christmas**

With thousands of guests attending every year, this visually stunning multimedia event is complete with special effects, a nearly 1,000-member cast and choir, live orchestra, flying angels, and more. *Prestonwood Baptist Church, 6801 W. Park Blvd. 888-424-3977; visitplano.com or prestonwoodgoc.org*

**PLANO: Dec. 13 Downtown Plano Art and Wine Walk**

This is a sip and shop event where participants get to sample selected wines at their favorite shops in downtown while enjoying live music, curated art exhibitions, and special discounts. *Downtown Plano, 1013 E. 15th St. visitdowntownplano.com/winewalk*

**PLANO: Dec. 14 Fun on the Farm: Cookies with Santa**

Santa is visiting the farmstead. Come to hear a story, decorate cookies, ride in the wagon, and visit and get a picture with Santa. *Heritage Farmstead Museum, 1900 W. 15th St. 972-881-0140; heritagefarmstead.org/events*

**PLANO: Dec. 16 Plano Symphony Orchestra in Concert**

With more than 300 musicians, this performance includes seasonal favorites for orchestra and chorus, the popular audience singalong, visitors from the North Pole, humor, and surprises. *St. Andrew United Methodist Church, 5801 W. Plano Parkway. 972-380-8001; planosymphony.org*

**RICHARDSON: Dec. 10 Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel: "Commemorating Rachmaninoff & Debussy"**

Jeffrey Siegel's Keyboard Conversations are piano concerts with broad, popular appeal and lively commentary, making the music more accessible and meaningful for all. Each piece is performed in its entirety and there is a question and answer session following the concert. 2018 marks the 75th and 100th anniversaries of the deaths of these two popular composers. Program includes Preludes and Etudes of each, plus "Clair de lune" and



“Prelude in C Sharp Minor.” *Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; eisemanncenter.com*

**RICHARDSON: Dec. 11 A Holiday Celebration of Hope and Unity** Featuring the world-renowned Sonos Handbell Ensemble, famed mezzo-soprano Frederica Von Stade, and the Dallas Street Choir—which is comprised of those experiencing homelessness—this musical holiday show brings diverse inspirational talents to one concert. *Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; eisemanncenter.com*

**RICHARDSON: Dec. 18 The TEN Tenors in Concert** Following 17 years of sell-out performances across the globe, including more than 2,000 of their own headlining concerts, this Australian group is one of the world’s most loved classically based contemporary music groups. *Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; eisemanncenter.com*

**ROUND TOP: Dec. 1 Christmas Parade** With carolers, vintage cars, fun floats, and the occasional farm animal, the Round Top Christmas Parade is the perfect chance for residents and visitors to come together to enjoy one another’s company and some small-town Christmas charm. *Various locations. 979-249-4042; roundtop.org*

**ROUND TOP: Dec. 8 The Nutcracker Ballet** Round Top Festival Institute once again presents Tchaikovsky’s holiday classic ballet. This year’s production celebrates the 11th annual performance danced by Ovation Ballet Company, a youth ballet company in residency at Dancers Workshop in Austin. Don’t miss this holiday favorite danced by children for children of any age. *Round Top Festival Institute, 248 Jaster Road. 979-249-3129; festivalhill.org*

**SAINT JO: Through Dec. 31 Chuck Middlekauff’s “Western Pop Art—Just for Fun!” Art Show** The contemporary Western artist’s Pop Art-inspired paintings mingle the cowboys and the West with other fun icons from his ’50s and ’60s adolescent years. *Davis and Blevins Main Street Gallery, 108 S. Main St. 940-995-2786; sjmainstreetgallery.com*

**SALADO: Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 7-8 “A Christmas Carol”** Adapted for the stage by Harry Sweet, this classic play brings the audience into the Christmas spirit. Concessions are open for hot chocolate, funnel cakes, and other goodies. *Tablerock Amphitheater, 409 Royal St. 254-947-9205; tablerock.org*

**SALADO: Dec. 1-2, 7-9 Christmas Stroll** The stroll offers all-day shopping that extends well into the night. Find the unique

and one-of-a-kind items only Salado can offer for all the people on your Christmas list. Food and drink are available at local establishments and from various vendors, and music can be found in the Village and in many establishments with strolling carolers and instrumentalists. *Various locations. 254-947-5040; salado.com*

**SALADO: Dec. 28 Royal Street Art Walk** On the fourth Friday of each month, from February to November, Royal Street offers an engaging visual arts experience that is focused on highlighting the quality, edge, and diversity of the artistic talents that make up the walk. *Royal Street District. 254-947-8634; royalstreetartwalk.com*

**SEALY: Nov. 30-Jan. 1 Fantasy of Lights** The holly jolly event includes a lighted parade, real snow, live music and entertainment, a barbecue cookoff, train rides, specialty booths, vendors, a 5K fun run, a petting zoo, and Santa Claus. *Abe and Irene Levine Family Park, 406 Main St. 979-885-3222; sealycommunityfoundation.org*

**SEGUIN: Nov. 29-Dec. 1 Holiday Stroll** This annual event kicks off with a parade on Thursday plus food vendors and entertainment from the Seguin High School band. On Friday, taste more than a dozen varieties of homemade hot chocolate; shop after hours at local businesses; and enjoy live entertainment from the Seguin High School Star Steppers, horse-drawn wagon rides, a train ride, and food vendors. Saturday marks the North Pole Stroll, which includes activities for children in Central Park, cookie decorating, letters to Santa, and entertainment throughout the day. Pictures with Santa are available every day of the event. *Various locations. 830-401-5000; seguintexas.gov*

**SHERMAN: Dec. 1 Christmas Parade and Snowflake Festival** The tradition of Sherman’s Christmas parade dates to the early 1900s and features free fun beginning with the Snowflake Festival and ending with the parade. *Downtown Sherman, 100 W. Houston St. 903-892-7230; shermantx.org*

**SHINER: Dec. 6 Christmas in the Park** This festive community gathering includes tables of delicacies offered by various organizations, beautiful holiday lights, lighting of the Christmas wreath, and Santa Claus with bags of treats for children. *Welhausen Municipal Park, 900 Avenue E. 361-594-4180; shinertx.com*

**SMITHVILLE: Dec. 1 Festival of Lights and Parade** Children can enjoy the Kid’s Fest with games, bounce houses, a reading corner, a clown, and a magician. *Downtown Smithville, 100 NW First St. 512-581-4074; explorebastropcounty.com*

**TEMPLE: Dec. 1 Holiday Concert** This festive concert features the Messiah sung by two chorales: San Gabriel Chorus and the Temple College Chorale. *Temple College Mary Alice Marshall Performing Arts Centre, 100 W. Adams Ave. 254-778-6683; templesymphony.org*

**TEMPLE: Dec. 1 Santa at the Depot** This Temple family tradition has Santa arriving by train and meeting with the kids throughout the day at the depot. The event includes crafts, music, and old-fashioned holiday fun. *Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum, 315 W. Avenue B. 254-298-5172; templerrhm.org*

**TEMPLE: Dec. 3 Christmas Parade** Bands, floats, decorated automobiles, and walking groups are all part of the fun at the 72nd annual Christmas festivity. Special awards are given to the entries of the best depiction the Christmas spirit and the parade’s theme of “My Favorite Christmas Movie.” *Downtown Temple, Main Street. 254-298-5440; discovertemple.com*

**TEMPLE: Dec. 7 First Friday** On the first Friday of every month, Historic Downtown Temple transforms into a giant party. Enjoy street music and performances, drinks, food, and after-hours shopping. *Downtown Temple, Main Street. 254-298-5379; discovertemple.com*

**TEMPLE: Dec. 15 Bend of the River Christmas** Celebrate the season with Santa, arts and crafts, a snow slide, and caroling. *Bend of the River Ranch, 7915 South General Bruce Drive. 254-298-5774; templeparks.com*

**THE COLONY: Dec. 1 Holiday In The Park** This annual event makes its way through town with a bang. All-day activities include pictures with Santa, the Parade of Lights, and Holiday In The Park with festive holiday music and performances, a holiday craft station, and a holiday baking contest. This event kicks off The Colony Christmas Spectacular light show. *Various locations. 972-625-1106; visitthecolonytx.com*

**THE COLONY: Dec. 2-Jan. 1 Christmas Spectacular** This light show is choreographed to music and can be seen every evening in December. Tune your radio to 99.9 FM to enjoy the music. Central Fire Station, 4900 Blair Oaks Drive. 972-625-1106; visitthecolonytx.com

**WACO: Through Jan. 6 “Titanic: The Artifact Exhibit”** This exhibit takes you on a journey back in time to experience the legend of the Titanic. The galleries in this exhibition feature more than 200 real artifacts recovered from the ocean floor along with room recreations and personal stories, each highlighting a different chap-

ter in the compelling story of the Titanic's maiden voyage. *Mayborn Museum Complex, 1300 S. University Parks Drive. baylor.edu/mayborn*

**WACO: Nov. 30–Dec. 2 Waco Wonderland** Kick off the holiday season in downtown Waco where you'll find a Ferris wheel, live music, food, art vendors, carriage rides, visits with Santa, a holiday parade, and a snow hill for kids. *Heritage Square, 300 Austin Ave. 254-750-5980; wacowonderland.com*

**WACO: Dec. 7–9 Christmas on the Brazos** Join Historic Waco Foundation's Christmas Through the Decades, featuring Waco's historic homes, all decked out for the holidays. Each home features a different decade: Victorian through the 1920s. Tour the homes, have breakfast with Santa, enjoy candlelight tours, refreshments, and entertainment. *Various locations. 254-753-5166; historicwaco.org*

**WACO: Dec. 7 Dr Pepper Christmas** Bring the whole family for a holly jolly good time filled with musical entertainment, Christmas crafts, and food. Santa makes an appearance. *Dr Pepper Museum and Free Enterprise Institute, 300 S. Fifth St. 254-757-1025; drpeppermuseum.com*

**WASHINGTON: Dec. 8 Christmas on the Brazos** Walk the candlelit paths at Barrington Farm and experience a Texas Christmas in the decade before the Civil War. Discover the origins of holiday traditions as costumed interpreters bring the season to life with musket-fire, music, and dancing. Tour the historic home of the last president of the Republic, Dr. Anson Jones, as the family enjoys their Christmas gathering. Visit the farm's quarters to hear how the enslaved celebrated the season. Reservations are strongly encouraged. *Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site, 23400 Park Road 12. 936-878-2214; visitbrenhamtexas.com*

**WAXAHACHIE: Nov. 30; Dec. 1–2, 7–9 Bethlehem Revisited** Step back in time and walk the streets of ancient Bethlehem as Mary and Joseph did on the night of Christ's birth. *Central Presbyterian Church, 402 N. College. 469-309-4040; waxahachiecvb.com*

**WAXAHACHIE: Nov. 30–Dec. 1 Christmas Market and Gift Show** Shop more than 100 vendors to benefit the Waxahachie Junior Service League. *Waxahachie Civic Center, 2000 Civic Center Lane. 469-309-4040; waxahachiejssl.org*

**WAXAHACHIE: Dec. 1–2, 8–9 Candlelight Home Tour** Stroll around historic Waxahachie to see unique homes, spanning from

the Victorian era to the 21st century, decorated for the holidays. *Various locations. 469-309-4040; downtownwaxahachie.com*

**WAXAHACHIE: Dec. 15 Santa Run** More than 300 people run in Santa suits for this family-friendly 5K and 1-mile fun run. The race is complete with milk and cookies at the finish line. *Downtown, 101 W. Main St. 972-937-9622; ymcadallas.org*

**WEATHERFORD: Dec. 1 Christmas On The Square** The annual Christmas on the Square holiday celebration starts off with a Christmas parade and moves into a day of festive activities downtown, including shopping from businesses and vendors. Children enjoy mini-train rides, ice sculpting demonstrations, inflatables, and Christmas characters like Rudolph, Frosty, and penguins. A live entertainment stage showcases holiday music and talent. Admission and parking are free. *Historic Downtown Weatherford. 817-596-3801; weatherford-chamber.com*

**WEATHERFORD: Dec. 8 Holiday Open House** Chandor Gardens annual Holiday Open House is held in conjunction with the Parker County Heritage Society's Candlelight Tour of Homes. The mansion and gardens are decorated for the holiday season, and area choirs and musicians entertain throughout the day. Cookies and refreshments are served and docents educate visitors on the history of Chandor Gardens. *711 W. Lee Ave. 817-613-1700; chandorgardens.com*

**WHITNEY: Dec. 1 Discover Historic Downtown Whitney** This eighth annual Christmas bazaar and car show offers arts, crafts, decorations, and baked goods for the holiday season, as well as a car show complete with a "Santa Rod." *Historic Downtown Whitney. 254-694-2540*

## SOUTH TEXAS PLAINS

**BEEVILLE: Through Dec. 15 "Leaning on Air: Works by Michael Golden"** This exhibition of works by Houston artist Michael Golden includes paintings, collages, sculptures, drawings, and on-site installations. *Beeville Art Museum, 401 E. Fannin St. 361-358-8615; bamtexas.org*

**EAGLE PASS: Dec. 20 Christmas on Main** The eighth annual celebration has food, music, and activities. *Eagle Pass Public Library, 589 Main St. 830-773-1111*

**EDINBURG: Dec. 7 Night of Lights Parade** Individuals, local businesses, community groups, youth organizations, and others get together to show off their holiday spirit in

downtown Edinburg. Award trophies and prize money is given to competitive floats for first, second, and third places in business/civic, school, and marching band divisions. *Downtown Edinburg, 415 W. University Drive. 956-383-4974; edinburg.com*

**GOLIAD: Nov. 30–Dec. 8 Christmas in Goliad** Attend a lighted parade around Goliad County. All floats are lighted and from counties in the area. Santa arrives riding a Longhorn steer, and children can have their picture taken on the steer. Enjoy live music Friday and Saturday along with more than 100 craft vendors on the square. *Goliad County Courthouse Square, 127 S. Courthouse Square. 361-827-5948; goliadcc.org*

**GOLIAD: Nov. 30–Dec. 10 Christmas Tree Project** Walk through the 40x20 tent filled with over 15 twinkling Christmas trees, all sponsored and decorated by local businesses and the students of Goliad I.S.D. There is no fee for walking through the tent, and after the event all of the Christmas trees, lights, and ornaments are delivered to families in need. *Goliad Courthouse Lawn, 127 S. Courthouse Square. 361-645-3454; mainstreetgoliad.com/events*

**GOLIAD: Dec. 1 General Zaragoza Society's Las Posadas** Las Posadas is Spanish for lodging, which refers to the inn in the story of the birth of Jesus. Luminarias light the way for Mary and Joseph during their search for lodging. After the re-enactment, head to the Our Lady of Loreto Chapel courtyard for hot cocoa, cookies, and traditional *buñuelos*—fried dough balls. Children can take turns with a candy-filled piñata. The procession meets at the General Zaragoza Amphitheatre and make its way around the Presidio la Bahía. *Goliad State Park and Historic Site, 108 Park Road 6. 361-564-5727*

**MCALLEN: Dec. 1 McAllen Holiday Parade** This award-winning parade is the largest illuminated holiday and helium balloon parade in Texas. The parade features more than 50 vibrant lighted floats, more than 30 larger-than-life inflatable character balloons, marching bands, and a celebrity-filled lineup. *McAllen Veterans Memorial Stadium, 2001 N. Bicentennial Blvd. 956-681-1200; mcallenholidayparade.com*

**SAN ANTONIO: Through Jan. 6 "Color of Confusion"** The piece features three video works by renowned Paris-based artist, Sylvie Blocher, that address issues of cultural identity and representation through community collaboration. Blocher completed "Alamo," "Skintone," and "Color" following research in 2013 and video production in 2014. "Color of Confusion" is the U.S. pre-



miere of all three videos. *Blue Star Contemporary*, 116 Blue Star. 210-227-6960; [bluestarcontemporary.org](http://bluestarcontemporary.org)

**SAN ANTONIO: Oct. 4-Jan. 6 “Gesamtkunstwerk”** This installation featuring Jesse Amado reflects the artist’s varied experiences while in residency at Künstlerhaus Bethanien. The word *gesamtkunstwerk* is a German term describing a total work of art that synthesizes many different modes, things, ideas, images, and styles, very much like Berlin itself—from the cobblestones on the sidewalks, the clothes worn by the populace, and the multiple walls adorned with graffiti, to the top floor at the Ka De Ve department store laden with food. With the style of Dutch Renaissance paintings in mind, Amado proceeded to collect a tableau of objects and images to symbolize his Berlin experiences. *Blue Star Contemporary*, 116 Blue Star. 210-227-6960; [bluestarcontemporary.org](http://bluestarcontemporary.org)

**SAN ANTONIO: Oct. 4-Jan. 6 “Unearthed: Desenterrado”** Adriana Corral’s exhibition illustrates the complex history between the United States and Mexico. The billboard image erected on Blue Star Contemporary’s roof depicts a white flag embroidered with an illustration of a Mexican golden eagle and an American bald eagle with claws engaged, each emblematic of their respective nation’s patriotism. *Blue Star Contemporary*, 116 Blue Star. 210-227-6960; [bluestarcontemporary.org](http://bluestarcontemporary.org)

**SAN ANTONIO: Through Jan. 6 “Monarchs: Brown and Native Artists in the Path of the Butterfly”** This exhibition takes the migration path of the Monarch butterfly as a geographic range and a metaphor. The butterfly crosses the U.S. border at its junctions with Canada and Mexico along the entire length of both of these conceptual divides—the busiest path of the butterfly is through the center of the U.S. The word “monarch” has a dual meaning: an acknowledged ruler that is the head of a state or nation. Artists in the exhibition take up this idea to present the perspectives of people native to the Americas. *Blue Star Contemporary*, 116 Blue Star. 210-227-6960; [bluestarcontemporary.org](http://bluestarcontemporary.org)

**SAN ANTONIO: Nov. 17-Dec. 31 Light up the Night** The dazzling display of lights is choreographed to joyous holiday sounds bringing the season to life. Various holiday activities are offered throughout the season. *JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort & Spa*, 23808 Resort Parkway. 210-276-2500; [marriott.com](http://marriott.com)

**SAN ANTONIO: Nov. 30-Dec. 16 Ford Fiesta de las Luminarias** Experience the holiday serenity of the River Walk as you

stroll along the banks of the San Antonio River guided by more than 3,000 luminarias. This centuries-old tradition—originally consisting of a candle set in sand inside a small bag—today features 2,000 bags with flickering LED candles during nine nights over three weekends. *San Antonio River Walk*. [thesanantonioriverwalk.com/events](http://thesanantonioriverwalk.com/events)

**SAN ANTONIO: Nov. 30-Dec. 21 Ford Holiday Boat Caroling** Four to six boats float on the river each night carrying a different group each hour performing live Christmas carols. More than 185 school, church, company, and civic choral groups participate each year. *San Antonio River Walk*. [thesanantonioriverwalk.com/events](http://thesanantonioriverwalk.com/events)

**SAN ANTONIO: Dec. 9 Camerata San Antonio Concert** Enjoy a chamber music concert inspired by the strength of the human spirit in the face of the depths of human cruelty, featuring violinist Anastasia Parker, violist Emily Freudigman, cellist Ken Freudigman, and pianist Viktor Valkov. *University of the Incarnate Word*, 4301 Broadway. 210-492-9519; [camerata.org](http://camerata.org)

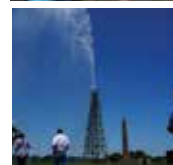
**SAN ANTONIO: Dec. 9 Weihnachtsfeier** Since 1904, the Weihnachtsfeier has been a traditional German Christmas celebration, that shares the Christmas story in the German language through German poems and choral music, led by the Beethoven Maennerchor and the San Antonio Liederkranz. *Margarite B. Parker Chapel*, One Trinity Place. 210-534-4481; [sachamber.org](http://sachamber.org)

**SAN ANTONIO: Dec. 14-16 Holiday Artisan Show** Vendors display and sell beautiful handmade merchandise along the San Antonio River Walk. Artisans are different for each show but usually include pottery, textiles, jewelry, paintings, and more. *River Walk Extension (close to Shops at Rivercenter)*. [thesanantonioriverwalk.com/events](http://thesanantonioriverwalk.com/events)

**WESLACO: Dec. 8 Mid-Valley Lighted Christmas Parade** Ring in the season with floats, marching bands, mascots, and cars all decked out in lights for an evening parade. *Historic Downtown Weslaco*. 956-968-2102; [weslaco.com](http://weslaco.com)

**WESLACO: Dec. 8 RGV Santa Dash** Cheer on a stampede of festive and jolly Santas running down Texas Boulevard. The event immediately follows the Mid-Valley Lighted Christmas Parade. *Historic Downtown Weslaco*, Texas Boulevard. 956-968-2102; [weslaco.com](http://weslaco.com)

**WESLACO: Dec. 20 Alfresco Weslaco** Enjoy an evening of live music and art. Held on the third Saturday of the month, the event features music, art displays, sidewalk sales, and delicious food and treats. *Historic Downtown Weslaco*, South Texas Boulevard. [weslacoedc.com](http://weslacoedc.com)



# SPI KITE FEST

*South Padre Island, TX*

**JAN. 31-FEB. 2**

**SEE P. 40**





# JANUARY

## PICKS ACROSS THE STATE

### NEW YEAR, NEW YOU

**S**tart 2019 focused on family and a good cause. Hosted by Vogel Alcove, a non-profit helping children recover from the traumatic effects of homelessness, Day 1 Dallas is a free event designed to bring children and families together on New Year's Day. Featuring entertainment, food vendors, and children's activities, the event takes over the Centennial Building at Fair Park on Jan. 1 starting at 3 p.m., with bounce houses, arts and crafts, and performances by local musicians. Choreographed to popular children's songs, the fireworks show is the main attraction, rocketing off the tops of buildings surrounding the esplanade for a 360-degree view you won't soon forget.

This free event raises awareness for Vogel Alcove's vision to break the cycle of poverty and help homeless children have a successful future. Through early childhood programming, school age services, mental health integration, health services, and family support programs, the group has served more than 15,000 children and their families in the Dallas area since 1987. [vogelalcove.org/events/day1dallas](http://vogelalcove.org/events/day1dallas)



### Freezin' for a Reason

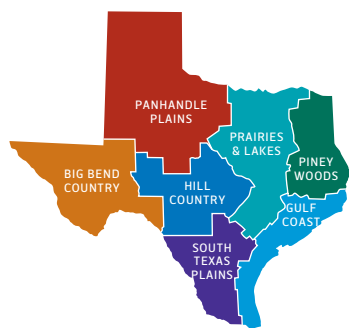
**TEXAS IS HOME TO MORE THAN 58,000 SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES**, with more than 2,000 athletes in the Gulf Coast area. Events like Galveston's annual Polar Plunge help raise funds that enable local chapters across the Lone Star State to provide year-round sports training and competition for athletes in their communities. On January 19, law enforcement teams, local businesses, and individuals rally together, "freezin' for a reason" and sprinting into the surf on Stewart Beach. Those interested in participating may join a team, start their own team, or register as an individual. Not in Galveston? Find events hosted by your local chapter on the Special Olympics Texas website. [sotx.org](http://sotx.org)



### ADVANCING THE DREAM

Fifty years after the world lost Martin Luther King Jr., San Antonio hosts one of the largest marches in the nation to honor the man and his nonviolent approach in the civil rights movement. The City of San Antonio's Martin Luther King Jr. Commission continues its commemoration of King's legacy by celebrating the 51st anniversary

of the first March for Justice organized by the late Rev. Dr. Raymond "R.A." Callies Sr., a San Antonio teacher and pastor. Participants march 2.75 miles on MLK Drive towards Pittman-Sullivan Park, and with approximately 300,000 participants, the walk is so large that people at the front of the march often reach the back of the crowd have even started. [sanantonio.gov/mlk](http://sanantonio.gov/mlk)



JANUARY 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**Dates for events** listed in this calendar are subject to change. Please confirm dates in advance by calling the number listed or by contacting the local chamber of commerce or convention and visitors bureau.

**BIG BEND COUNTRY**

**EL PASO: Nov. 15-Jan. 1 WinterFest**  
The Downtown Arts Festival Plaza and surrounding areas come to life with lights, food, holiday shopping, festivities, and an outdoor ice skating rink near the Plaza Theatre. *Downtown El Paso. winterfestep.com*

**MONAHANS: Jan. 12 Resolution Run**  
This event features 10K and 5K runs and a 1-mile health walk through the scenic Monahans Sandhills State Park. *2500 E. I-20, Exit 86. 432-943-2187; monahans.org*

**PECOS: Jan. 17-19 Reeves County Junior Livestock Show, Sale, and Barbecue**  
The livestock show includes beef cattle, sheep, goats, and swine as well as a delicious barbecue dinner. *Reeves County Civic Center, 1500 S. Cedar St. 432-943-1989*

**VAN HORN: Jan. 18-19 Culberson County Stockshow**  
The annual stock show and sale is accompanied by family activities, barbecue, and a dance. *Van Horn Rodeo Arena and Community Center, 300 Jones St. 432-283-8440; vanhorn-texas.org*

**GULF COAST**

**ARANSAS PASS: Jan. 12-13 Texas Winter Market I**  
This shopping event brings in vendors from across the state to show the best in clothing, gifts, jewelry, gourmet food, Texas handmade items, gifts for the guys, home and holiday decor, candles,

accessories, and more. *Aransas Pass Civic Center, 700 W. Wheeler Ave. 888-225-3427; texasmarketguide.com*

**BAY CITY: Jan. 26 Wild Game and Wine Camofest**  
The fourth annual event features wild game tastings, wine tastings, Texas craft beer, free live entertainment, vendors, downtown shopping, and free activities for kids. *Historic Downtown Bay City, Sixth Street and Avenue G. 979-245-8081; baycitycamofest.com*

**BROWNSVILLE: Jan. 1-Mar. 16 Walking Tours**  
Knowledgeable docents conduct walking tours around the zoo, during which they tell a wide range of stories from the history of the zoo to animal anecdotes. *Gladys Porter Zoo, 500 Ringold St. 956-546-7187; gpz.org*

**CLUTE: Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29 Planetarium Show**  
The show features a 30-foot dome equipped with a projector to produce the night sky as it appears to the naked eye, together with a large variety of high-tech equipment to give a close-up feel for things like comets, exploding stars, and black holes. *Center for the Arts and Sciences, 400 College Blvd. 979-265-3376; brazosportcenter.org*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Jan. 23 Winter Lecture Series: Go Native for Spring Butterflies**  
Learn exactly which native plants to work into your landscape to attract the prettiest spring butterflies. Remember, natives require less water. Lecture by Dr. Michael Womack, Botanical Gardens executive director and horticulturist. Make some new acquaintances and have a cup of coffee at these enjoyable morning sessions. *South Texas Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St. 361-852-2100; stxbot.org*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Jan. 26 Winter Lecture Series: Beekeeping for Fun or Profit**  
Local beekeeper Justin Hodge shares the importance of these often misunderstood garden pollinators, how to start a home hive, plus other resources for becoming a backyard beekeeper with products available for purchase. This is a fascinating topic, whether it's for fun or profit. Enjoy a cup of coffee and meet new friends. *South Texas Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St. 361-852-2100; stxbot.org*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Jan. 30 Winter Lecture Series: Landscape Lessons from Hurricane Harvey**  
Nueces County Extension Horticulture Agent Kevin Gibbs reviews the impact of Hurricane Harvey on local trees, landscapes and gardens, recovery information, and how we can prune or replant smarter to better prepare for future storms. *South Texas Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St. 361-852-2100; stxbot.org*

**FREEPORT: Jan. 21 MLK Day Parade and Celebration**  
Join this celebration of the holiday honoring the birthday of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and help perpetuate his memory and the legacy of his achievements for future generations. Parade starts downtown and ends at Freeport Municipal Park. *Freeport Municipal Park, 410 N. Brazosport Blvd. 979-297-2801; mlkcc.org*

**GALVESTON: Nov. 17-Jan. 6 Festival of Lights**  
Walk a milelong trail along scenic Offatts Bayou and see hundreds of animated and lighted holiday-themed displays. *Moody Gardens, 1 Hope Blvd. moodygardens.org*

**GALVESTON: Nov. 17-Jan. 6 Ice Land at Moody Gardens**  
See more than 2 million pounds of ice carved into colorful animals from the North and South Poles. Slide down the ice slide or enjoy a drink from Shiver's Ice Bard. *Moody Gardens, 1 Hope Blvd. moodygardens.org*

**GALVESTON: Jan. 6 Galveston Symphony Orchestra in Concert**  
Conductor Dr. Trond Saeverud and the Galveston Symphony Orchestra present their Pops Concert—Russian Capriccios. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Jan. 12 "The Other Mozart"**  
Sylvia Milo's award-winning drama is the true, untold story of Nannerl Mozart, the sister of Amadeus. A prodigy, keyboard virtuoso, and composer who performed throughout Europe with her brother to equal acclaim, Nannerl's work and her story faded away, lost to history. This one-woman drama is based on stories and comments pulled directly from the Mozart family's humorous and heartbreaking letters. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Jan. 19-20 The Oak Ridge Boys in Concert**  
The Oak Ridge Boys return to The Grand for their annual concerts featuring a four-part harmony and a string of No. 1 hits from Billboard's country singles charts. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Jan. 24 "Diary of a Worm, a Spider, and a Fly"**  
Insects rule in the diaries of unlikely best friends: Worm, Spider, and Fly. Worm eats his homework, Fly believes she has superpowers, and Spider can't wait to grow up and molt. Promoting eco-consciousness, earth science, and tolerance of others, "Diary of a Worm, a Spider, and a Fly" is a joyful, hip musical exploration of the world outside. You



might just find that a bug's life is not all that different from your own. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Jan. 26 "Something Rotten!"** Set in 1595, this hilarious Broadway smash tells the story of Nick and Nigel Bottom, two brothers who are desperate to write a hit play. When a local soothsayer foretells that the future of theatre involves singing, dancing, and acting at the same time, Nick and Nigel set out to write the world's very first musical. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**HARLINGEN: Jan. 14 Winter Texan Fiesta** This business expo offers a live concert and giveaways for the more than 5000 Winter Texans who attend. *Casa de Amistad, 1204 Fair Park Blvd. 956-622-5053; visitharlingentexas.com*

**HARLINGEN: Jan. 18-20 48th Antique Show and Sale** The Women of St. Alban's Episcopal Church present the 48th Annual Antique Show and Sale with more than 30 dealers of quality antiques including furniture, glassware, toys, and reference books. The event also offers silver repair, replating, and matching. *Casa de Amistad, 1204 Fair Park Blvd. 956-202-5961; facebook.com/stalbansantiqueshow*

**HOUSTON: Jan. 12 Mercury Chamber Orchestra: "Debussy & Ravel: The Flowers of Evil"** This compelling new impressionist opera from Antione Plante features new orchestrations created from the music of Debussy and Ravel, and text from Charles Baudelaire's seminal volume "Le Fleurs du Mal." This dramatic opera tells the story of a young woman ready to make every sacrifice to help her twin brother become a famous painter. *Wortham Center, 501 Texas Ave. 713-533-0800; mercuryhouston.org/1819-debussy-ravel*

**HOUSTON: Jan. 19 MLK Youth Parade—Midtown Houston** The 13th annual parade kicks off the 2019 MLK holiday weekend. *Midtown Houston, 1200 Holman St. 713-953-1633; mlkgrandeparade.org*

**HOUSTON: Jan. 21 MLK Grande Parade—Midtown Houston** The 25th annual parade—one of the largest single-day multicultural events in the U.S.—is held in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The parade route begins on San Jacinto and Elgin streets at 10 a.m. and features more than 300 culturally diverse performing groups from across the nation. This year's parade theme is "It Takes A Village." *Midtown Houston, 1200 Holman St. 713-953-1633; mlkgrandeparade.org*

# SHOP ON THE EDGE

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**HOUSTON: Jan. 21 *The Original MLK Day Parade*** Join as the city honors the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during the federal holiday weekend with a commemorative parade and community activities throughout the weekend. Downtown Houston. 713-236-1700; [blackheritagesociety.org](http://blackheritagesociety.org)

**HOUSTON: Jan. 23-Feb. 10 *"The River Bride"*** Two sisters in a Brazilian fishing village struggle to find their own happily-ever-after while bound to family honor and tradition. Helena is in love with her sister Belmira's betrothed; meanwhile Belmira only wants to escape the Amazonian river life for an exciting adventure in the city. Days before the wedding, a mysterious stranger is pulled from the river, offering a tantalizing future that may change both their lives. Brazilian folklore and lyrical storytelling combine to weave a magical tale of love, fate and transformation. *Stages Repertory Theatre, 3201 Allen Pkwy.* 713-527-0123; [stages theatre.com](http://stages theatre.com)

**LA MARQUE: Nov. 16-Jan. 6 *Magical Winter Lights*** This 52-day festival is one of the largest holiday lighting events in the Houston area, and the largest lantern festival of its kind in the U.S. The festival features eight fascinating, themed sections including The Kingdom, The Village, The Dino, The East, Houston, The Globe, and the festival's newest sections: The Ice and The Sea. The Ice section features a second magical castle and shows guests what it is like living in the Ice Sisters' world. The Sea takes visitors to an undersea world filled with coral, fish, mermaids, and hungry sharks. The festival also includes a Holiday Market Square where guests have a chance to explore the festival food court and shopping areas. Guests have plenty of photo opportunities with appearances by the Ice Sisters and Santa Claus. There are nightly acrobatic performances included in admission, authentic arts and crafts created by skilled Chinese artisans, amusement rides and games, and an expanded dinosaur exhibit complete with dinosaur rides. *Gulf Greyhound Park, 1000 FM 2004.* 888-560-5853; [magicalwinterlights.com](http://magicalwinterlights.com)

**LAKE JACKSON: Jan. 5 *Abner Jackson Plantation Site Tour*** Visit the historic archaeological site of Major Abner Jackson, the namesake of the city of Lake Jackson. Once a prosperous sugar plantation, the site was destroyed by the same hurricane that devastated Galveston. Discover the sugar-making process of the 1840s and how convict labor replaced slave labor during the 1870s. Abner Jackson Plantation Site, FM 2004. 979-297-1570; [lakejacksonmuseum.org](http://lakejacksonmuseum.org)

**LAKE JACKSON: Jan. 12 *John Pizzarelli in Concert*** Experience the creativity, excitement, and renowned performances that only two phenomenal groups can bring to one stage. *The Clarion, 500 College Drive.* 979-230-3156; [brazosport.edu/clarion](http://brazosport.edu/clarion)

**LAKE JACKSON: Jan. 19 *Bird Banding*** Volunteers collect baseline data on bird populations at the sanctuary. The banding station is an excellent opportunity to see birds up close and to learn about all the birds of the Brazosport area. *Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, 299 W. SH 332.* 979-480-0999; [gcbo.org](http://gcbo.org)



**SUBSCRIBE FOR FREE**

To order a free one-year subscription to the quarterly *Texas Highways Events Calendar*, visit [texashighways.com/eventssubscription](http://texashighways.com/eventssubscription).

**ROCKPORT: Jan. 12 *Second Saturday Art Center Market*** Member artists exhibit and sell their works. Live music and food truck on site. *Downtown Rockport, 106 S. Austin St.* 361-205-5178; [rockportartcenter.com](http://rockportartcenter.com)

**ROCKPORT: Jan. 18-20 *Rockport-Fulton Market Days*** More than 100 vendors and live music add extra fun during the third weekend of the month. There are more than a dozen food trucks and food vendors, with seating in the shade for 48 people at this pet-friendly market. *The Festival Grounds at Rockport Harbor, 100 Seabreeze Drive.* 361-463-0125; [rockportfultonmarketdays.com](http://rockportfultonmarketdays.com)

**ROCKPORT: Jan. 31 *Winter Texan Appreciation Day*** In honor of the special winter guests to the area, come by for refreshments and a meet-and-greet. Special presentations, door prizes, and entertainment are available and the event is open to the public. *Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center, 319 Broadway St.* 361-729-6445; [rockport-fulton.org](http://rockport-fulton.org)

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Jan. 1 *Polar Bear Dip*** Take a plunge into the Gulf of Mexico at

the annual New Year's Day beach party featuring live music and costume contests. *Clayton's Beach Bar and Grill, 6900 Padre Blvd.* 956-761-3000; [claytonsbeachbar.com/polar-bear-dip](http://claytonsbeachbar.com/polar-bear-dip)

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Jan. 12 *Longest Causeway Run*** This event follows the 6.2-mile (10K) course starting at the Port Isabel Community Center, continuing on to the Queen Isabella Causeway and over the Laguna Madre Bay, and ending in front of Louie's Backyard on South Padre Island. Awards ceremonies and lunch will be held immediately following the race/walk. *Various locations.* 956-761-3000; [sopadre.com](http://sopadre.com)

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Jan. 22-26 *Winter Outdoor Wildlife Expo*** Each day features knowledgeable speakers offering different aspects of fishing, birding, boating, beaching, finding butterflies, dragonflies, plants, and other wildlife available on the island, as well as trips to special locations. *SPI Birding and Nature Center, 6801 Padre Blvd.* 956-761-6801; [spibirding.com](http://spibirding.com)

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Jan. 31-Feb. 3 *SPI Kitefest*** Enjoy the annual SPI Kitefest on the first weekend in February. The festival features an indoor kite performance along with the outdoor kite festival. *South Padre Island Convention Centre and The North Flats, 7355 Padre Blvd.* 956-761-3000; [sopadre.com](http://sopadre.com)

**SUGAR LAND: Nov. 23-Jan. 6 *Sugar Land Holiday Lights*** Enjoy views of more than 2.5 million lights, visits with Santa Claus every night, holiday treats and shopping vendors, and more. *Constellation Field, 1 Stadium Drive.* 281-207-4487

**SURFSIDE BEACH: Jan. 19 *Dunes Day*** Recycle Christmas trees into beneficial sand dunes along the Brazoria County coastline. *Stahlman Park, 2211 CR 257.* 979-864-1541; [brazoriacountyparks.org](http://brazoriacountyparks.org)

**SURFSIDE BEACH: Jan. 26 *Surfside Beach Food and Art Festival*** Enjoy a chili cookoff, artisans, craft beer tastings, live music, kid's carnival games, kite flying, and more. *Stahlman Park, 2211 CR 257.* 832-434-4529; [facebook.com/visitsurfsidebeachtx](http://facebook.com/visitsurfsidebeachtx)

**TOMBALL: Jan. 5 *Narrated Glass Blowing Demonstration*** Houston's only open-access studio offers free, narrated glass-blowing demos on the first Saturday of every month except August. *Three Dimensional Visions—Glass Blowing Houston, 17442 FM 2920.* 281-734-0366; [threedimensionalvisions.com](http://threedimensionalvisions.com)



## HILL COUNTRY

**AUSTIN: Through Jan. 6 *Ed Ruscha: Archaeology and Romance*** See works by celebrated American artist Ed Ruscha, including photographs and sketches related to his landmark artist's books, such as "Twenty-six Gasoline Stations" (1963), "Various Small Fires and Milk" (1964), "Nine Swimming Pools and a Broken Glass" (1968), and more. Discover Ruscha's persistent engagement with the artifacts of American popular culture, the iconography of the road, and the manufactured romance of Hollywood. *Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st St. 512-471-8944; hrc.utexas.edu*

**AUSTIN: Through Jan. 6 "Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design"** "Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design" showcases the work of over 120 artists and designers and illustrates how African design accompanies and fuels economic, social, and political change in the continent. Through sculpture, prints, fashion, furniture, film, photography, apps, maps, digital comics, and more, the exhibition presents Africa as a hub of experimentation that generates innovative design approaches and solutions with worldwide relevance. *The Blanton Museum of Art, 200 E. Martin Luther King Blvd. 512-471-5482; blantonmuseum.org*

**AUSTIN: Through Jan. 13 "Get in the Game" Exhibit** This exhibit examines the intersection of social justice and sports in the United States by celebrating athletes who have broken barriers and spoken out for equality, both on and off the playing field. *LBJ Presidential Library, 2313 Red River St. 512-721-0216; lbjlibrary.org*

**AUSTIN: Jan. 13 *Middleditch & Schwartz*** Together, Thomas Middleditch and Ben Schwartz perform a two-person improvised comedy show in which they create characters, scenes, and storylines based on audience suggestions. Every show is totally different. Middleditch stars as the lead of the hit HBO comedy series "Silicon Valley," while Schwartz is an Emmy Award-winning writer, actor, and comedian. *Paramount Theater, 713 Congress Ave. 512-472-5470; austintheatre.org*

**AUSTIN: Through Jan. 27 "Rodeo! The Exhibition"** Experience the excitement of rodeos from around the state with this dynamic and comprehensive exhibition. Gain an insider's perspective on what makes rodeo an integral part of Texas history and imagine you're in the heart of the arena with classic artifacts spanning decades, immersive multimedia experiences, tactile activities, and first-person

interviews highlighting the personal relationship Texans have with rodeo traditions. See how five of the largest Texas rodeos and stock shows bring crowds and competitors from all parts of the world together, and explore the origins of rodeos and lasting legacy of youth education, community involvement, and historic preservation. *Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 N. Congress Ave. 512-463-6485; thestoryoftexas.com*

**AUSTIN: Through April 30 *SaddleUP—Texas Ranching & Tradition*** Jump in the saddle and experience a virtual ride with real Texas ranchers who meet modern challenges while preserving their traditions. Through photographs and video, see hard-working cowboys and cowgirls come to life as they ride, rope, and rodeo the same way their parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents did before them. *Texas Capitol Visitors Center, 112 East 11th St. 512-305-8400; texasstatecapitol.com*

**AUSTIN: Jan. 26 *Irina Kulikova in Concert*** Irina Kulikova has captivated audiences around the world with the elegance, beauty, and power of her music. This concert is her Austin debut. *Austin ISD Performing Arts Center, 1500 Barbara Jordan Blvd. 512-300-2247; austinclassicalguitar.org*



**BANDERA: Jan. 3 Cowboy Capital Opry**

See some Grand Old Opry-style entertainment, hosted by Gerry and Harriet Payne, and enjoy refreshments and door prizes. *Silver Sage Community Center, 803 Buck Creek. 830-796-4969; silversagecorral.org*

**BANDERA: Jan. 5-6 Bandera Endurance Run 100K, 50K, and 25K**

Run along a trail of rugged and brutal beauty where everything cuts, stings, or bites. Top male and female finishers of the 100K earn an automatic entry for the Western States 100. *Hill Country State Natural Area, 10600 Bandera Creek. tejastrails.com/usatf-national-championships*

**BANDERA: Jan. 5 The Old Timers Trading Post**

Meet local artists and artisans. *The Old Timer, 14178 SH 16.*

**BANDERA: Jan. 7 Cowgirl Round-up**

Brush off your best horse and your best hat and hit the trail. *Main Street. bandera cowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Jan. 10-12 Bandera County Junior Livestock Show**

The youth of Bandera County show their livestock on Thursday and Friday, and an auction is held on Saturday. *Mansfield Park Show Barn, 2886 SH 16. 210-260-8224; banderacowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Jan. 13 Frontier Times Museum Cowboy Camp**

Bring your guitar and join in the song circle, or just sit and enjoy traditional cowboy music. Bring your own refreshments and chair. *Frontier Times Museum, 510 13th St. 830-796-3864; frontiertimesmuseum.org*

**BANDERA: Jan. 17 Cowboy Camp**

Enjoy the pickers' circle, and join in if you wish. *Bandera Beverage Barn RV Park, 1407 SH 16. 830-796-3045; bandera cowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Jan. 26 Wild Game Dinner**

Enjoy an expertly prepared wild game dinner featuring venison in different forms, from chili to gumbo to sliders. Other game entrees also served. *Grace Lutheran Church, 451 SH 173. 830-796-3091; banderacowboycapital.com*

**BOERNE: Jan. 11-12 Kendall County Junior Livestock Show and Sale**

There is so much more than simply winning that comes from the event. Raising livestock is a fabulous teaching experience that brings families together and develops lifelong friendships. Kids learn not only the mechanics but also the underlying sense of responsibility and what it takes to get a job well done. *Kendall County Youth Agriculture and Equestrian Center, 649 FM 289. 830-249-9343; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Jan. 12-13 Boerne Market Days**

Since 1850, Main Plaza has been home to a magical outdoor market that blends the traditions of the Texas Hill Country with the creations of today's culture. Hundreds of festive booths display everything from collectibles and remembrances of the past to modern innovations. *Boerne's Main Plaza, 100 N. Main St. 210-844-8193; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Jan. 12 Kuhlmann-King Museum Tour**

Located behind Boerne City Hall, the Kuhlmann-King house gives the public the opportunity to step back in time to see what a historic Boerne home looked like "way back when." *Kuhlmann-King House, 402 E. Blanco Road. 830-331-1033; visitboerne.org*



**FIND MORE EVENTS ONLINE**

Texas Highways Events Calendar listings can be found online with additional details about these events and others. Visit [texashighways.com/events](http://texashighways.com/events) or [traveltexas.com](http://traveltexas.com) for a searchable list of events.

**BOERNE: Jan. 12 Second Saturday Art Beat**

Boerne shops and art galleries are teaming up to bring you a heart-racing fine art experience. Take a walk on the art side every second Saturday of the month. *Boerne's Hill Country Mile, 100 N. Main St. 210-954-6659; visitboerne.org*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Nov. 23-Jan. 6**

**Eisbahn Outdoor Ice Skating** This annual seasonal outdoor ice skating event benefits The Heritage School, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the Boys and Girls Club of Fredericksburg. *Marktplatz, 100 block of W. Main. 830-997-6597; skateinfred.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Jan. 4 First Friday Art Walk**

Tour fine art galleries offering special exhibits, demonstrations, refreshments, and extended viewing hours the first Friday of every month. *Various locations. ffawf.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Jan. 18-20 Trade Days**

Shop more than 400 vendors in

seven barns to see acres of antiques, and enjoy the biergarten, live music, and more. *Across from Wildseed Farms, 100 Legacy Drive. 210-846-4094; fbgtradedays.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Jan. 19-20 Hill Country Gem and Mineral Show**

The Fredericksburg Rockhounds bring artifacts, exhibits, demonstrations, jewelry, minerals, fossils, and more to this 50th annual event. *Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, 432 Lady Bird Drive. fredericksburgrockhounds.org*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Jan. 19 Luckenbach Blues Festival**

This 12th annual celebration features local, regional, and Texas blues artists in historic Luckenbach Texas. *Luckenbach Texas Dance Hall, 412 Luckenbach Town Loop. 830-997-3224; luckenbachtexas.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Jan. 20 Windsync**

**Woodwind Quintet in Concert** Enjoy a concert featuring the prize-winning Houston-based wind quintet. *Fredericksburg United Methodist Church, 1800 N. Llano St. 830-990-2886; fredericksburgmusicclub.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Jan. 26 Hill Country Indian Artifact Show**

This event features a wide variety of some of the finest Native American artifacts from Texas and the U.S. including arrowheads, pottery, beads, and books. *Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, 432 Lady Bird Drive. 830-626-5561; hillcountryartifacts.com*

**GRUENE: Jan. 1 Hair of the Dog Day**

Enjoy free live shows all day on New Year's Day. *Gruene Hall, 1281 Gruene Road. gruenemarketdays.com*

**JOHNSON CITY: Nov. 23-Jan. 6 Johnson City Lights Spectacular**

The holiday season kicks off with the traditional ceremonial lighting of the historic courthouse square, Memorial Park, and Pedernales Electric Cooperative. The opening festivities include a street dance, a food court, an artisan craft fair, fireworks, and the Lighted Hooves & Wheels Parade. *101 W. Pecan St. 830-868-7684; johnsoncitytexas.info/lights-spectacular.html*

**KERRVILLE: Jan. 4 First Friday Wine Share**

This event is a fun way to discover new wines, people, and places of business or art. Please bring no more than one bottle of wine per every two people. Finger foods are always welcome. *Various locations. 830-896-6600; firstfridaywineshare.com*

**KERRVILLE: Jan. 5 Symphony of the Hills in Concert**

Hear the sounds of the symphony, and settle down at the wine and cheese reception. *Cailloux Theater, 910 Main St. 830-792-4769; symphonyofthehills.org*



**KERRVILLE: Jan. 11 Cowboy Breakfast**

The 15th annual breakfast is the official kickoff to the Hill Country District Junior Livestock show. *Kerr County Hill Country Youth Event Center, 3785 SH 27. 830-792-3535; kerrvilletexascvb.com*

**KERRVILLE: Jan. 13-19 Hill Country District Junior Livestock Show**

Enjoy the fun and excitement at the fifth-largest junior livestock show in Texas. *Kerr County Hill Country Youth Event Center, 3785 SH 27. 830-792-4102; hcdjls.org*

**KERRVILLE: Jan. 25-27, Feb. 1-3 Renaissance Festival**

The fest features the Last Chance Forever Birds of Prey Show, The Great Rhondini Escape Artist, food, crafts, games, and more. *River Star Arts and Events Park, 4000 Riverside Drive. 214-632-5766; kerrvillerenfest.com*

**KERRVILLE: Jan. 26-27 Winter Market**

Vendors from all over the state and beyond present their art, clothing, accessories, gourmet food, gift items, and more. *Inn of the Hills Hotel and Conference Center, 1001 SH 27. 830-895-5000; texasmarketguide.com*

**MARBLE FALLS: Nov. 16-Jan. 1 Walkway of Lights**

Celebrate the holidays with more than 2 million lights, 400 beautiful

sculptures, photos with Santa, and more. Admission is always free. *Lakeside Park, 305 Buena Vista Drive. 830-693-2815; marblefalls.org*

**MASON: Jan. 4-5 Mason County Livestock Show and Expo**

Support the youth of Mason at a livestock show and expo. *Mason Community Building, 1015 San Antonio St. 325-347-5758; facebook.com/masonstockshowexpo*

**MASON: Jan. 5 Seaquist House Tour**

Tour the historic three-story Victorian mansion. *Seaquist House, 400 Broad St. 325-347-4058; masontxcoc.com*

**MASON: Jan. 14 Sean Gaskell in Concert**

This concert features the West African kora, a 21-string harp that is native to the Mandinka people of Gambia, Senegal, Mali, Guinea, and Guinea Bissau. *Mason County Library, 410 Post Hill St. 325-347-5446; mason.ploud.net*

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Through Jan. 31 "War Stories: New Braunfels in World War I"**

Presented as part of the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of America's role in WWI. New Braunfels' uniquely German character compelled its citizens to respond with fervor once America was at war with Germany. On view in the ex-

hibit are artifacts from the Sophienburg's rich collections—posters, photographs, uniforms, and other historical objects to showcase events, individuals, and ideology from 1914 to 1919—as well as touch on the lasting impact of The Great War on America and on this German community. *Sophienburg Museum & Archives, 401 W. Coll St. 830-629-1572; sophienburg.com*

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Jan. 11-13 San Antonio Area Vintage Guitar and Instrument Show**

Buy, sell, and trade guitars and other string instruments during the 10th annual event. *New Braunfels Civic Center, 375 S. Castell Ave. 830-221-4011; jukejoint.com/saguitarshow.htm*

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Jan. 25 The Kingston Trio in Concert**

The American folk and pop music group helped launch the folk revival of the '50s and '60s and still ranks in the all-time lists of many of Billboard's cumulative charts. Their hit recording of "Tom Dooley" sold more than 3 million copies as a single. *Brauntex Performing Arts Theatre, 290 W. San Antonio St. 830-627-0808; brauntex.org*

**SAN MARCOS: Jan. 12 Purgatory Trail Run 10-Mile and 5K**

This USA Track and Field-sanctioned trail race runs through the





dunk on  
the fun

Join the fandemonium as our hometown all-stars remind the competition about the perks of home court advantage. Grab seats courtside as our affiliate of the San Antonio Spurs dunk on the competition all season long at the H-E-B Center in Cedar Park.



beautiful Purgatory Creek Natural Area and Edwards Aquifer recharge zone. The 10-mile course is designed to challenge trail runners with difficult technical sections. The rigorous 5K course has a medium technical rating and is a good introduction to trail running. Walkers and hikers are encouraged to participate. *San Marcos Greenbelt, Wonder World Drive and Hunter Road. 512-353-2673; corerunningcompany.com*

**UVALDE: Jan. 11 Four Square Friday**

Late-night shopping, food, live music, and art. *Historic Downtown Uvalde. 830-278-4115; visituvalde.com*

**UVALDE: Jan. 24-26 Uvalde County Junior Livestock Show**

This event is a livestock show and sale. *Uvalde County Fairplex, 215 Veterans Lane. 830-591-9040; uvaldecountyfairplex.com*

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 8-9 Second Saturday Gallery Trail**

Galleries in and around the Wimberley Square stay open late and offer a variety of great art, wine, and appetizers. *Wimberley Square. 269-290-5001; gallerytrail.com*

**WIMBERLEY: Jan. 1 Polar Bear Plunge and Fun Run**

Brave the cold with a fun run through Blue Hole Regional Park followed by a plunge into Blue Hole. *Blue Hole Regional Park, 101 Blue Hole Lane. 512-660-9111; cityofwimberley.com*

**WIMBERLEY: Jan. 25-27 Wimberley Art and Soul**

Enjoy a series of creative workshops, classes, and experiences combined with open houses at various businesses throughout Wimberley. *Various locations. 512-847-2201; wimberleyartandsoul.com*

**PANHANDLE PLAINS**

**ALBANY: Through Feb. 2 "René Treviño: A New Codex"**

Contemporary Mexican-American artist René Treviño creates an installation comprised of his own work alongside his personal selections from the Old Jail Art Center's Pre-Columbian collection. *Old Jail Art Center, 201 S. Second St. 325-762-2269; theojac.org*

**ALBANY: Through Feb. 2 "Texas Moderns: Sam Gummelt"**

This fall exhibition highlights one of Texas' leading nonobjective abstract artists, who in the 1970s began coinciding with the Postmodern trend. Since that time, Gummelt has continued to stay the course and commit himself to modernist investigations. Boarded storefronts, doorways, windows, and other geometric structures are the inspiration for many of his multimedia creations. *Old Jail Art Center, 201 S. Second St. 325-762-2269; theojac.org*

**LUBBOCK: Through Jan. 14 "Work, Fight Give: American Relief Posters of WWII"**

This traveling exhibition offers a wide-ranging collection of original relief posters and memorabilia that provides an exciting new window on understanding a watershed event in our nation's history. *Silent Wings Museum, 6202 I-27 North. 806-775-3049; silentwingsmuseum.com*

**LUBBOCK: Dec. 7-Jan. 20 West Texas Watercolor Society Winter Show**

Enjoy a winter exhibition and sale of water media artworks by members of the West Texas Watercolor Society. This exhibit is supported in part through a grant from the City of Lubbock, as recommended by Civic Lubbock, Inc. *Buddy Holly Center, 1801 Crickets Ave. 806-794-4655; wtws.org*

**SAN ANGELO: Through Aug. 18 Richard and Pam Salmon Sculpture Competition**

The fifth biennial juried competition features 12 large outdoor sculptures. *Sunken Garden Park, 704 S. David St. 325-653-3333; samfa.org*

**SAN ANGELO: Through Jan. 20 "Inside Out"**

Learn about women's status and roles through fashion, from foundation to silhouette. *San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love St. 325-653-3333; samfa.org*

**SAN ANGELO: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31 Art Thursday**

Enjoy free art activities for children and their families. *San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love St. 325-653-3333; samfa.org*

**SAN ANGELO: Jan. 12 Family Day Mystery at the Museum**

This free event offers hands-on art activities. *San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love St. 325-653-3333; samfa.org*

**SAN ANGELO: Jan. 20 Chamber Music Series Concert**

Hear the Oceana Ensemble and what it has to offer with piano, baritone, and soprano. *San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love St. 325-653-3333; samfa.org*

**SAN ANGELO: Jan. 29 "Legally Blonde—The Musical"**

This fabulously fun and internationally award-winning musical is the ultimate Broadway tribute to girl power. The story follows the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes, sexism, snobbery, and scandal in pursuit of her dreams, and proves that you can be legally blonde and still the smartest person in the room. This contemporary, sassy musical moves at a breakneck pace driven by memorable songs and explosive dances. "Legally Blonde—The Musical" warms the heart by proving that self-discovery can be way too much fun and hilarious to boot. *Murphey Performance Hall, 72 W. College Ave. 325-655-4136; sanangelopac.org*



## PINEY WOODS

### **CONROE:** Jan. 18-19 *Houston Money Show*

The 62nd annual project of the Greater Houston Coin Club, this event features more than 120 local, regional, and national dealers in coins, currency, medals, jewelry, and bullion. The public can buy, sell, swap, trade, and get free advice on coins and related material. Quality exhibits are on display, and a Boy Scout Merit Badge clinic is held. There are many free kids activities on Saturday and hourly door prizes. Free parking. *Lone Star Convention and Expo Center, 9055 Airport Road. 832-610-5313; coinshows.com*

### **CROCKETT:** Jan. 27 *"Twelfth Night"*

One of Shakespeare's most delightful plays, "Twelfth Night" is a classic tale of reckless revenge, mistaken identity, and mismatched lovers. This performance is by the National Players. *Crockett Civic Center, 1100 Edmiston Drive. 936-544-4276; pwfaa.org*

### **LIBERTY:** Jan. 12, 26 *Liberty Opry*

Enjoy live, family-oriented musical entertainment with a different theme on every show. Popular themes include gospel, country, '50s, '60s, '70s, oldies, specialties, and always a little comedy. Food and nonalcoholic beverages are available. *Liberty Opry, 1816 Sam Houston St. 936-336-5830; libertyopry.com*

### **LONGVIEW:** Jan. 18-20 *East Texas Boat and RV Show*

The largest boat and travel show east of I-35, this show creates a marketplace for buyers and sellers of the boating, camping, and outdoor activities industry. The event also demonstrates how the hunter, the angler, and the outdoors person contribute both environmentally and economically to a healthy East Texas. Boats and RVs from multiple local dealers are on display inside and outside. *Maude Cobb Convention Center, 100 Grand Blvd. 903-237-4000; boatrvshow.com*

### **LUFKIN:** Jan. 22 *"Something Rotten"*

This smash-hit musical comedy has been nominated for 10 Tony Awards. *Temple Theater, 3500 S. First St. 936-633-5454; angelaarts.org*

### **LUFKIN:** Jan. 29 *The Drifters in Concert*

Kick off the New Year and the new season at The Pines Theater with The Drifters. These Rock & Roll Hall of Famers are celebrating 50 years of American classics, from "There Goes My Baby," to "Under the Boardwalk." Tap your feet along as the new voices of The Drifters take you on a trip back in time. *The Pines Theater, 113 S. First St. 936-633-0359; thepineslufkin.com*

### **THE WOODLANDS:** Nov. 17-Jan. 21

*The Ice Rink* Enjoy ice skating this holiday

season at a 21,000-square-foot facility. *The Ice Rink, 2005 Lake Robbins Drive. 281-419-5630; visitthewoodlands.com or thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov*

### **THE WOODLANDS:** Jan. 17 *Taste of the Town*

Local restaurants showcase their best dishes and compete for bragging rights in several categories, including Best Dessert. *The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel and Convention Center, 1601 Lake Robbins Drive. visitthewoodlands.com*

### **TYLER:** Through Jan. 6 *"This and That: Recent Acquisitions"*

The Tyler Museum of Art was the recent beneficiary of an extraordinary opportunity to bring back more than 30 works dispersed from the permanent collection of The Contemporary Austin. This exhibition showcases the highlights of these and other recently acquired pieces for the TMA's permanent collection, including works by Otis Dozier, Michael Frary, Larry Graeber, and Julie Speed. *Tyler Museum of Art, 1300 S. Mahon Ave. 903-595-1001; tylermuseum.org*

### **TYLER:** Dec. 1-Jan. 4 *Santa Land Drive-Through Christmas Park*

Experience the sights and sounds of Christmas with more than 2.5 million lights lighting your path. Take a ride on Santa's Trailer or remain in the warmth of your own vehicle as you drive through Santa Land's 24 acres of unforgettable adventure designed for the entire family. Before you leave, shop the 4,000-square-foot gift shop. *11455 I-20 West. 903-882-1518; santalandtylertx.com*

### **TYLER:** Dec. 16-March 17 *"Lagniappe: The Art of Letitia Huckaby"*

This solo exhibition spotlights the family narratives and African American history themes prevalent in the work of acclaimed photographer and multimedia artist Letitia Huckaby. *Tyler Museum of Art, 1300 S. Mahon Ave. 903-595-1001; tylermuseum.org*

### **TYLER:** Jan. 12 *Hit the Bricks: Second Saturday*

Every second Saturday, downtown Tyler bursts with entertainment. Each month offers something new and different. Check the website for this month's list of activities. *Tyler Downtown Square, 100 N. Broadway Ave. 903-592-1661; visittyler.com/secondsaturday*

### **TYLER:** Jan. 24 *"Something Rotten!"*

Set in 1595, this play tells the story of Nick and Nigel Bottom, two brothers who are desperate to write a hit play. When a local soothsayer foretells that the future of the theatre involves singing, dancing, and acting at the same time, Nick and Nigel set out to write the world's very first musical. *R. Don Cowan Fine & Performing Arts Center, 3900 University Blvd. 903-566-7424; cowancenter.org*

Discover Denton and experience culture through the arts of music, film, comedy and poetry. See and hear what makes us **Original. Independent.**

JAN 23-27

**DENTON BLACK FILM FESTIVAL**

More info at [dentonbfff.com](http://dentonbfff.com)

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DENTON BLACK FILM FESTIVAL

**PRAIRIES AND LAKES**

**ADDISON: Nov. 24-Jan. 1 *Vitruvian Lights*** More than 1.5 million sparkling LED lights transform the park into a holiday wonderland every winter. The lights remain on each evening, and every Saturday guests can enjoy live music, photos with Santa, an elf balloon artist, gourmet food trucks, delicious desserts, and retail booths for gift browsing. *Vitruvian Park, 3875 Ponte Ave. 800-233-4766; visitaddison.com or vitruvianpark.com*

**ARLINGTON: Jan. 18-Feb. 3 “*Dead Man’s Cellphone*”** There’s an incessantly ringing cell phone in a quiet café, a stranger at the next table who has had enough, and a dead man—with a lot of loose ends. So begins this wildly imaginative new comedy by MacArthur “Genius” Grant recipient and Pulitzer Prize finalist Sarah Ruhl. A work about how we memorialize the dead—and how that remembering changes us—it is the odyssey of a woman forced to confront her own assumptions about morality, redemption, and the need to connect in a technologically obsessed world. *Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St. 817-275-7661; theatrearlington.org*

**BONHAM: Jan. 5 *Sam Rayburn’s Birthday Open House*** Celebrate the birthday of the 43rd Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and a famous Texan, Sam Rayburn. Mr. Sam’s birthday celebration features some of his favorite foods and reflects on the life of the politician. *Sam Rayburn House State Historic Site, 890 SH 56 West. 903-583-5558; visitsamrayburnhouse.com*

**BRENHAM: Jan. 19 *Uptown Swirl*** Kick off the new year with wine tasting in Brenham’s downtown district. More than 40 wines are available to try in a keepsake glass. Downtown Brenham. 979-337-7200; *downtownbrenham.com*

**CLEBURNE: Jan. 3-26 “*The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*”** A backers’ audition for a new musical on a suburban estate turns deadly, with plenty of confusing murders and knotty plots to unravel, in John Bishop’s comedic thriller. *Plaza Theatre Company at Dudley Hall, 305 S. Anglin St. 817-202-0600; plaza-theatre.com*

**CLEBURNE: Jan. 3 *Sip, Shop, and Stroll*** Merchants keep their doors open late every first Thursday of the month. Shops offer special promotions, refreshments, and diva delights for your shopping pleasure. Grab your friends and family and shop the streets of historic downtown. *Downtown Cleburne. 817-641-9861; visitcleburne.com*

**COMANCHE: Nov. 24-Jan. 2 *Comanche County Christmas Lights*** Celebrate the season with this sixth annual light show. Featuring more than 30,000 state-of-the-art animated lights plus creative displays set to traditional and contemporary Christmas music, the show delights visitors young and old with activities like Santa’s workshop and the Polar Express. *Comanche County Courthouse, 101 W. Central Ave. 817-673-7963; facebook.com/comanchecountychristmas*

**CUERO: Nov. 19-Jan. 1 *Christmas in the Park*** This lighted, self-guided drive includes 250 festive scenes. Thursday evenings are hot chocolate nights when guests can warm up with a free cup of hot chocolate. Cuero Municipal Park, Leonard Roy Harmon Drive, off US 87 South. 361-275-2112; *cuero.org*

**DALLAS: Through April 7 “*Jacob Hashimoto: Clouds and Chaos*”** Exploring a universally compelling phenomenon of nature, the Crow Museum of Asian Art in Dallas presents this solo exhibition. The central work, “Nuvole,” is a large-scale site-specific installation that is on view in Gallery III. It is the first major exhibition to debut in the newly renovated museum, which recently completed a multimillion-dollar expansion including the addition of a new gallery, a reimaged Lotus Shop, interactive “street-side” Pearl Art Studio, and Center for Contemplative Leadership. *Crow Museum of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. 214-979-6430; crowmuseum.org*

**DALLAS: Nov. 17-Jan. 6 *The Trains at NorthPark*** This year marks the 20th year of The Trains at NorthPark, which features more than 750 railcars on a 1,600-foot elaborate configuration of tracks and scenes. The Trains at NorthPark features cityscapes like Dallas, replete with the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge and Fair Park; New York with Times Square and Grand Central Terminal; Washington, D.C. with The White House; and San Francisco’s Golden Gate Bridge. Other highlights include New England’s fall foliage, the Grand Canyon, Garden of the Gods, Mount Rushmore, and Route 66. The charming exhibit has been seen by around 2 million people since its original run more than 30 years ago. *NorthPark Center, 8687 N. Central Expressway. 214-631-7354; thetrainsatnorthpark.com*

**DALLAS: Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26 *Winery, Chocolate, Pizza, and Live Music Tour*** Dallas by Chocolate presents Saturday nights on the town with a wine tasting paired with a yummy cheeseboard and great pizza at a terrific winery, followed by scrumptious desserts in some of the area’s sweetest hot spots. Then check out live music at a fun venue. Includes transportation via private motor coach, food and dessert samples, and beverages on the motor coach (you may also BYOB). *Two Corks and a Bottle, 2650 Laclede St. 972-814-5997; dallasbychocolate.com*

**DALLAS: Dec. 1-Jan. 1 *Zoo Lights*** The zoo transforms into a winter wonderland with more than 1 million twinkling lights that illuminate the zoo throughout the holiday season. *Dallas Zoo, 650 S. R.L. Thornton Freeway. 469-554-7500; dallaszoo.com*

**DALLAS: Jan. 19 *The Hidden Dallas Tour*** Discover secret places in Dallas and check out whimsical sculptures, waterfalls, and the last home built by one of America’s most famous architects. Stop along the



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When you’re out and about at various events across the state this fall, post your photos on Instagram so we can join in on the fun. Tag @TexasHighways and include #TrueTexas in your caption for a chance to be featured.

**DALLAS: Through Jan. 6 “*Ultimate Dinosaurs*”** Based on groundbreaking research from scientists around the world, this exhibit reveals a new breed of dinosaurs that evolved in isolation in South America, Africa, and Madagascar—dinosaurs that are unfamiliar to most North Americans. Through hands-on activities and augmented reality technology, guests can discover that an amazing diversity of species evolved as a result of continental drift. *Perot Museum, 2201 N. Field St. perotmuseum.org*

**DALLAS: Through Jan. 6 “*The Nature of Arp*”** This is the first major North American museum exhibition dedicated to Jean (Hans) Arp in three decades, with works rarely seen in the U.S. *Nasher Sculpture Center, 2001 Flora St. 214-242-5100; nashersculpturecenter.org*



way for delicious snacks at “insider” culinary gems. Some walking is involved. The tour includes transportation, a tour guide, snacks, and beverages on the bus. *World Market, 3888 Oak Lawn Ave. 972-814-5997; dallasbychocolate.com*

**DALLAS: Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3 Taste of Bishop Arts Walking Food and Historical Tour**

Sample the fun and fare of this unique neighborhood with a tour of the eclectic Bishop Arts District on foot. See colorful galleries and shops, stop at great eateries including one that’s the pitmaster’s choice for best barbecue in Dallas, experience venues that may include a shrine to Bonnie and Clyde, eat tableside s’mores, and dine at other cool places (restaurants vary). Drinks beyond water are available for purchase. Minimum eight people; limit 15 people. *Hunky’s, 321 N. Bishop Ave. 972-814-5997; dallasbitesfoodtours.com*

**DENTON: Dec. 7-Feb. 15 “Life Stories Told Through Quilts”**

This exhibit features the work of Barbara McCraw, a retired professor, pathologist, and master quilter whose pieces have been exhibited across North America and Europe. She has created quilts celebrating figures like Nelson Mandela, Bishop Desmond Tutu, and the Obamas. Her pieces are in numerous collections including the Smithsonian, the Denton County African American museum, the Denton Courthouse-on-the-Square Museum, the University of Michigan, and North Carolina Central University. *Gough Gallery, Patterson-Appleton Arts Center, 400 E. Hickory St. 940-382-2787; dentonarts.com*

**DENTON: Jan. 23-27 Denton Black Film Festival**

This film festival is a weekend-long festival celebrating the diverse stories and culture of the black community through film, music, and art. The festival offers programming for the family inspired by the African American experience. DBFF seeks to offer the works of local, national, and international filmmakers that often are not seen by a broad audience and may not be recognized through major theatrical release. *Campus Theatre, 214 W. Hickory St. 214-247-6028; dentonbff.com*

**ELGIN: Jan. 10 Sip, Shop, and Stroll**

Sip a little wine and shop as you stroll through the many stores in historic downtown Elgin. Find diverse merchandise, eclectic decor, artwork by local artists, and live music in many of the venues. Enjoy wine and beer tastings, samples, and refreshments throughout the evening. *elgintx.com*

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**ELGIN: Jan. 14 Bastrop County MLK Walk and Program** Each year in January, there is a walk followed by a program with guest speakers in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. The cities of Bastrop, Elgin, and Smithville take turns hosting the event. [elgintx.com](http://elgintx.com)

**EMORY: Jan. 19 Rains County Eagle Fest** This annual event in Emory features bus and boat bird-watching tours, bird exhibitions, vendors, and educational displays. *Rains County Elementary, 372 FM 3299. 903-473-2465; emorytx.com*

**FORT WORTH: Through Jan. 27 “Laurie Simmons: Big Camera/Little Camera”** Simmons’ career-long exploration of archetypal gender roles, especially women in domestic settings, is the primary subject of this exhibition and is a topic as poignant today as it was in the late 1970s, when she began to develop her mature style by using props and dolls as stand-ins for people and places. Often isolating the dolls and photographing them situated in tiny, austere settings, Simmons uses fictional scenes to make observations about real life. *The Modern, 3200 Darnell St. 817-738-9215; themodern.org*

**FORT WORTH: Jan. 18-Feb. 9 Stock Show and Rodeo** Established in 1896, this popular event attracts nearly 1 million people from around the world for the nation’s oldest livestock show and daily performances of the world’s original indoor rodeo. *Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3400 Burnett Tandy Drive. 817-877-2400; fwssr.com*

**FORT WORTH: Jan. 19 Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo’s All Western Parade** More than 100,000 spectators line the streets of downtown Cowtown to watch this spectacular annual event. An all-Western parade means plenty of horses and wagons—but no motorized vehicles are allowed. *Downtown Fort Worth, Main Street and Houston Street. 817-877-2400; fwssr.com*

**GLEN ROSE: Jan. 5 Rhino Encounter Program** Discover the world of the wondrous rhinoceros during a one-hour interactive learning session followed by a guided tour of Fossil Rim. This event, which has a limit of 12 people, is open to all guests ages 7 and older. *Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, 1985 CR 2009. 254-897-2960; fossilrim.org*

**GLEN ROSE: Jan. 21 Vanishing Africa!** Explore the geography, wildlife, and conservation issues of the homeland to most of our exotic species. Discover the components and the dynamic balance of a

savannah ecosystem. *Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, 1985 CR 2009. 254-897-2960; fossilrim.org*

**GLEN ROSE: Jan. 28 Family Fun! (Taxonomy)** Examine how and why we group living things the way we do. Students can go in-depth on the groups that interest them most (e.g., butterflies, trees, birds, carnivores, cats, etc.). This class is designed for homeschool students. *Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, 1985 CR 2009. 254-897-2960; fossilrim.org*



**BEFORE YOU GO**

Planning a trip? Find real-time highway conditions and weather feeds online at [drivetexas.org](http://drivetexas.org) or by calling **800-452-9292**.

**GRAND PRAIRIE: Jan. 25-27, Feb. 1-3 Lunar New Year** Celebrate a joyous time of festivals and cultural traditions. Free entertainment and activities include dance performances, fire crackers, live music, multicultural performances, and children and family contests with prizes. There are lots of vendor booths as well selling decor and specialty items only available at the event. *Asia Times Square, 2625 W. Pioneer Parkway. 469-865-2918; asiaticsquare.com*

**GRAPEVINE: Through Jan. 1 ICE! and Lone Star Christmas** This walk-through holiday attraction, kept at a chilly 9 degrees, features 2 million pounds of hand-carved ice sculptures and five slides. Experience your favorite scenes from “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” as they are brought to life. *Gaylord Texan Resort, 1501 Gaylord Trail. 817-410-3185; grapevintexasusa.com/christmas-capital-of-texas*

**GRAPEVINE: Nov. 19-Jan. 1 Christmas Capital of Texas** With more than 1,400 events over 40 days, Grapevine’s charm-

ing Christmas setting makes the city the must-visit Texas destination of the season. Enjoy ICE! at the Gaylord Texan, Scuba Diving Santa at SEA LIFE Grapevine Aquarium, the North Pole Express on the Grapevine Vintage Railroad, millions of twinkling lights, enormous decorations, Christmas photo opportunities, and more. *Historic Downtown Grapevine. 817-410-3185; grapevintexasusa.com/christmas-capital-of-texas*

**GROESBECK: Jan. 24-27 Right Turn Only Exhibit** See wood turning and visual art by nationally renowned Limestone County artist Janice Levi. *Springfield Hall, 199 Park Road 35. 936-676-7110; masseyfoundationtx.com*

**IRVING: Jan. 19 Jacob Cordover in Concert** The Los Colinas Symphony Orchestra features guitarist Jacob Cordover performing Rodrigo’s “Concierto de Aranjuez.” This performance also features Spanish guest conductor Pascual Osa. *Irving Arts Center—Carpenter Hall, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. 972-252-4800; lascolinassymphony.org*

**LULING: Nov. 21-Jan. 1 Lighted Yule Trail** Drive the Yule Trail to see more than 100 lighted Christmas signboards and a giant antique Santa. *Downtown Luling, Davis Street. 830-875-3214; lulingmainstreet.com*

**MCKINNEY: Through Feb. 18 Dinosaurs Live!** Encounter the 46-foot T-Rex and nine new life-size animatronic dinosaurs along the nature trails. This year’s exhibit also features an outdoor fossil dig. Note: The Heard is unable to animate the dinosaurs when temperatures drop below 35 degrees. *Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary, 1 Nature Place. 972-562-5566; heardmuseum.org/dinosaurslive*

**NOCONA: Jan. 10-12 Montague County Youth Fair** Watch the judging of farm animals, shop projects, foods, and arts, and take classes. There’s a premium sale Saturday night. *Montague County Agriculture Center, 921 W. US 82. 940-894-2831*

**PLANO: Jan. 19-20 Dallas Area Train Show** The train show includes two full days of clinics and many home layouts on tour. *Plano Event Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. dfwtrainshows.com*

**RICHARDSON: Jan. 11 Herman’s Hermits starring Peter Noone in Concert** At the age of 15, Peter Noone achieved international fame as lead singer of the legendary ‘60s pop band Herman’s Hermits, which has sold more than 60 million recordings. *Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; eisemanncenter.com*



**RICHARDSON: Jan. 19 "From Tin Pan Alley to Hollywood"** Ashley Brown is joined by another Broadway superstar, Ryan Silverman. The duo shares solos and duets from musicals including "Showboat," "West Side Story," "The Phantom of the Opera," "The King and I," "Oklahoma!," and more. *The Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-473-7262; planosymphony.org*

**RICHARDSON: Jan. 26 "The Boy Who Would Be Captain Hook"** Born without his right hand and fitted with a prosthetic hook before he starts school, David is kept on the sidelines of recess until the game becomes Peter Pan. He fits perfectly into the game as Captain Hook but soon grows tired of playing the part and decides he wants to be a hero. With appearances from colorful characters from his childhood, David teaches the importance of accepting and including those may not look exactly the way others do. *Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; eisemanncenter.com*

**ROUND TOP: Jan. 12 Texas Guitar Quartet in Concert** The Texas Guitar Quartet returns to the Festival Concert Hall stage to present another astounding performance. Composed of Isaac Bustos, Jay

Kacherski, Alejandro Montiel, and Joseph Palmer, TGO has developed an exciting repertoire by commissioning new works and creating their own arrangements and compositions. *Festival Concert Hall, 248 Jaster Road. 979-249-3129; festivalhill.org*

**ROUND TOP: Jan. 24-27 Winter Antique Show** The Round Top Antiques Show draws people from across the U.S. With more than 100 vendors for the winter show, there are great deals to be had and vintage finds you won't see anyplace else. *Various locations. 979-249-4042; antiqueweekend.com or roundtoptexasantiques.com*

**SEALY: Nov. 30-Jan. 1 Fantasy of Lights** The holly jolly event includes a lighted parade, real snow, live music and entertainment, a barbecue cookoff, train rides, specialty booths, vendors, a 5K fun run, a petting zoo, and Santa Claus. *Abe and Irene Levine Family Park, 406 Main St. 979-885-3222; sealycommunityfoundation.org*

**TEMPLE: Jan. 4 First Friday** On the first Friday of every month, Historic Downtown Temple transforms into a giant party. Enjoy street music and performances, drinks, food, and after-hours shopping. *Downtown Temple, Main Street. 254-298-5379; discovertemple.com*

**THE COLONY: Dec. 2-Jan. 1 Christmas Spectacular** This light show is choreographed to music and can be seen every evening until New Year's Day. Tune your radio to 99.9 FM to enjoy the music. *Central Fire Station, 4900 Blair Oaks Drive. 972-625-1106; visitthecolonytx.com*

**WACO: Through Jan. 6 "Titanic: The Artifact Exhibit"** This exhibit takes visitors on a journey back in time to experience the legend of the Titanic like never before. The galleries in this fascinating exhibition feature more than 200 real artifacts recovered from the ocean floor along with room recreations and personal stories, each highlighting a different chapter in the compelling story of the Titanic's maiden voyage. *Mayborn Museum Complex, 1300 S. University Parks Drive. Baylor.edu/mayborn*

**WACO: Jan. 3-5 Ram Texas Circuit Finals Rodeo** The PRCA brings the top cowboys and cowgirls from among the Texas circuit to compete. Spectators enjoy seven rodeo events (bareback riding, bull riding, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping, tie-down roping, and barrel racing) along with the fan favorite mutton bustin'. *Extraco Events Center, 4601 Bosque Blvd. 254-776-1660; extracoeventscenter.com*



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<http://prehistorictexas.org>



**WACO: Jan. 26–May 12 “Very Eric Carle: A Very Hungry, Quiet, Lonely, Clumsy, Busy Exhibit”** Step into the pages of Eric Carle’s colorful picture books. “Very Eric Carle: A Very Hungry, Quiet, Lonely, Clumsy, Busy Exhibit” features play-and-learn activities inspired by five of Eric Carle’s classic books: “The Very Hungry Caterpillar,” “The Very Quiet Cricket,” “The Very Lonely Firefly,” “The Very Clumsy Click Beetle,” and “The Very Busy Spider.” *Mayborn Museum Complex at Baylor University, 1300 S. University Parks Drive. 254-710-1110; [baylor.edu/mayborn](http://baylor.edu/mayborn)*

**WACO: Jan. 31 Mid-Tex Farm, Ranch, and Garden Show** The 49th annual show offers exhibitors a first-rate forum to present their products and services to Central Texas farmers and ranchers, as well as the “weekend farmer” and gardeners. Visitors have the opportunity to view top exhibits of the newest farm and ranch equipment, seed, chemicals, and ag-related services and technologies. Weekend farmers and gardeners looking for ways to spruce up the yard, enhance those fields, or simply looking for recreational equipment can find it here. The show also has one-of-a-kind gift items, must-have plants, the hottest new garden tools, hand-crafted art and furniture, and specialty seeds. *Extraco Events Center, 4601 Bosque Blvd. 254-757-5611; [wacochamber.com](http://wacochamber.com)*

## SOUTH TEXAS PLAINS

**EAGLE PASS: Jan. 29 Maverick County Junior Livestock Show** This event is a junior livestock show and sale. *Maverick County Show Barn, Maverick County Lake Area. 830-513-0398*

**GOLIAD: Jan. 1 Goliad Market Days** This open air market combines an arts and crafts fair, farmers market, and community festival. *Downtown Goliad, 127 N. Courthouse Square. 361-645-3563; [goliadcc.org](http://goliadcc.org)*

**GOLIAD: Jan. 26–27 El Soldado de Mexico** In the winter of 1836, Santa Anna’s army crossed the Rio Bravo with the mission of putting down the revolution that was brewing in Texas. Contrary to popular myth, the Army of the Republic of Mexico was made up of professional soldiers, many of whom were seasoned veterans by 1836. They wore uniforms that rivaled those seen on European battlefields and marched, fought, and carried themselves with the same dignity and esprit d’corps as their European counterparts. Join

Primer Battalion as they make camp at Presidio La Bahia and instruct their members in drill just as Santa Anna’s officers would have done. Visit with the officers and men of the unit as they go about their daily routines and immerse yourself in what life was like on campaign in the sometimes brutal conditions experienced in the winter and spring of 1835–36. *Presidio La Bahia, 217 Loop 71. 361-645-3752; [presidiolabahia.org](http://presidiolabahia.org)*

**SAN ANTONIO: Through Jan. 6 “Color of Confusion”** The piece features three video works by renowned Paris-based artist, Sylvie Blocher, that address issues of cultural identity and representation through community collaboration. Invited by curator David S. Rubin to create community-oriented, socially-engaged work, exploring themes relevant to the people of San Antonio, Blocher completed “Alamo,” “Skintone,” and “Color” following research in 2013 and video production in 2014. “Color of Confusion” is the U.S. premiere of all three videos. *Blue Star Contemporary, 116 Blue Star. 210-227-6960; [bluestarcontemporary.org](http://bluestarcontemporary.org)*

**SAN ANTONIO: Through Jan. 6 “Gesamtkunstwerk”** This installation featuring Jesse Amado reflects the artist’s varied experiences while in residency at Künstlerhaus Bethanien as a Blue Star Contemporary Berlin Resident artist. The word *gesamtkunstwerk* is a German term describing a total work of art that synthesizes many different modes, things, ideas, images, and styles, very much like Berlin itself—from the cobblestones on the sidewalks, the clothes worn by the populace, the multiple walls adorned with graffiti, to the top floor at the Ka De Ve department store laden with foodstuffs. With the style of Dutch Renaissance paintings in mind; Amado proceeded to collect a tableau of objects and images to symbolize his Berlin experiences. *Blue Star Contemporary, 116 Blue Star. 210-227-6960; [bluestarcontemporary.org](http://bluestarcontemporary.org)*

**SAN ANTONIO: Through Jan. 6 “Unearthed: Desenterrado”** Adriana Corral’s “Unearthed: Desenterrado” illustrates the complex history between the United States and Mexico. The billboard image erected on Blue Star Contemporary’s roof depicts a white flag embroidered with an illustration of a Mexican golden eagle and an American bald eagle with claws engaged, each emblematic of their respective nation’s patriotism. The 60-foot by 40-foot flag was originally part of an outdoor, site-specific artwork, located on the historic grounds of the Rio



Vista Farm in Socorro, Texas. *Blue Star Contemporary*, 116 Blue Star. 210-227-6960; [bluestarcontemporary.org](http://bluestarcontemporary.org)

**SAN ANTONIO: Through Jan. 6**  
**Monarchs: Brown and Native Artists in the Path of the Butterfly** This exhibition takes the migration path of the Monarch butterfly as a geographic range and a metaphor. The butterfly crosses the border of the United States at its junctions with Canada at the north and Mexico in the south along the entire length of both of these conceptual divides. Bypassing the hotter, desert regions of the country, Monarchs flock along its western and eastern coastal edges, but the busiest path of the butterfly is through the center of the U.S. The Monarch travels through the Midwestern states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois, across the Great Plains of Nebraska, Kansas, and Oklahoma, onward through the Texas Hill Country and all the way to the state of Michoacán in Mexico. The path of the butterfly also connects the site of the Dakota Access Pipeline where it crosses the Missouri River at the border of the Standing Rock Nation to the U.S.-Mexico border, but the butterfly itself is indifferent to these artificial borders and con-

ceptual divisions. Apart from the name of the butterfly, the word "monarchs" has another meaning: Monarch signals an acknowledged ruler that is the head of a state or nation, and with that rule, the independence and freedom to rule; sovereignty. Artists in the exhibition take up this idea to present the perspectives of people native to the Americas. *Blue Star Contemporary*, 116 Blue Star. 210-227-6960; [bluestarcontemporary.org](http://bluestarcontemporary.org)

**SAN ANTONIO: Jan. 20 Piano Recital by Viktor Valkov** "Lion of the Keyboard," the compelling pianist Viktor Valkov returns to the Camerata San Antonio stage in a solo recital including music by Debussy, Schoenberg, Nenov, Bartok, and Prokofiev. *University of the Incarnate Word*, 4301 Broadway. 210-492-9519; [cameratasasa.org](http://cameratasasa.org)

**SAN ANTONIO: Jan. 29 Ruby City: A Living Legacy Lecture** This event is a program with Sir David Adjaye, in honor of the completion of the new contemporary art center, designed by the award-winning architect. Adjaye discusses the creative process behind Ruby City, his first architectural project in Texas, as well as his collaboration with the late artist and

philanthropist Linda Pace, whose drawings inspired his designs and material palette. *Trinity University*, 1 Trinity Place. 210-383-9180; [rubycity.org](http://rubycity.org)

**SAN ANTONIO: Jan. 19 Let's Rodeo Ball** This upscale party features top entertainment, great food, dancing, and fun for not just fans of rodeo but for all of San Antonio. This ball is a major fundraising event for the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo Scholarship Fund. *Joe and Harry Freeman Coliseum*, 3201 E. Houston St. 210-225-5851; [sarodeo.com](http://sarodeo.com)

**SAN ANTONIO: Jan. 25-26 Barbecue Cookoff and Festival** The San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo Barbecue Cookoff is a championship event sanctioned by the International Barbeque Cookers Association and features some of the world's best competitive barbecue teams, live music, family activities, a barbecue trade show, a kids' cookoff, shopping, and much more. Proceeds from this event benefit the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo Scholarship Fund. *The San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo on the Salado*, 1723 Creekview Drive. 210-225-5851; [sarodeo.com](http://sarodeo.com)

# SAN BENITO TEXAS 2018-2019

## Events, Music & Culture

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# VALENTINE'S IN VALENTINE PARTY

*Valentine, TX*





# FEBRUARY

## PICKS ACROSS THE STATE

### Cupid Calls

**FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS**, a tiny town in West Texas has been the top spot to celebrate the most romantic day of the year. Lovers, friends, and families pack Valentine's Old Mercantile building on Feb. 14 to listen to live music, drink local craft beer, and revel in fortuitous naming at the annual Valentine's in Valentine party. The shindig is hosted by Alpine-based Big Bend Brewing Company, which purchased the mercantile in 2012 and is known for its award-winning beer with West Texas-themed names like Terlingua Gold Pale Ale and Balmorhea Berliner Wiese. People from all over the country come to sway to the dulcet tones of country and Americana bands like Beebe & Carrasco and The Doodlin' Hogwallops while imbibing BBBC's finest brews, including a special bottle release that's only available at the event. Local food trucks, like Alpine's Come and Take It BBQ, dot the dirt yard, and inside you can snag some merch and send a special someone a postcard postmarked Feb. 14 from Valentine, Texas. Sounds pretty romantic, don't ya think? —*Kimya Kavehkar*  
[bigbendbrewing.com](http://bigbendbrewing.com)



### FUN AT THE BORDER

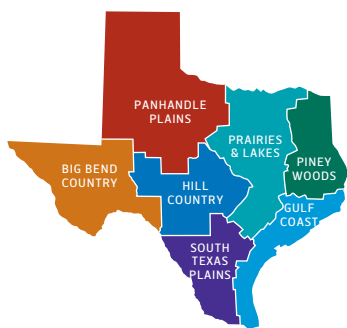
**F**or 82 years, the Charro Days Fiesta has bound together Texas and Mexico with a joint celebration of bi-national friendship. Designed to lift the spirits of residents in both Brownsville and its sister city across the border, Matamoros, during the Great Depression, the festival launches with the joyous Mexican *grito* shout during Baile del Sol. Today, floats still cross from Mexico to participate in one of the world's only transborder parades. Festivities continue with street parties, fireworks, and colorful traditional costumes—including those of the charros, or Mexican cowboys. This year's event, Feb. 23–March 2, includes the Hands Across the Bridge ceremony on Feb. 28 and the Sombrero Festival in Washington Park Feb. 28–March 2. [charrodaysfiesta.com](http://charrodaysfiesta.com)

### ROLL OUT

If you think roller skates are for holding hands and cheesy music, prepare to have your world rocked by the Texas Roller girls. While roller derby evolved from roller-skating marathons in the 1930s, the modern revival of this all-female, full-contact iteration of the sport got its start in Austin in 2003, when the Texas Roller girls Rock-n-Roller derby founded today's Flat Track Derby movement, now comprising more than 300 Flat Track Derby leagues worldwide. In 2013, the

group settled into a permanent home practice facility named "The BloodShed," which hosts four teams: the Hell Marys, the Hotrod Honeys, the Honky Tonk Heartbreakers, and the Hustlers. All-star members from all four teams comprise a fifth team, the Texexecutioners, who secured first place in the 2018 WFTDA (Women's Flat Track Derby Association) playoffs in Atlanta. Watch the winning Roller girls take a victory lap—the 2019 season kicks off in February. [texasrollergirls.org](http://texasrollergirls.org)





FEBRUARY 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

**Dates for events** listed in this calendar are subject to change. Please confirm dates in advance by calling the number listed or by contacting the local chamber of commerce or convention and visitors bureau.

**BIG BEND COUNTRY**

**EL PASO: Feb. 2-3 “Shen Yun”** Enter a divine land as Shen Yun returns to the Plaza Theatre with an all-new show. A Shen Yun performance features the world’s foremost classically trained dancers, a unique orchestra, and animated backdrops, creating one spectacular performance. *Plaza Theatre, 125 W. Mills Ave. 915-231-1100; shenyun.com or elpasolive.com*

**GULF COAST**

**BROWNSVILLE: Jan. 1-March 16 Walking Tours** Knowledgeable docents conduct walking tours around the zoo, during which they tell a wide range of stories from the history of the zoo to animal anecdotes. *Gladys Porter Zoo, 500 Ringold St. 956-546-7187; gpz.org*

**CLUTE: Feb. 1-3, 8-10 “Smokey Joe’s Café”** See this musical revue showcasing 39 pop standards, including rock ‘n’ roll and rhythm and blues songs written by songwriters Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. *Center for the Arts and Sciences, 400 College Blvd. 979-265-7661; brazosportcenter.org*

**CLUTE: Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 Planetarium Show** The show features a 30-foot dome equipped with a projector to produce the night sky as it appears to the naked eye, together with a large variety of high-tech equipment to give a close-up feel for

things like comets, exploding stars, and black holes. *Center for the Arts and Sciences, 400 College Blvd. 979-265-3376; brazosportcenter.org*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Feb. 6 Winter Lecture Series: Nature Photography Techniques** Lecturer Susan Chilcoat, executive director of Corpus Christi’s “Wildlife in Focus” competition, shares finer points and techniques of digital nature and wildlife photography. Your cameras or phones are welcome. Make some new acquaintances and have a cup of coffee at these enjoyable morning sessions. *South Texas Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St. 361-852-2100; stxbot.org*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Feb. 13 Winter Lecture Series: Adding Water Features to Your Yard** Large or small fountains, ponds, streams, or pools can dazzle your landscape, adding amazing ambiance and relaxation to your surroundings. Denise Housler of Aquaria Services in Corpus Christi shows you endless examples of water features including a new addition to the Botanical Gardens. *South Texas Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St. 361-852-2100; stxbot.org*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Feb. 16 Class: Evaluating Backyard Greenhouse Needs** Plant collections, propagating, winter shelter? Is a backyard greenhouse a good option for you? Nueces Master Gardener Rosemary Plank explores types of backyard greenhouses, sizes, costs, uses, heating, cooling, coverings, permitting, and home association considerations. *South Texas Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St. 361-852-2100; stxbot.org*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Feb. 20 Winter Lecture Series: Saving the Monarchs** Learn about raising the beautiful State Insect of Texas, but also about O.E. (Ophryocystis elektroscirrha) Monarch disease threatening our populations. Texas Master Naturalist Rosemary Plank shares ways to keep monarchs healthy by doing the right things in your yard. Enjoy a cup of coffee and make new friends. *South Texas Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St. 361-852-2100; stxbot.org*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Feb. 23 Class: New and Improved Crepe Myrtles for Your Yard** With a surge of new and brilliantly-colored Crepe Myrtle varieties available, Gill Landscape Designer Kathy Hubner shows the latest beauties and helps home owners determine which sizes, colors, and densities best suit existing landscapes. *South Texas Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St. 361-852-2100; stxbot.org*

**CORPUS CHRISTI: Feb. 27 Winter Lecture: Container Gardens** Whether you have unlimited or almost no landscape space, container gardens of any size make for attractive yard accents, patio pieces, or front porch planters. South Texas Botanical Gardens Horticulturist Carol Krank shares proven ideas to grow vegetables, perennials, succulents, herbs, or seasonal color in half-barrels, urns, or other imaginative containers. *South Texas Botanical Gardens, 8545 S. Staples St. 361-852-2100; stxbot.org*

**GALVESTON: Feb. 3 “Jersey Boys”** They were just four guys from Jersey until they sang their very first notes. They had a sound nobody had ever heard. But while their harmonies were perfect on stage, off stage it was a very different story—a story that has made them an international sensation all over again. Go behind the music and inside the story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons in the Tony Award-winning true-life musical phenomenon, Jersey Boys. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Feb. 14 “The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System”** When the class gets lost on the way to the planetarium, Ms. Frizzle saves the day by blasting into outer space for an epic interplanetary field trip. But when rivalries both old and new threaten to tear the students apart, these young heroes must learn to pull together or risk getting forever lost in the solar system. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Feb. 16 “50 Years of Rock and Roll”** With a cast consisting of both stars from Broadway’s greatest rock musicals and incredible rock ‘n’ roll singers, Neil Berg shares the often unknown stories from the 50-year history of the music that changed the world forever. The show uses fascinating stories and groundbreaking music with tributes to such important and iconic stars as Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Elvis Presley, Ray Charles, Buddy Holly, Bob Dylan, The Beatles, Beach Boys, Aretha Franklin, Janis Joplin, Led Zeppelin, Elton John, Bruce Springsteen, and The Eagles. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*

**GALVESTON: Feb. 17 Galveston Symphony Orchestra in Concert** Hear the beautiful music of conductor Dr. Trond Saeverud and the Galveston Symphony Orchestra. *The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. 800-821-1894 or 409-765-1894; thegrand.com*





Feb 29, March 1-3

2019

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**GALVESTON: Feb. 22-24 Mardi Gras** Galveston kicks off the first weekend of Mardi Gras with parades in the downtown historic district and along the seawall. It's the largest Mardi Gras celebration in Texas. *Historic Downtown Galveston and Seawall.* [mardigrasgalveston.com](http://mardigrasgalveston.com)

**HARLINGEN: Feb. 22 Harlingen Art Night** Walk the streets of Historic Downtown Jackson Street every last Friday of the month for live music and open air art galleries. Delicious food and adult beverages available. *Historic Downtown Jackson, 311 E. Tyler.* 956-622-5053; [harlingenartnight.com](http://harlingenartnight.com)

**HOUSTON: Jan. 23-Feb. 10 "The River Bride"** Two sisters in a Brazilian fishing village struggle to find their own happily-ever-after while bound to family honor and tradition. Helena is in love with her sister Belmira's betrothed; meanwhile Belmira only wants to escape the Amazonian river life for an exciting adventure in the city. Days before the wedding, a mysterious stranger is pulled from the river, offering a tantalizing future that may change both their lives. Brazilian folklore and lyrical storytelling combine to weave a magical tale of love, fate and transformation. *Stages Repertory Theatre, 3201 Allen Pkwy.* 713-527-0123; [stages theatre.com](http://stages theatre.com)

**HOUSTON: Feb. 1-2 Houston Symphony: "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire in Concert"** The Houston Symphony performs the magical score live from "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" while the entire film plays in high-definition on a 40-foot screen. The Harry Potter Film Concert Series is a new global concert tour celebrating the films. *Jones Hall, 3910 Yoakum Blvd.* 713-224-7575; [houston-symphony.org](http://houston-symphony.org) or [harrypotterinconcert.com](http://harrypotterinconcert.com)

**HOUSTON: Feb. 9 Mercury Chamber Orchestra: Mozart's Last Symphonies** Join Mercury and experience the beauty of Mozart's final three symphonies: the marvelous No. 39, the profound No. 40, and the brilliant and ever popular No. 41, "Jupiter"—performed on period-instruments, as they would have been heard in the late 18th century. *Wortham Center, 501 Texas Ave.* 713-533-0800; [mercuryhouston.org](http://mercuryhouston.org)

**HOUSTON: Feb. 12-13, 17-21 ReelAbilities Film and Arts Festival** The festival provides opportunities and exposure for people with disabilities through art, film, music, and more. *Various locations.* 713-986-7808; [reelabilitieshouston.org](http://reelabilitieshouston.org)

**HOUSTON: Feb. 13-March 3 "NSFW"** Money, sex, and Photoshop. After Sam loses his job at "Doghouse," a men's magazine where the men always behave badly, he in-

terviews at "Electra," a glossy women's magazine where the women objectify each other. "NSFW" (Not Safe For Work—online material that the viewer may not want to be seen accessing in a public or formal setting such as at work) is a satirical look at the cut-throat media world where jobs are scarce, beauty standards are savage, and personal integrity is a luxury. This production is for mature audiences. *Stages Repertory Theatre, 3201 Allen Pkwy.* 713-527-0123; [stages theatre.com](http://stages theatre.com)

**HOUSTON: Feb. 19-March 3 "Mamma Mia!"** This raucous, hilarious musical about a wedding on a Greek island tells the sweet story of love and heartbreak. A jukebox musical featuring all the hits from ABBA, "Mamma Mia!" is the ninth longest running show on Broadway, and the longest running jukebox musical in Broadway history. *Theatre Under The Stars, 800 Bagby St.* 713-558-8887; [tuts.com/mammamia](http://tuts.com/mammamia)

**LAKE JACKSON: Feb. 1 War in Concert** See the band perform hits from the best-selling album of 1973. *The Clarion, 500 College Drive.* 979-230-3156; [brazosport.edu/clarion](http://brazosport.edu/clarion)

**LAKE JACKSON: Feb. 2 Abner Jackson Plantation Site Tour** Visit the historic archaeological site of Major Abner Jackson, the namesake of the city of Lake Jackson. Once a prosperous sugar plantation, the site was destroyed by the same hurricane that devastated Galveston. Discover the sugar-making process of the 1840s and how convict labor replaced slave labor during the 1870s. *Abner Jackson Plantation Site, FM 2004.* 979-297-1570; [lakejacksonmuseum.org](http://lakejacksonmuseum.org)

**LAKE JACKSON: Feb. 16 Bird Banding** Volunteers collect baseline data on bird populations at the sanctuary. The banding station is an excellent opportunity to see birds up close and to learn about all the birds of the Brazosport area. *Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, 299 W. SH 332.* 979-480-0999; [gco.org](http://gco.org)

**PALACIOS: Feb. 9 Harmonie Club Valentine Parade and Ball** The parade runs through downtown Palacios and is followed by the Sweetheart Coronation Ball. Proceeds benefit scholarships and nonprofit organizations. *Palacios Recreation Center, 2401 Perryman Ave.* 361-920-3339

**PALACIOS: Feb. 15-17 Matagorda Bay Birdfest** Join in on three fun-filled days that include professional birding tours, kayak tours, speaker sessions, book signings, vendors, a bird parade, art contest winners, kids events, and a VIP dinner. East Side Elementary Annex, 901 Second St.

956-285-3234; [matagordabaybirdfest.org](http://matagordabaybirdfest.org)

**PALACIOS: Feb. 16 African American Heritage Day** Palacios Community Coalition presents local speakers to show contributions made and being made by the African American community of Palacios. Topics include the Historical Site Marker and Sanford Community Center. Tours may be provided upon request. *City by the Sea Museum, 401 Commerce St.* 310-650-9352; [citybytheseamuseum.org](http://citybytheseamuseum.org)

**PORT ARANSAS: Feb. 21-24 Whooping Crane Festival** The whooping crane is one of the most endangered birds in the world. The festival is open to birders, photographers, families, and anyone who loves the outdoors. The festival celebrates the annual return of the cranes to their wintering habitat. The Texas Coastal Bend is the only place where you can see the world's last naturally-occurring population of whooping cranes. Festival activities include world renowned speakers, boat tours to view the whooping cranes, interactive workshops and seminars, birding and nature boat and bus tours, a painting and wine tasting class, and a free nature-related trade show. *Port Aransas Civic Center, 710 W. Ave. A.* 361-749-5919; [whoopingcranefestival.org](http://whoopingcranefestival.org)

**PORT ARTHUR: Feb. 16 Rotary Taste of Gumbo** Experience Southeast Texas' greatest foodie asset: Cajun gumbo. There is more gumbo than you can imagine plus music, auctions, and good times rolling in the name of college scholarships. *Robert A. "Bob" Bowers Civic Center, 3401 Cultural Center Drive.* 409-985-7822; [visitportarthurtx.com](http://visitportarthurtx.com)

**PORT ARTHUR: Feb. 28-March 3 Mardi Gras Southeast Texas** Celebrate four days of traditional Mardi Gras fun with parades, concerts, food, street entertainment, arts and crafts, and much more at this family-friendly event. Downtown Port Arthur, 500 Procter St. 409-540-0482; [mardigras.portarthur.com](http://mardigras.portarthur.com)

**ROBSTOWN: Feb. 1-2 A Symphony of Quilts** The Coastal Bend Quilt and Needlework Guild of Corpus Christi is hosting a judged quilt show with more than 200 quilts on display (some for sale). Other highlights include vendors, a country store, a donation quilt, live and silent auctions, door prizes, and demonstrations. *Richard M. Borchard Conference Center, Exhibit Hall A, 1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd.* 361-290-1905; [corpuschristiquilters.com](http://corpuschristiquilters.com)

**ROCKPORT: Feb. 9 Second Saturday Art Center Market** Member artists exhibit and sell their works. Live music and food truck on site. *Downtown Rockport, 106 S. Austin*



St. 361-205-5178; [rockportartcenter.com](http://rockportartcenter.com)

**ROCKPORT: Feb. 15-17 Rockport-Fulton Market Days** More than 100 vendors and live music add extra fun during the third Saturday and Sunday of the month. There are more than a dozen food trucks and food vendors, plus seating under the shade for 48 people at this pet-friendly market. *The Festival Grounds at Rockport Harbor, 100 Seabreeze Drive. 361-463-0125; [rockportfultonmarketdays.com](http://rockportfultonmarketdays.com)*

**ROSENBERG: Feb. 15-17 The Houston Glass Show and Sale and The Best Little Antique Show in Texas** This annual show features dealers from across the nation selling glassware and pottery from 1880 to 1980. Two buildings are filled with top quality merchandise, and there is glass repair on site, food, and free parking. *Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, 4310 SH 36 S. 713-410-4780; [maxmillerantiques.com](http://maxmillerantiques.com)*

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Jan. 31-Feb. 3 SPI Kitefest** On the first weekend in February, this annual festival features an indoor kite performance along with the outdoor festival. *South Padre Island Convention Centre and The North Flats, 7355 Padre Blvd. 956-761-3000; [sopadre.com](http://sopadre.com)*

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Feb. 9 South Padre Island Chili Expo (SPICE) Chili**

**Cookoff** This cookoff and fundraising event is organized by the volunteers of Walk for Women and is guaranteed fun for lovers of chili, great music, and helping a great cause. *Louie's Backyard, 2305 Laguna Blvd. 956-761-3000; [spiwalkforwomen.org/spice-chili-cook-off](http://spiwalkforwomen.org/spice-chili-cook-off)*

**STAFFORD: Feb. 16 Greater Houston Train Show** This annual event attracts rail fans from across Texas and Louisiana. The show features 20,000 square feet of operating layouts, instructive classes, model and photo contests, train videos, and vendors from across the Southwest. *Stafford Centre, 10505 Cash Road. 713-899-5127; [sanjacmodeltrains.org](http://sanjacmodeltrains.org)*

**STAFFORD: Feb. 17 Ellie Mae's Musicale: "A Moore Family Salon"** FBSO and the Fort Bend Historical Association whisk you back in time to a musical salon given by the Moore family. *Stafford Centre, 10505 Cash Road. 281-276-9642; [fbso.org](http://fbso.org)*

**SUGAR LAND: Feb. 8-10 "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee"** Winner of a Tony Award, this witty musical follows an eclectic group of six pubescents (played by adults) as they vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. While candidly disclosing stories from their home lives, the contestants spell their way

through a series of words, hoping to never hear the soul-crushing "ding" of the bell that signals a mistake. *Sugar Land Auditorium, 226 Lakeview Drive. 713-302-5329; [inspirationstage.com](http://inspirationstage.com)*

**SUGAR LAND: Feb. 22-24 "Peter Pan Jr."** Based on the Disney film and J.M. Barrie's enchanting play, Disney's "Peter Pan Jr." is a modern version of the timeless tale about a boy who wouldn't grow up—with no flying required. *Sugar Land Auditorium, 226 Lakeview Drive. 713-302-5329; [inspirationstage.com](http://inspirationstage.com)*

**SURFSIDE BEACH: Feb. 2 Surfside Marathon** This is the only marathon and half marathon in the U.S. run entirely on a beach. The entire course is on the firm, smooth sand, which is great for running. *Stahlman Park, 2211 CR 257. 409-539-5150; [surfsidemarathon.com](http://surfsidemarathon.com)*

**TOMBALL: Feb. 2 Narrated Glass Blowing Demonstration** Houston's only open-access studio offers free, narrated glass-blowing demos on the first Saturday of every month except August. *Three Dimensional Visions—Glass Blowing Houston, 17442 FM 2920. 281-734-0366; [threedimensionalvisions.com](http://threedimensionalvisions.com)*



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**HILL COUNTRY**

**AUSTIN: Through April 30 SaddleUP—Texas Ranching & Tradition** Jump in the saddle and experience a virtual ride with real Texas ranchers who meet modern challenges while preserving their traditions. Through photographs and video, see hard-working cowboys and cowgirls come to life as they ride, rope, and rodeo the same way their parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents did before them. *Texas Capitol Visitors Center, 112 E. 11th St. 512-305-8400; texasstatecapitol.com*

**AUSTIN: Feb. 9 An Evening with Fleetwood Mac** Legendary, Grammy Award-winning band Fleetwood Mac is touring North America. The tour features the lineup of Mick Fleetwood, John McVie, Stevie Nicks, and Christine McVie along with newcomers Mike Campbell and Neil Finn. *Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River St. 512-477-6060; uterwincenter.com*

**AUSTIN: Feb. 9 Panic! At The Disco in Concert** Grammy-nominated band Panic! At The Disco stops in Austin for their Pray For The Wicked North American arena tour. The 28-city leg features support from Two Feet. *Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River St. 512-477-6060; uterwincenter.com*

**BANDERA: Feb. 7 Cowboy Capital Opry** See some Grand Old Opry-style entertainment, hosted by Gerry and Harriet Payne, and enjoy refreshments and door prizes. *Silver Sage Community Center, 803 Buck Creek. 830-796-4969; silversagecorral.org*

**BANDERA: Feb. 10 Frontier Times Museum Cowboy Camp** Bring your guitar and join in the song circle, or just sit and enjoy traditional cowboy music. Bring your own refreshments and chair. *Frontier Times Museum, 510 13th St. 830-796-3864; frontiertimesmuseum.org*

**BANDERA: Feb. 12 The Old Timers Trading Post** Meet local artists and artisans. *The Old Timer, 14178 SH 16. banderacowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Feb. 21-23 11th Street Cowboy Mardi Gras** Listen to live Cajun and country music, eat Cajun food, and participate in a gumbo cookoff, costume contest, and canine costume contest. *11th Street Cowboy Bar, 307 11th St. 830-796-3045; banderacowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Feb. 21 Cowboy Camp** Come out and enjoy the pickers circle, and join in if you wish. *Bandera Beverage Barn RV Park, 1407 SH 16. 830-796-3045; banderacowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Feb. 23 Mardi Gras Arts and Crafts Show** This Mardi Gras, enjoy an arts and crafts show on the courthouse

lawn. Proceeds benefit Arthur Nagel Community Clinic. *Bandera County Courthouse Lawn, 500 Main St. banderacowboycapital.com*

**BANDERA: Feb. 23 Mardi Gras Parade** Watch the parade's floats, horses, cowboys, feathers, masks, and plenty of beads as you stroll through downtown. *Main Street. 830-796-3045; banderacowboycapital.com*

**BOERNE: Feb. 9 Boerne Chocolate Walk** Join the Boerne community for this sweet event. The walk takes you through Boerne's downtown district where you can see firsthand the unique stores, galleries, and restaurants. *Boerne's Hill Country Mile, 100 N. Main St. 830-248-1635; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Feb. 9-10 Boerne Market Days** Since 1850, Main Plaza has been home to a magical outdoor market that blends the traditions of the Texas Hill Country with the creations of today's culture. Hundreds of festive booths display everything from collectibles and remembrances of the past to modern innovations. *Boerne's Main Plaza, 100 N. Main St. 210-844-8193; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Feb. 9 Kuhlmann-King Museum Tour** Located behind Boerne City Hall, the Kuhlmann-King house gives the public the opportunity to step back in time to see what a historic Boerne home looked like "way back when." *Kuhlmann-King House, 402 E. Blanco Road. 830-249-1033; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Feb. 9 Second Saturday Art Beat** Boerne shops and art galleries are teaming up to bring you a heart-racing fine art experience. Take a walk on the art side every second Saturday of the month. *Boerne's Hill Country Mile, 100 N. Main St. 210-954-6659; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Feb. 22 Trinity Irish Dance Company** A fusion of Ireland's vibrant and long-standing dance form and elements of American innovation, Trinity Irish Dance Company dazzles audiences around the globe with its hard-driving percussive power, lightning-fast agility, and aerial grace. *Champion High School Auditorium, 201 Charger Blvd. 830-331-9079; visitboerne.org*

**BOERNE: Feb. 23-24 Hill Country Antiques Show** This antique show features booths overflowing with the finest American antiques found in the market today. Exhibitors save their best for this nationally acclaimed antiques show. Find items to add to your collection or to decorate your home. *Kendall County Fairgrounds, 1307 River Road. 830-329-2870; visitboerne.org*

**CASTELL: Feb. 16 Castell Chili Cookoff** Have fun and try some of the best chili around. *Castell General Store, 19522 RR 152. 325-247-4100; castellgeneralstore.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Feb. 1 First Friday Art Walk** Tour fine art galleries offering special exhibits, demonstrations, refreshments, and extended viewing hours the first Friday of every month. *Various locations. ffawf.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Feb. 8-24 Wine Lovers Trail** Get tickets online to receive full complimentary tastings and wine discounts at dozens of participating wineries on this self-guided tour. *Various locations. 512-914-5561; texaswinetrail.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Feb. 15-March 3 "Monty Python's Spamalot"** This British comedy parodies the legend of King Arthur and his band of haphazard knights as they sing and dance their way through an inane divine quest for the Holy Grail. *Steve W. Shepherd Theater, 1668 S. US 87. 830-997-3588; fredericksburgtheater.org*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Feb. 15-16 Luckenbach Hug-In and Valentine Ball** Get back to the basics of love during this annual camping event with plenty of boot scootin' in the historic Luckenbach Texas Dance Hall. *412 Luckenbach Town Loop. 830-997-3224; luckenbachtexas.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Feb. 15-17 Trade Days** Shop with more than 400 vendors in seven barns to see acres of antiques, and enjoy the biergarten, live music, and more. *Across from Wildseed Farms, 100 Legacy Drive. 210-846-4094; fbgradedays.com*

**FREDERICKSBURG: Feb. 17 The Trinity Singers in Concert** This concert features 40 highly advanced chamber singers from Trinity University in San Antonio. *Fredericksburg United Methodist Church, 1800 N. Llano St. 830-990-2886; fredericksburgmusicclub.com*

**GRUENE: Feb. 10 Gospel Brunch with a Texas Twist** In the tradition of a New Orleans-style gospel brunch, enjoy awe-inspiring gospel music coupled with a mouth-watering buffet, catered by Gristmill River Restaurant and Bar. *Gruene Hall, 1281 Gruene Road. gruenetexas.com*

**GRUENE: Feb. 16-17 Market Days** Nearly 100 vendors offer uniquely crafted items and packaged Texas foods. *Various locations. gruenemarketdays.com*

**GRUENE: Feb. 21 Meet Texas' Best Winemakers** On the third Thursday of each month throughout the year, a featured winemaker showcases three of their newest released, top-selling or hardest to find



wines, alongside a craft brew hand-picked by The Grapevine staff. Samples of food for sale are provided, and each event features live music and three prize giveaways. *The Grapevine*, 1612 Hunter Road. [grapevineingruene.com](http://grapevineingruene.com)

**KERRVILLE: Jan. 25-27, Feb. 1-3 Renaissance Festival** The festival features the Last Chance Forever Birds of Prey Show, The Great Rhondini Escape Artist, food, crafts, games, and more. *River Star Arts and Events Park*, 4000 Riverside Drive. 214-632-5766; [kerrvillerenfest.com](http://kerrvillerenfest.com)

**KERRVILLE: Feb. 9 Balsam Range in Concert** This award-winning band performs traditional bluegrass with a modern newgrass revival edge. *Cailloux Theater*, 910 Main St. 830-896-9393; [caillouxtheater.com](http://caillouxtheater.com)

**KERRVILLE: Feb. 28 Symphony of the Hills in Concert** Hear the magnificent sounds of the symphony and settle down at the wine and cheese reception. *Cailloux Theater*, 910 Main St. 830-792-7469; [symphonyofthehills.org](http://symphonyofthehills.org)

**LLANO: Feb. 2 Llano Trade Days** Shop antiques, furniture, clothing, jewelry, and plenty of other goods in this climate-controlled venue. *John L. Kuykendall Event Center and Arena*, 2249 RM 152. 325-247-5354; [llanochamber.org](http://llanochamber.org)

**MASON: Feb. 2 Seaquist House Tour** Tour the historic three-story Victorian mansion. *Seaquist House*, 400 Broad St. 325-347-4058; [masontxcoc.com](http://masontxcoc.com)

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Feb. 14 Marty Stuart and Connie Smith in Concert** Back by popular demand, Marty Stuart and Connie Smith grace the stage at the Brauntex once again. Marty's band, The Fabulous Superlatives, and Connie's band, The Sundowners, share the stage for a high-energy, live show featuring rockabilly, country, and gospel hits. *Brauntex Performing Arts Theatre*, 290 W. San Antonio St. 830-627-0808; [brauntex.org](http://brauntex.org)

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Feb. 16-18 North American Jewelry and Gift Show** This event is a shopper's dream come true with beads, jewelry, gold, silver, gemstones, handmade items, clothing, handbags, accessories, gift items, imported and fashion jewelry, and vintage and estate pieces. Enjoy free wine, free parking, and free hourly prizes. *New Braunfels Civic Center*, 375 S. Castell Ave. 830-221-4100; [nashows.com/free-tickets](http://nashows.com/free-tickets)

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Feb. 16-18 Troutfest Texas** The largest event of its kind in Texas, this festival brings out a crowd of more than 3,000 people interested in fly fishing and preserving and protecting cold water

fisheries. Keynote speaker Chris Wood, CEO of Trout Unlimited, speaks to the crowd, and activities include an online silent and live auction with digital bidding, an on-site live auction, door prizes, great food, and local craft beer. *Lazy L&L Campgrounds*, 11699 River Road. 512-560-4380; [grtu.org/troutfest](http://grtu.org/troutfest)

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Feb. 22 Red Steagall in Concert** Named the Official Cowboy Poet of Texas, Red Steagall has won the Wrangler Award for original music five times and is a member of the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame. He is known for songs such as "Here We Go Again," "Party Dolls and Wine" and "Lone Star Beer and Bob Wills Music." *Brauntex Performing Arts Theatre*, 290 W. San Antonio St. 830-627-0808; [brauntex.org](http://brauntex.org)

**NEW BRAUNFELS: Feb. 28 Bee Gees Gold** This Bee Gees tribute band features John Acosta, who has performed in Bee Gees tributes all over the world. His portrayal of lead singer Barry Gibb is like no other. *Brauntex Performing Arts Theatre*, 290 W. San Antonio St. 830-627-0808; [brauntex.org](http://brauntex.org)

**SAN MARCOS: Feb. 4 Trail Riders** The Greater Randolph Area Trail Riders make their annual appearance in San Marcos as they travel to the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo. Riders enjoy lunch at restaurants around the square and dutch-oven peach cobbler is available for all attendees to enjoy free of charge. Watching the Greater Randolph Area Trail Riders ride through downtown San Marcos is always a fun, family-friendly event. *Downtown San Marcos*. 512-393-8430; [gra-trails.com](http://gra-trails.com)

**SAN MARCOS: Feb. 8 Eddie Durham Jazz Celebration and Hill Country Jazz Festival** From big bands and combos to individual instrumentalists, the Hill Country Jazz Festival features some of the best performers west of the Mississippi River. A very special portion of the festival is a celebration of Eddie Durham. Durham, a Texas jazz legend and San Marcos native, was a renowned guitarist who pioneered the use of electric guitar in jazz music. *Texas State Performing Arts Center*, 405 Moon St. 512-245-3020; [txstate.edu/jazzstudies](http://txstate.edu/jazzstudies)

**UVALDE: Feb. 8 Four Square Friday** Late-night shopping, food, live music, and art. *Historic Downtown Uvalde*. 830-278-4115; [visitualde.com](http://visitualde.com)

**WIMBERLEY: Dec. 8-9 Second Saturday Gallery Trail** Galleries in and around the Wimberley Square stay open late and offer great art, wine, and appetizers. *Wimberley Square*. 269-290-5001; [gallerytrail.com](http://gallerytrail.com)

## PANHANDLE PLAINS

**ALBANY: Through Feb. 2 "René Trevino: A New Codex"** Contemporary Mexican-American artist René Treviño creates an installation comprised of his own work alongside his personal selections from the Old Jail Art Center's Pre-Columbian collection. *Old Jail Art Center*, 201 S. Second St. 325-762-2269; [theojac.org](http://theojac.org)

**ALBANY: Through Feb. 2 "Texas Moderns: Sam Gummelt"** This exhibition highlights one of Texas' leading nonobjective abstract artists. Since the 1970s, Gummelt has committed himself to modernist investigations. Boarded storefronts, doorways, windows, and other geometric structures are the inspiration for many of his multimedia creations. *Old Jail Art Center*, 201 S. Second St. 325-762-2269; [theojac.org](http://theojac.org)

**BIG SPRING: Feb. 9 "Side by Side"** Rocky Harris brings some of his best Big Spring High School Band Students to play with professional musicians. *Municipal Auditorium*, 310 E. Third St. 432-816-5196; [bigspringsymphony.com](http://bigspringsymphony.com)

**BIG SPRING: Feb. 16 Love2Run2Love 5K** Celebrate Valentine's Day with this annual 5K that has a Valentine-themed costume contest with prizes. *Big Spring State Park*, 1 State Park Road. 432-213-0409; [permianbasinevents.com](http://permianbasinevents.com)

**LEVELLAND: Feb. 15-17 Ultimate Calf Roping** This event is a calf-roping rodeo competition. *Mallet Event Center and Arena*, 2320 US 385 South. 806-894-4161

**LUBBOCK: Feb. 3 Day the Music Died** Join in remembering the tragic plane crash that claimed the lives of Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson, and pilot Roger Peterson. This year marks the 59th anniversary of the tragedy, and the Buddy Holly Center is commemorating the anniversary with a day-long schedule of events. *Buddy Holly Center*, 1801 Crickets Ave. 806-775-3560; [buddyhollycenter.org](http://buddyhollycenter.org)

**SAN ANGELO: Through Aug. 18 Richard and Pam Salmon Sculpture Competition** The fifth biennial juried competition features 12 large outdoor sculptures. *Sunken Garden Park*, 704 S. David St. 325-653-3333; [samfa.org](http://samfa.org)

**SAN ANGELO: Feb. 1-March 30 "Early Texas Ceramics and Furniture"** A wide array of early Texas ceramics and furniture are shown. *San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts*, 1 Love St. 325-653-3333; [samfa.org](http://samfa.org)

**SAN ANGELO: Feb. 1-17 Stock Show and Rodeo** The rodeo features rough stock events such as bull riding, saddle bronc rid-

ing, and bareback riding, as well as timed events like team roping, steer wrestling, and women's barrel racing. *Foster Communications Coliseum, 50 E. 43rd St. 325-653-7785; sanangelorodeo.com*

**SAN ANGELO: Feb. 9 Family Day Lunar New Year** This free event offers hands-on art activities. San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love St. 325-653-3333; *samfa.org*

**SAN ANGELO: Feb. 17 Play It Again Concert** Listen to the West Texas Jazz Orchestra as it performs big band and jazz music. *San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love St. 325-653-3333; samfa.org*

**SWEETWATER: Feb. 2 Lift Every Voice Music Concert** This show features Derrick Amos, Afton Battle, and local gospel choirs. *Sweetwater Municipal Auditorium, 400 Locust St. 325-235-1418; sweetwatertexas.org*

## PINEY WOODS

**CROCKETT: Feb. 17 "Cinderella" by the Russian National Ballet** The Piney Woods Fine Arts Association presents the Russian National Ballet's performance of "Cinderella," composed by Sergei Prokofiev. This performance is one of his most popular and melodious compositions, inspiring a great many choreographers since its inception. "Cinderella" is notable for its jubilant music, lush scenery, and for the hilarious double roles of the stepsisters, more mad than bad in this treatment. *Crockett Civic Center, 1100 Edmiston Drive. 936-544-4276; pwfaa.org*

**LIBERTY: Feb. 2, 9, 23 Liberty Opry** Enjoy live, family-oriented musical entertainment with a different theme on every show. Popular themes include gospel, country, '50s, '60s, '70s, specialties, and always a little comedy. Food and nonalcoholic beverages are available. *Liberty Opry, 1816 Sam Houston St. 936-336-5830; libertyopry.com*

**LUFKIN: Feb. 1 Jackie Evancho in Concert** Since her debut on "America's Got Talent" in 2010 at the age of 10, Evancho has released a string of platinum and gold albums, and has performed at a White House inauguration. *Temple Theater, 3500 S. First St. 936-633-5454; angelinaarts.org*

**LUFKIN: Feb. 21 Selah in Concert** Unmatched talent, a passion for ministry, and a deep love for the church—for 20 years these have been constants for the musical force known as Selah. The group's signature hits include "You Raise Me Up" and "Wonderful, Merciful Savior." *The*

*Pines Theater, 113 S. First St. 936-633-0359; thepineslufkin.com*

**PALESTINE: Feb. 15-16 Chocolate Lovers Train Ride** The Texas State Railroad kicks off its 2019 season in February. The natural romance of the rails combined with the rich flavors of chocolate make the senses work overtime. The rest of the body is relaxed and refreshed in the comfort of a classic rail car with service by an attendant. *Texas State Railroad Park, 789 Park Road 70. 855-632-7729; texasstaterailroad.net*

**PALESTINE: Feb. 23 Mardi Gras Parade** Enjoy beautiful floats and catch beads, candy, and moon pies during the Mardi Gras Parade. Kids and families enjoy the sights and sounds of this annual event. *Palestine Main Street. 903-723-3014; visitpalestine.com*

**THE WOODLANDS: Feb. 14-18 Inspire Film Festival** The festival dedicates itself to entertaining and inspiring audiences with films and stories that celebrate the human spirit. This event offers an opportunity to have one-on-one interactions and Q&A sessions with filmmakers and film subjects. *Various locations. inspirefilmfest.com or visitthewoodlands.com*

**TYLER: Dec. 16-March 17 "Lagniappe: The Art of Letitia Huckaby"** This solo exhibition spotlights the family narratives and African American history themes prevalent in the work of acclaimed photographer and multimedia artist Letitia Huckaby. *Tyler Museum of Art, 1300 S. Mahon Ave. 903-595-1001; tylermuseum.org*

**TYLER: Feb. 1 "The Ugly Duckling"** The classic story comes to life in this modern stage production and offers hope to us all as we root for the ugly duckling who exemplifies resilience and heroism along the way to becoming a beautiful swan. The performance is for kindergarten through fourth grade students. *R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center, 3900 University Blvd., FAC 1120. 903-566-7424; cowancenter.org*

**TYLER: Feb. 4 "The King and I"** Set in 1860s Bangkok, the musical tells the story of the unconventional and tempestuous relationship that develops between the king of Siam and Anna Leonowens, a British schoolteacher whom the modernist king, in an imperialistic world, brings to Siam to teach his many wives and children. *UT Tyler Cowan Center, 3900 University Blvd., FAC 1120. 903-566-7424; cowancenter.org*

**TYLER: Feb. 9 Hit the Bricks: Second Saturday** Every second Saturday, downtown Tyler bursts with entertainment. Each month offers something new and

different. Check the website for this month's list of activities. *Tyler Downtown Square, 100 N. Broadway Ave. 903-592-1661; visittyler.com/secondsaturday*

**TYLER: Feb. 9 Kool & The Gang in Concert** With some of the greatest funky R&B tunes of the time like "Celebration," "Cherish," "Jungle Boogie," and "Get Down On It," Kool & The Gang has sold more than 70 million albums worldwide and influenced the music of three generations. *R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center, 3900 University Blvd., FAC 1120. 903-566-7424; cowancenter.org*

**TYLER: Feb. 19 "The Magic School Bus"** When the class gets lost on the way to the planetarium, Ms. Frizzle saves the day by blasting into outer space for an epic interplanetary field trip. But when rivalries both old and new threaten to tear the students apart, the young heroes must learn to pull together or risk getting forever lost in the solar system. The performance is for kindergarten through fifth grade students. *R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center, 3900 University Blvd., FAC 1120. 903-566-7424; cowancenter.org*

**TYLER: Feb. 26 Los Vivancos—Born to Dance** An international sensation, Los Vivancos are six brothers from Spain who ignite the stage with tap dance, humor, martial arts, aerial performance, musical virtuosity, and flamenco to create a spectacular stage utopia. *R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center, 3900 University Blvd., FAC 1120. 903-566-7424; cowancenter.org*

## PRAIRIES AND LAKES

**ARLINGTON: Jan. 18-Feb. 3 "Dead Man's Cellphone"** There's an incessantly ringing cell phone in a quiet café, a stranger at the next table who has had enough, and a dead man—with a lot of loose ends. So begins this wildly imaginative new comedy by MacArthur "Genius" Grant recipient and Pulitzer Prize finalist Sarah Ruhl. A work about how we memorialize the dead—and how that remembering changes us—it is the odyssey of a woman forced to confront her own assumptions about morality, redemption, and the need to connect in a technologically obsessed world. *Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St. 817-275-7661; theatrearlington.org*

**ARLINGTON: Feb. 22-March 10 "Junie B. Jones Jr."** Join Junie B. on her first day of first grade, where many changes are in store: Junie's best friend Lucille has found new best friends—and Junie B. makes friends with Herb, the new kid at



school. While in Mr. Scary's class, Junie has trouble reading the blackboard—and she may need glasses. Add in a friendly cafeteria lady, an intense kickball tournament, and a “Top-Secret Personal Beeswax Journal,” and first grade has never been more exciting. Featuring many lovable characters and fun-filled songs, this musical captures audiences and Broadway Junior performers' hearts—just as the books captivated an entire generation of students. *Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St. 817-275-7661; theatrearlington.org*

**BRENHAM: Feb. 2-10 Wine and Chocolate Trail** For four days on the first two weekends in February, your trail ticket allows you to sample two wine tastings paired with a chocolate delicacy at each of the member wineries along the Texas Bluebonnet Wine Trail. *Various locations. 979-836-3696; texasbluebonnetwinetrail.com*

**CANTON: Feb. 1-3 Civil War Reenactment** Along with this event, the Mountain offers shopping in an Old West-themed “town” with a variety of dining choices and cabins to rent for the weekend. Old Mill Marketplace has several pavilions that host vendors of all kinds. Enjoy outdoor entertainment and an Old West show and gunfight put on by The Mountains own Texans. *The Mountain at First Monday Trade Days, 542 East Dallas St. 318-455-4489; cantonmountain.com*

**CLEBURNE: Feb. 1-23 “Newsies the Musical”** Based on the real-life Newsboy Strike of 1899, this musical tells the story of Jack Kelly, a rebellious newsboy who dreams of a life as an artist away from the big city. After publishing giant Joseph Pulitzer raises newspaper prices at the newsboys' expense, Kelly and his fellow newsies take action. With help from the beautiful female reporter Katherine Plumber, all of New York City soon recognizes the power of “the little man.” *Plaza Theatre Company at Dudley Hall, 305 S. Anglin St. 817-202-0600; plaza-theatre.com*

**CLEBURNE: Feb. 7 Sip, Shop, and Stroll** Merchants keep their doors open late every first Thursday of the month. Shops offer special promotions, refreshments, and more. *Downtown Cleburne. 817-641-9861; visitcleburne.com*

**COLLEGE STATION: Feb. 5-6 “The King and I”** Two worlds collide in this musical based on the 2015 Tony Award-winning Lincoln Center Theater production. One of Rodgers and Hammerstein's finest works, “The King and I” boasts a score that features such beloved classics as “Getting To Know You,” “I Whistle a Happy Tune,”

“Hello Young Lovers,” “Shall We Dance” and “Something Wonderful.” Set in 1860s Bangkok, the musical tells the story of the unconventional and tempestuous relationship that develops between the King of Siam and Anna Leonowens, a British school teacher whom the modernist King, in an imperialistic world, brings to Siam to teach his many wives and children. *Rudder Auditorium, 401 Joe Rott Blvd. 979-845-1234; mscopas.org*

**COLLEGE STATION: Feb. 16 Eisenhower Dance Detroit** This dance company has spent the past 26 years giving life to the repertoire of internationally known choreographers, as well as the highly acclaimed work of Founding Artistic Director Laurie Eisenhower. This year, Eisenhower Dance begins a new chapter as Stephanie Pizzo assumes the role of Artistic Director of Eisenhower Dance. Established in metro Detroit by Eisenhower in 1991, the company presents an annual subscription series and tours internationally. *Rudder Auditorium, Rudder Tower, 401 Joe Rott Blvd. 979-862-5766; academyarts.tamu.edu*

**COLLEGE STATION: Feb. 23-34 “Something Rotten!”** Set in 1595, this hilarious smash hit tells the story of Nick and Nigel Bottom, two brothers who are desperate to write a hit play. When a local soothsayer foretells that the future of theatre involves singing, dancing, and acting at the same time, Nick and Nigel set out to write the world's very first musical. *Rudder Auditorium, 401 Joe Rott Blvd. 979-845-1234; mscopas.org*

**COLLEGE STATION: Feb. 26 “Frankenstein”** Written 200 years ago, Mary Shelley's “Frankenstein” was the first true science fiction novel and has inspired countless film and stage adaptations. Often thought of as just a “monster story,” “Frankenstein” raises an important question that we are still pondering today—just because it can be done, should it be done? This production of the timeless classic is bold and thrilling—while paying homage to the original, frightening writing of Shelley. You've seen it on TV, now see the story live on stage. *Rudder Theatre, 401 Joe Rott Blvd. 979-845-1234; mscopas.org*

**DALLAS: Through April 7 “Jacob Hashimoto: Clouds and Chaos”** Exploring this universally compelling phenomenon of nature, the Crow Museum of Asian Art in Dallas presents this solo exhibition's central work. “Nuvole” is a large-scale site-specific installation that is on view in Gallery III. It is the first major exhibition to debut in the newly

renovated museum, which completed a multimillion-dollar expansion including the addition of a new gallery, a reimagined Lotus Shop, interactive “street-side” Pearl Art Studio, and Center for Contemporary Leadership. *Crow Museum of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. 214-979-6430; crowmuseum.org*

**DALLAS: Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23 Winery, Chocolate, Pizza and Live Music Tour** Dallas by Chocolate presents Saturday nights on the town with a wine tasting paired with a yummy cheeseboard and great pizza at a terrific winery, followed by scrumptious desserts in some of the area's sweetest hot spots. Then check out live music at a fun venue. Includes transportation via private motor coach, food and desert samples, and beverages on the motor coach (you may also BYOB). *Two Corks and a Bottle, 2650 Laclede St. 972-814-5997; dallasbychocolate.com*

**DALLAS: Feb. 23 The Hidden Dallas Tour** Discover secret places in Dallas and check out whimsical sculptures, waterfalls, and the last home built by one of America's most famous architects. Stop along the way for delicious snacks at “insider” culinary gems. The tour includes transportation, a tour guide, snacks, and beverages on the bus. *World Market, 3888 Oak Lawn Ave. 972-814-5997; dallasbychocolate.com*

**DALLAS: Feb. 3 Taste of Bishop Arts Walking Food and Historical Tour** Sample the fun and fare of this unique neighborhood with a tour of the eclectic Bishop Arts District on foot. See colorful galleries and shops; stop at great eateries, including one that's the pitmaster's choice for best barbecue in Dallas; experience venues that may include a shrine to Bonnie and Clyde; eat tableside s'mores; and dine at other cool places (restaurants vary). Drinks beyond water are available for purchase. Minimum eight people; limit 15 people. *Hunky's, 321 N. Bishop Ave. 972-814-5997; dallasbitesfoodtours.com*

**DALLAS: Feb. 3-June 2 “Fortuny: Friends and Followers”** Centered on one of Mariano Fortuny y Marsal's (1838–1874) most well-known paintings, “The Choice of a Model” (1868-1874), this exhibition showcases the friends, family, and followers of the artist who engaged with the popular Spanish painter's work, many of whom are represented in the Meadows' rich permanent collection. *Meadows Museum, 5900 Bishop Blvd. 214-768-2516; meadowsmuseumdallas.org*

**DALLAS: Feb. 21-22 “Fighting Words”** Appropriately held the weekend after Valentine's Day, this repertoire rages, argues,

battles, and fights, all in the name of love. *Times Ten Cellars*, 6324 Prospect Ave.; and *Chocolate Secrets*, 3926 Oak Lawn Ave. 512-665-2388; [lumediamusicworks.com](http://lumediamusicworks.com)

**DECATUR: Feb. 22-24 Wise County Antique Auto Swap Meet** Check out antique vehicles at this 44th annual swap meet. *Wise County Fair Grounds*, 3101 S. FM 51. 940-389-0054; [wcaac.com](http://wcaac.com)

**DENISON: Feb. 16 Celebrate with the Presidents** Although the holiday is named for George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, we celebrate our nation's past presidents—especially Dwight Eisenhower. Take part in activities and make crafts. A Birthplace House tour is included. For youth up to age 12. *Eisenhower Birthplace State Historic Site*, 609 S. Lamar Ave. 903-465-8908; [visiteisenhowerbirthplace.com](http://visiteisenhowerbirthplace.com)

**DENTON: Dec. 7-Feb. 15 "Life Stories Told Through Quilts"** This exhibit features the work of Barbara McCraw, a retired professor, pathologist, and master quilter whose pieces have been exhibited across North America and Europe. She has created quilts celebrating figures like Nelson Mandela, Bishop Desmond Tutu, and the Obamas. Her pieces are in numerous collections including the Smithsonian, the Denton County African American museum, the Denton County Courthouse Museum-on-the-Square, the University of Michigan, and North Carolina Central University. *Gough Gallery, Patterson-Appleton Arts Center*, 400 E. Hickory St. 940-382-2787; [dentonarts.com](http://dentonarts.com)

**DENTON: Feb. 1-May 4 "Materials: Hard and Soft International Contemporary Craft Competition and Exhibition"** Recognized as one of the premier craft exhibitions in the country, this event began in 1987 and was originally initiated by area artist Georgia Leach Gough. Now in its 32nd year, the exhibition opens to international artists as it celebrates the evolving field of contemporary craft and the remarkable creativity and innovation of artists who push the boundaries of their chosen media. *Meadows Gallery, Patterson-Appleton Arts Center*, 400 E. Hickory St. 940-382-2787; [dentonarts.com](http://dentonarts.com)

**ELGIN: Feb. 2 Hatitude, Black History Month** This program celebrates the unique contributions of African Americans in Elgin. [elgintx.com](http://elgintx.com)

**ELGIN: Feb. 14 Sip, Shop, and Stroll** Sip a little wine and shop as you stroll through the stores in Historic Downtown Elgin. Find diverse merchandise, eclectic decor, artwork by local artists, and live music in many of the venues. *Downtown*. [elgintx.com](http://elgintx.com)

**ENNIS: Feb. 8-24 "My First Date"** A live theatrical performance. In life, firsts are always ingrained in our hearts as lasting memories. "My First Date" is one of those. *Theatre Rocks!*, 505 NW Main St. 972-878-5126; [theatrerocks.com](http://theatrerocks.com)

**ENNIS: Feb. 9 Czech Music Festival** The 13th annual event has a family atmosphere filled with great music by five live bands, dancing, food, and a kid zone. *Sokol Hall*, 2622 SH 34 East. 972-878-4748; [ennisczechmusicfestival.com](http://ennisczechmusicfestival.com)

**FORT WORTH: Jan. 18-Feb. 9 Stock Show and Rodeo** Established in 1896, this event attracts nearly 1 million people for the nation's oldest livestock show and daily performances of the world's original indoor rodeo. *Will Rogers Memorial Center*, 3400 Burnett Tandy Drive. 817-877-2400; [fwssr.com](http://fwssr.com)

**FORT WORTH: Feb. 23-24 Cowtown Marathon** The largest multi-event race in North Texas features distances for everyone, including 5Ks for both kids and adults, a 10K, half marathon, full marathon, and an ultra marathon. *Will Rogers Memorial Center*, 3401 W. Lancaster Ave. 817-207-0224; [cowtownmarathon.org](http://cowtownmarathon.org)

**GLEN ROSE: Feb. 12 The Lorax** This integrative program connects the story of the Lorax to an endangered Texas native, the Attwater prairie chicken, for which Fossil Rim has an onsite breeding program. This class is intended for homeschool students. *Fossil Rim Wildlife Center*, 1985 CR 2009. 254-897-2960; [fossilrim.org](http://fossilrim.org)

**GLEN ROSE: Feb. 25 Wolves Behind-the-Scenes Tour** Fossil Rim has Mexican gray wolves, red wolves, and maned wolves. Discover the habits and history of these animals, and enjoy the unique opportunity of viewing the resident wolves—possibly all species. This event is intended for homeschoolers ages 7 and up. *Fossil Rim Wildlife Center*, 1985 CR 2009. 254-897-2960; [fossilrim.org](http://fossilrim.org)

**GRAND PRAIRIE: Jan. 25-27, Feb. 1-3 Lunar New Year** Free entertainment and activities include dance performances, fire crackers, live music, multicultural performances, and children and family contests with prizes. There are lots of vendor booths as well selling decor and specialty items only available at the event. *Asia Times Square*, 2625 W. Pioneer Parkway. 469-865-2918; [asiatimesquare.com](http://asiatimesquare.com)

**GRAPEVINE: Feb. 9-10 Sweetheart Wine Trail** Take a tour of Grapevine's winery tasting rooms with your valentine. Sip wine and cozy up on a romantic journey through historic downtown. *Various locations*. 817-410-3185; [grapevinetexasusa.com](http://grapevinetexasusa.com)

**IRVING: Feb. 16 Kiarra Saito-Beckman in Concert** The Los Colinas Symphony orchestra welcomes back violinist Kiarra Saito-Beckman performing John Corigliano's "Chaconne" from the soundtrack "The Red Violin." This concert also features guest conductor Juan Carlos Lomonaco of Mexico. *Irving Arts Center—Carpenter Hall*, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. 972-252-4800; [lascolinassyphony.org](http://lascolinassyphony.org)

**MCKINNEY: Through Feb. 18 "Dinosaurs Live!"** Encounter the 46-foot T-Rex and nine new life-size animatronic dinosaurs along the nature trails. This year's exhibit also features an outdoor fossil dig. *Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary*, 1 Nature Place. 972-562-5566; [heardmuseum.org/dinosaurslive](http://heardmuseum.org/dinosaurslive)

**MCKINNEY: Feb. 5-March 22 Feathered Friends: 13 Texas Endangered and Threatened Birds** Take part in an artistic bird watch of 13 endangered and threatened native Texas bird species as represented by 13 local artists. Guests will learn about what action is being taken to save these avians. The exhibit coincides with National Wild Bird Feeding Month and the Great Backyard Bird Count. *Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary*, 1 Nature Place. 972-562-5566; [heardmuseum.org/featheredfriends](http://heardmuseum.org/featheredfriends)

**NOCONA: Feb. 21-23 Mardi Gras, Nocona Style** The celebration includes parades, food, music, and kids activities. *Downtown*. 940-825-3526; [facebook.com/mardigrasnoconastyle](http://facebook.com/mardigrasnoconastyle)

**PLANO: Feb. 22-25 Divine Consign** Shop for gently-used children's and maternity clothing, toys, books, games, baby equipment, and more. *Plano Event Center*, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. 214-384-2716; [divineconsign.net/locations/plano](http://divineconsign.net/locations/plano)

**RICHARDSON: Feb. 1 Bumper Jacksons in Concert** Folding together early styles of jazz, blues, and country swing, the group strikes a bold yet elegant balance between paying homage to the traditions and fashioning their own unique sound. *Eisemann Center*, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; [eisemanncenter.com](http://eisemanncenter.com)

**RICHARDSON: Feb. 4 "Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel: Chopin, Liszt, and Schumann"** Enjoy a piano concert with lively commentary, making the music more meaningful for all. These three great composers of the romantic 19th century were born months of one another—and each wrote some of the most love-inspired music in the repertoire including: Schumann's "Fantasy," Liszt's "Consolation," and the Chopin waltzes. *Eisemann Center*, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; [eisemanncenter.com](http://eisemanncenter.com)



**RICHARDSON: Feb. 9 Paul Taylor Dance Company** Established in 1954, the company is one of the world's most sought-after dance troupes. Mr. Taylor's dancers travel the globe, bringing his repertoire to theaters and venues of every size. *Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; eisemanncenter.com*

**RICHARDSON: Feb. 14, 15, 16 "My Funny Valentine: Pat Hazell and Dena Blizzard"** Join comedians Pat Hazell, one of the original writers for NBC's "Seinfeld" and a veteran of "The Tonight Show," and Dena Blizzard, as they come together for an evening of hilarious and heartwarming standup comedy. Topics include relationships, dating, parenting, and family life, and there will be a chance to ask for free relationship advice as Pat and Dena answer questions from the audience. A special Valentine's Day Date Night package will be available including two tickets for the February 14 performance, valet parking, dinner at Prelude Café with Champagne and a post-show meet-and-greet with the artists. This show contains mature content. *Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; eisemanncenter.com*

**RICHARDSON: Feb. 16 Plano Symphony: The Five Browns in Concert** The quintet enjoyed their first wave of critical attention in February 2002 when People magazine dubbed them the "Fab Five" at about the same time they were featured on "Oprah" and "60 Minutes." The Five Browns' first three CDs went to No. 1 on Billboard magazine's Classical Album Chart. *The Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-473-7262; planosymphony.org*

**RICHARDSON: Feb. 21 Sammy Miller and The Congregation in Concert** The Grammy-nominated drummer has become known for his relentless focus on making music that "feels good" as a drummer, singer, and bandleader. As a band, The Congregation is focused on sharing the power of community through their music—joyful jazz. This is the third return engagement for the group due to popular demand. *Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; eisemanncenter.com*

**RICHARDSON: Feb. 22 Arlo Guthrie in Concert** The artist is known to generations as a prolific songwriter, social commentator, master storyteller, actor, and activist. During the tour Guthrie will perform "Alice's Restaurant Massacre" in its entirety along with select songs from every full length studio album he has released. *Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; eisemanncenter.com*

**RICHARDSON: Feb. 28, March 1, 2 "The Best of The Second City"** This must-see show features the best sketches and songs from "The Second City's" history made famous by superstars like Tina Fey, Stephen Colbert, Steve Carell, Gilda Radner, Bill Murray, and more, as well as their trademark improvisation. This show contains mature content. *Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive. 972-744-4650; eisemanncenter.com*

**ROUND TOP: Feb. 9 Valentine's Concert with Dick Smith and Friends** Enjoy a concert for the Institute's annual library benefit. Overnight accommodations are available on campus. *Festival Concert Hall, 248 Jaster Road. 979-249-3129; festivalhill.org*

**SHERMAN: Feb. 23 Main Street Mardi Gras** Downtown Sherman hosts its annual Main Street Mardi Gras Celebration. Themed foods and drinks, plus live music are featured throughout. *Downtown Sherman. 903-892-7230; shermantx.org*

**TEMPLE: Feb. 1 First Friday** Enjoy street music and performances, drinks, food, and after-hours shopping. *Main Street. 254-298-5379; discovertemple.com*

**WACO: Jan. 26–May 12 "Very Eric Carle: A Very Hungry, Quiet, Lonely, Clumsy, Busy Exhibit"** Step into the pages of Eric Carle's colorful picture books. This exhibit features play-and-learn activities inspired by five of Carle's classic books. *Mayborn Museum Complex at Baylor University, 1300 S. University Parks Drive. 254-710-1110; baylor.edu/mayborn*

## SOUTH TEXAS PLAINS

**EDINBURG: Feb. 21–24 Fiesta Edinburg** The annual event is the Edinburg Chamber's largest celebration. Besides being a fun event for the region, the event also symbolizes an important moment in Edinburg's history: Fiesta Edinburg is known as a big party that was created to commemorate Edinburg's county seat. Major attractions such as the Heart of America Carnival, regional food, arts and crafts, plus top-notch entertainment are a large draw to the community festival. *Edinburg Municipal Park, 714 S. Raul Longoria Road. 956-383-4974; edinburg.com*

**GOLIAD: Feb. 23–24 Under the Green Flag** Living historians recreate history with an encampment depicting the 1812 Spanish siege of Presidio La Bahia. Everyone has heard of the Texas Revolution fought in 1835 and '36, but how many know of the push to make Texas independent in 1812–13? Explore the "first Texas revolution" led

by Bernardo Gutiérrez de Lara and Augustus William Magee. Visit with living historians dressed and equipped as men under the command of Gutiérrez and Magee and those of the Spanish Army. *Presidio La Bahia, 217 Loop 71. 361-645-3752*

**LAREDO: Feb. 6–9 Laredo Birding Festival** The seventh annual festival offers birders an opportunity to observe hundreds of bird species and experience the beauty of South Texas ranch land. The groups are kept small which allows for one-on-one interaction with professional field guides. The event kicks off with an evening mixer that coincides with a local art contest featuring native birds. Packages include daylong birding tours, breakfast, box lunch, and evening presentations. *Various locations. 956-718-1063; laredobirdingfestival.org*

**SAN ANTONIO: Feb. 9 Confucius Wishing Lanterns** Enjoy the ethereal experience of casting lanterns into the river in honor of loved ones, hopes, dreams, and wishes. Each eco-friendly lantern contains a floating LED candle. Decorating areas will be provided to allow guests to personalize their lanterns before casting them into the river just after sunset. *San Antonio River Walk, 600 E. Market St. 210-227-4262; thesanantonioriverwalk.com*

**SAN ANTONIO: Feb. 22–24 Texas Trail Roundup** Join an annual international walk festival featuring non-competitive walks by the World Heritage Site missions and on the famous River Walk. Walks range in length from 5K (3.1 miles) to 42K (26 miles) and are sanctioned by AVA: America's Walking Club, all to promote fun, fitness, and friendship. *Various locations. 210-325-3523; texastrailroundup.org*

**SAN ANTONIO: Feb. 2 Stampede 5K Run/Walk** The route ends at the historic La Villita where participants and visitors can enjoy live music and food before the Western Heritage Parade. *Various locations. 210-225-5851; sarodeo.com*

**SAN ANTONIO: Feb. 2 Western Heritage Parade and Cattle Drive** Step back in time, celebrate Texas, and kick-off the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo. The parade route runs through the streets of downtown San Antonio and features participants who represent the heritage of the Lone Star State and the Old West. *Downtown. 210-225-5851; sarodeo.com*

**SAN ANTONIO: Feb. 7–24 San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo** Support this iconic annual event, which in recent years has become one of the city's largest annual events with a purse just shy of \$1.5 million. *AT&T Center Grounds, 3201 E. Houston St. 210-225-5851; sarodeo.com*

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WINTER 2018-19

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