

# NEWS

from the Worcester Art Museum

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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE WAM FOR THE HOLIDAYS

(WORCESTER, Mass., November 4, 2009) – 'Tis the season to escape to a winter wonderland at Worcester Art Museum (WAM). The museum has planned a series of family-friendly holiday events including weekend concerts, themed tours, holiday art workshops, and much more. Mark your calendars now: Holidays at WAM runs from November 27 through December 31.

“Many of our visitors have childhood memories of the live concerts and festive holiday decorations at Worcester Art Museum,” said Museum Director Jim Welu. “We have restored those traditions and added a variety of family programming, workshops and extended Shop and Café hours, so our visitors can relive those memories and create new ones with their own children during this special time of year.”

**Unless otherwise noted, event costs are free with WAM admission. Highlights will include:**

Friday, November 27

- **Annual Food Drive**, free admission with donation to local shelter, 11:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 28

- **Holiday Family Photo Op**, 10:15a.m.-1:15 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m.  
Start a new family tradition by getting your family holiday photo taken alongside a work of art from the world-famous Worcester Art Museum. Our photographer will work with you to get the perfect shot. \$25 includes fee and electronic image emailed to your home. Register soon as appointments are limited. Register online at [www.worcesterart.org/Education](http://www.worcesterart.org/Education) or by calling

508.793.4333. Payment is due at time of registration.

- **Holiday Performance: Pueblo Nuevo Band**, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Feel the rhythm of the guitar, voice, percussion, and *cuatro* as you enjoy Latin American Christmas music performed by *Worcester Magazine's* Best World Music Band 2008 in the Renaissance Court. Free with Museum admission.

Sunday, November 29

- **Holiday Performance: Worcester Polytechnic Institute Vocal Performance Lab**, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute's Vocal Performance Lab, under the direction of John Delorey, brings their mixed ensemble of 20 singers to WAM's Renaissance Court. Hear Colonial American Christmas *capella* music with seasonal readings and special guest narrator from London, Peter Kenny. Free with Museum admission.

Saturday, December 5

- **Holiday Performance: Merrimack Valley Ringers**, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Led by Karen E. Leonard, listen to the brilliant sounds of The Merrimack Valley Ringers, a New England handbell and handchime ensemble accompanied by flute, keyboard and percussion as they perform sacred and secular holiday music. Their CDs "Season's Ringings!" and "Kaleidoscope" will be available for \$15 each. Free with Museum admission.

Sunday, December 6

- **Holiday Performance: Master Singers To Go**, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Celebrating holiday favorites, the Master Singers To Go, a small chorale ensemble and subset of Master Singers of Worcester, perform under the direction of Matthew Johnsen in the Renaissance Court. Free with Museum admission.

Saturday, December 12

- **Holiday Performance: Assabet Valley Chambersingers**, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Join us for a performance by a small ensemble selected from the Assabet Valley Mastersingers in the Renaissance Court. The Chambersingers perform holiday songs under the direction of Robert P. Easton. Their CD, "Assabet Valley Mastersingers" will be available for \$15, \$17 for the double- CD. Free with Museum admission.

Sunday, December 13

- **Holiday Performance: The St. Paul's Cathedral Choir & Children's Choir**, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Listen to the magical blend of soft and powerful voices as the children and adult choirs of St. Paul's Cathedral perform traditional Christmas tunes in the Renaissance Court. Under the direction of world-renown organist and pianist Ian Watson. Free with Museum admission.
- **ArtTime: Holiday Card Printshop**, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Family ArtTime for children ages 6-10 years old with an adult. Find out how to create your own printshop at home as you learn to design and print your own greeting cards using a combination of traditional printmaking techniques. This ArtTime will show you how to make multiple copies of your cards to send to friends and family. Register online at [www.worcesterart.org/Education](http://www.worcesterart.org/Education) or by calling 508.793.4333. Payment is due at time of registration.

Saturdays, December 19 and December 23

- **Santa's Helpers: Creative Kid Watch**, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Parents, do you need a little time by yourself to do some holiday shopping? Let us entertain your kids with art projects while you get some shopping done. Better yet, meet a friend for lunch or stroll the galleries. For ages 4 and up. Parents must stay on the premises. \$10 per child, pre-registration is encouraged. For information call 508.793.4333.
- **WAM Zip Trip: Christmas Tour**, 12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
It is Christmastime at WAM – our docent will take you through the galleries to discover how artists throughout time depicted Christmas around the world. Free with Museum admission.
- **Holiday Performance: Choirs & Bell Ringers, First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury**, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Under the direction of Malcolm Halliday, Minister of Music at the First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury, listen to the ethereal sounds of bell ringers and singers echoing throughout the Renaissance Court during this festive performance which includes “Navidad Nuestra” by Ariel Ramirez, with guitar and percussion. Free with Museum admission.

Sunday, December 20

- **Holiday Performance: The All Saints Choirs**, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Enjoy one of Worcester’s cultural treasures as The All Saints Choirs, led by Peter Stoltzfus Berton, perform joyous holiday music in the Renaissance Court. The 45- person ensemble includes members of the Choir of Men and Boys, the St. Cecilia Choir for Girls, and Adult Choristers.. Free with Museum admission.

Saturday, December 26

- **Holiday Performance: Black Sheep Jazz Band**, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
The Museum heads south as we welcome the New Orleans sounds of the Black Sheep Jazz Band. This fun, lively family-oriented band includes trombone, trumpet, clarinet, drums, and accordion, as well as washboard and ZuLou stick, and will be performing holiday music with a Dixieland flavor in the Renaissance Court. Free with Museum admission.

Sunday, December 27

- **Holiday Performance: Ghanaian Choir, Wesley United Methodist**, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Enjoy West African sounds from this spirited choir led by Charles Ato Brown. Dressed in traditional Kente cloth attire, they will perform native and Gospel songs in the Renaissance Court. Free with Museum admission.

Monday, December 28 – Wednesday, December 30

- **Youth December Workshops**, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Not sure what to do between Christmas and the New Year? In these workshops, children will superimpose photos of themselves into exotic animals, learn how to make cartoon characters come alive, create instruments that shake, rattle, and roll, and much more. Costs range from \$22-\$26 per and preregistration is required by calling 508.793.4333 or online at [www.worcesterart.org/Education](http://www.worcesterart.org/Education).

Thursday, December 31

- **First Night Worcester: Where the Stars Shine!** 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.  
Celebrate First Night Worcester and ring in 2010 at WAM. Create art and enjoy special

performances by the Youth Ballet of Ballet Arts Worcester, marimbist Furnito Nunoya, and a magic show by illusionist Paul Szlosek.

**Gallery Hours**

Wednesday - Friday and Sunday, 11 am - 5pm

Saturday, 10am - 5pm

3rd Thursday each month, 11 am - 8pm

**Museum Shop extended hours**

November 27 - December 31: Now open 7 days a week,  
11am - 5pm

Gift wrapping Saturdays and Sundays, 3pm -4pm

**Museum Café extended hours**

Wednesday - Saturday,  
11:30 am - 2pm

Now open Sundays, noon - 4pm

For more information about Holidays at WAM, call (508)799-4406 or visit [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org) .

Generous support provided by Interstate Specialty Products, Inc., with additional support provided by WSRS/WTAG radio.

*Located on Salisbury St., in Worcester, Massachusetts, the Worcester Art Museum opened in 1898 and is one of America's most respected art museums. The Museum is world-renowned for its 35,000-piece collection of paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, photography, prints, drawings and new media. For more information, visit our new website at [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org).*

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