

River District Holiday Events 2007



Friday, November 30th James Center's Grand Illumination

10th & E. Cary Streets, Free admission, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Come down to see Legendary Santa and Snow Queen!

The night begins at 6pm with a live countdown hosted by Lite 98

to turn on the outline lighting for fifteen downtown office buildings. The Sugar Plum Fairy from the Richmond Ballet will make a magical appearance! The VMI Marching Band will perform

holiday favorites leading up to the lighting of the REINDEER at 6:25pm. Legendary Santa will give the countdown, the lights will come on and the VMI band will lead followers into Shockoe Slip and down to the Canal Walk's Turning Basin. At 6:30pm the three caroling bears: The MOPO Bears will sing entertain children with a 25 minute performance. Don't miss Tuba Christmas, harpist Rickie Denton, the Handbell Choir from FBC Richmond, the Virginia Piedmont & Central HO Model Railroaders exhibit, Nutcracker character appearances by the Richmond Ballet, enormous local high school "Greeting Cards" and much more! This event is provided by James Center Property LLC. For more information call 804-344-3232.



Friday, November 30th Holiday Market

17th Street Farmers Market, Free admission, 5pm-9pm

Avoid the mall rush! This annual holiday shopping extravaganza features holiday wreaths, fresh cut mistletoe, gourmet desserts, handcrafted jewelry, hand-carved wooden toys, handmade ornaments, vintage collectibles, one-of-a-kind gifts and so much more! Coinciding with the Grand Illumination and the Main Street Station Open House, this last evening of the market season is the perfect destination for finding unique gifts for the holidays! Enjoy the Henrico Pops Chorus serenading shoppers from 7pm-8pm. For more information call 804-646-0477 or visit www.17thstreetfarmersmarket.com.

Friday, November 30th Main Street Station Holiday Open House

Main Street Station and new Plaza at Main Street Station, 15th & E. Main Streets, Free admission, 5pm-9pm

The City of Richmond welcomes all for a Holiday Open House with a Polar Express theme, Sgt. Santa and his helper, the Mouse King from the Nutcracker, free Kiddie train rides, hot chocolate and cookies, decorations, the tree lighting and live entertainment. Enjoy the gorgeous restored glory of Main Street Station and explore the lighted "Cathedral Walk" at the Plaza at Main Street Station and celebrate the holiday season. Event parking is available at the Station using the 15th & Franklin Street entrance for \$2. For more information call 804-646-5871.

Friday, November 30th SPARC Carols for the Community

Canal Turning Basin - Dock and 14th Streets, Free admission, 6:30pm and 7:30pm

SPARC students, families and SPARC's STAGES students from Swansboro

Elementary School will join together to sing your favorite Holiday Carols at Richmond's

Historic Canal Walk Turning Basin. SPARC (School of the Performing Arts in the Richmond Community) has been Richmond's premiere training organization for young people in acting, singing and dance for 26 years. For more information contact Erin at 804-788-6448 or ethomas@sparconline.org.

Friday, November 30th FREE Glow Necklaces for Children

Shockoe Slip, 6:30pm while supplies last

In the spirit of Celebrate Illuminate, Venture Richmond staff will be distributing red and green glow necklaces to all children. Sponsored by Venture Richmond. For more information call 804-788-6466 or visit www.venturerichmond.com.

Friday, November 30th Tree Lighting and Governor's Executive Mansion Open House

Capitol Square, Free admission, 5pm-7pm

Be there for the lighting of the state Christmas tree and tour Virginia's Governor's Mansion in its holiday finest on Capital Hill. For more information call 804-371-2642.

Friday-Saturday, November 30th-December 1st FREE Horse and Carriage Rides

Rides start and end in Shockoe Slip at the fountain at 13th and E. Cary Streets, 6pm-10pm

Clip-Clop Clip-Clop – the sound of horses' hooves on the cobblestones, jingle bells ringing, the holidays are here in Richmond's historic River District. Holiday decorated 12 passenger wagon circles Shockoe Slip and Shockoe Bottom. One round trip ride per person please. Sponsored by Venture Richmond. Call Roger at 804-769-4010 with questions.

Friday-Saturday, November 30th-December 1st Canal Boat Rides at the Turning Basin

14th & Dock Streets, \$2 per person (children 4 and under free), 6pm-9pm

Celebrate the Season on Richmond's Historic Canal! Ring in the holidays on decorated canal boats while enjoying a historic tour on the James River & Kanawha Canal. Enjoy a leisurely 25 minute tour in one of our covered boats. Santa will even join you for a ride on Friday night from about 6:30-7:30pm! For more information call 804-788-6466.

Friday, November 30th-Monday, December 31st Giant Holiday Cards on Display Downtown

The James Center (10th & E. Cary) & Richmond Public Library (2nd & E. Main), Free admission, check the hours of operation at each location

Holiday Greetings! The 5th annual exhibition of art cards will be on display downtown during the month of December. The giant cards, each created from wooden doors, are creatively designed and painted by art classes and clubs in schools from the City of Richmond, Henrico County, Chesterfield County and private schools. Sponsored by Siewers Lumber and Venture Richmond. For more information call 804-788-6466 or visit www.venturerichmond.com

Saturday, December 1st Governor's Executive Mansion Open House

Capitol Square, Free admission, 1pm-4pm

Come tour Virginia's Governor's Mansion in its holiday finest on Capital Hill. For more information call 804-371-2642.

Friday-Sunday, December 7th-9th Horse & Carriage Rides

Pick up area at 10th and E. Cary Streets (James Center), \$10 a person (children 4 and under are free – they must sit in your lap), 6pm-10pm

Clip-Clop Clip-Clop – the sound of horses' hooves on the cobblestones, jingle bells ringing, the holidays are here in Richmond's River District. We hope you and your family will join the Triple "R" Horse and Carriage for this traditional holiday treat. Each ride is scheduled on the half-hour and is approximately 25 minutes. You must reserve your seat by calling Roger Poteat at 804-769-4010.

Saturday, December 8th 15th Annual James River Parade of Lights

Libby Hill Park, corner of 28th and E. Franklin Streets, entertainment at 4:30pm, parade viewing at 6pm; and the Intermediate Terminal Dock, at Dock and Water Streets, parade viewing at 6pm

"Reflections on the James," this year's parade features festively decorated boats that cruise the parade course from Richmond to Chesterfield and Henrico counties.

Spectators from throughout the region gather at several official viewing locations, while others gather along other riverfront properties with family and friends to view the floating parade. The event has become a cherished holiday tradition for people from throughout the region. Sponsored by the James River Advisory Council. For more information call 804-717-6681 or visit jamesriveradvisorycouncil.com.

Friday-Sunday, December 14th-16th Horse & Carriage Rides

Pick up area at 10th and E. Cary Streets (James Center), \$10 a person (children 4 and under are free – they must sit in your lap), 6pm-10pm

Clip-Clop Clip-Clop – the sound of horses' hooves on the cobblestones, jingle bells ringing, the holidays are here in Richmond's River District. We hope you and your family will join the Triple "R" Horse and Carriage for this traditional holiday treat. Each ride is scheduled on the half-hour and is approximately 25 minutes. You must reserve your seat by calling Roger Poteat at 804-769-4010.

* Schedule Subject to Change