



PUBLIC RELATIONS

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'Tis the Season for Science!

Polar Express Day • Science After Hours: Home Alone • Noon Year's Eve Holidays At The Franklin Institute

Philadelphia, PA November 26, 2019 —'Tis the season for science as The Franklin Institute presents a flurry of festive programming, engaging events, and pop-up experiences throughout December. The iconic Baldwin 60000 transforms into a scene straight from *The Polar Express*, and visitors are invited to climb aboard for a guided experience with daylong activities inspired by the beloved holiday tale during **Polar Express Day**. Catapults, tarantulas, and booby traps—the worst-case scenarios from the classic film favorite *Home Alone* are explored, plus other festive fun during the holiday edition of Science After Hours. Ring in the New Year with an explosive bang during The Franklin Institute's **NOON Year's Eve bash**. Museum hours are extended, and daily programming expanded during holiday week (12/26-31) to offer even more live shows, science demonstrations, and engaging science experiences. Full holiday programming details are below.

Limited Engagement! Museum of the Moon November 30 through January 5, 2020

Suspended in the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial, **Museum of the Moon** is a photorealistic, scale model sculpture of the moon—measuring 23-feet in diameter and featuring high-resolution NASA imagery of the lunar surface that shows every cliff and crater. Created by UK artist Luke Jerram, and currently traveling the globe, Museum of the Moon is a fusion of lunar imagery, moonlight, and musical composition that encourages surprising, intimate connections between the astronomical world and fellow observers. Free during museum hours.*

Science After Hours: Home Alone

Includes admission to **The Worst-Case Scenario: Survival Experience**

Tuesday, December 3

7pm-10pm | Adults 21+

This special holiday edition of the popular adults 21+ event series celebrates the classic holiday film with an evening full of mischievous fun, worst-case scenarios, and plenty of “don’t try this at home” science pulled straight from some of the movie’s most iconic scenes. Holiday pajamas are encouraged.

Event Highlight: “Worst-Case” Quizzo with special guests David Borgenicht and Josh Piven, co-authors of the internationally bestselling book series, *The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook*.

Includes Special Exhibit! The Worst-Case Scenario: Survival Experience

With a 76,000-ball pit as its centerpiece, a horizontal climbing wall, a train car jump, lock picking challenges, and more, the family-friendly exhibit immerses you in various survival challenges to build the skills necessary to face some extreme—but possible—worst-case scenarios.

Tickets are \$25 + \$20 for members.

Polar Express Day

Saturday, December 14

10:00am-3:00pm

Relive the magic and wonder of the timeless classic holiday tale with activities inspired by the award-winning book and beloved film. Let your imagination soar as you climb aboard the authentic Baldwin 60000 locomotive for a unique guided experience. Understand steam vs. diesel and how trains move, the harmonics of sleigh bells, and why no two snowflakes are alike—plus two screenings of *The Polar Express*.

Plus! Children are invited to wear pajamas for a truly joyful experience and a \$2 holiday discount off their general museum admission ticket. Included with museum admission.

Creation Station

December 26-31

10:00am-4:00pm

Back by popular demand, **Creation Station** is a pop-up family-focused design, build and play construction area where young scientists can let their creativity run wild. Featuring giant Tinker Toys® and large Imagination Playground blocks, plus an area for building with KEVA planks and Rig Ama Jigs® —budding engineers will put their science skills to the test in this limited-time space. Included with museum admission.

Holiday Week Daily Programming

Throughout the week of December 26-31, visitors can see live shows, including Liquid Air and The Science of Fireworks, plus Random Acts of Science and more expanded daily programming to supplement the general museum experience. Included with museum admission.

NOON Year's Eve

Tuesday, December 31

10:00am-12:05pm

Ring in the New Year early this year as The Franklin Institute counts down to an explosive pre-launch to 2020. Celebrate with fiery live science shows, magic milk firework experiments, make-and-take noisemakers, plus live shows on the Science of Fireworks, and other surprises—all well before midnight on New Year's Eve. Plus, when the clock strikes NOON, what better way to close out 2019 and welcome in the New Year than with a massive ball pit explosion! Included with museum admission.

The Franklin Institute is a holiday shopping destination! Visit the **Sci-Store** for a wide variety of fun, **unique gifts** for all ages. Museum admission not required. Share the wonder of science all year with a **gift membership** to The Franklin Institute.

*Admission to the *Museum of the Moon* is free during museum hours; general museum/special exhibit tickets are required to access to the rest of the museum.

NOTE TO EDITORS: PHOTOS ARE AVAILABLE AT <https://www.fi.edu/press-room/gallery>

The Franklin Institute

Located in the heart of Philadelphia, The Franklin Institute is a renowned and innovative leader in the field of science and technology learning, as well as a dynamic center of activity. Pennsylvania's most visited museum it is dedicated to creating a passion for learning about science by offering access to hands-on



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