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## 'Tis the Season

You've likely heard the holiday classic "The 12 Days of Christmas," so we decided to adopt the theme for our annual gift guide. The 12 Ways of Christmas offers 12 lists filled with tips, gift ideas and suggestions for celebrating the season. From seasonal events and entertainment to stocking stuffer suggestions and ways to dress up your holiday table, these lists are our gift to you. We wish you all a very

*Merry Christmas.*

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## THE TENNESSEAN

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Join *Sherlock Elf* as he explores  
Santa's Best Toy Store

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**TOY  
MART**

Make sure you visit [www.phillipstoymart.com](http://www.phillipstoymart.com)  
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# 12

# Ways to get out and celebrate



December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	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	29
30	31					

Give yourself, your family or a friend the gift of theatre, music, culture and more by attending a special event during the holiday season. To search for more events, visit [events.tennessean.com](http://events.tennessean.com).

### A CHRISTMAS STORY

TPAC-Andrew Johnson Theater, Nashville  
The irresistible tale of 9-year-old Ralphie and his quest to get a BB gun for Christmas. Nov. 29-Dec. 22.  
\$42.50-\$45.  
615-782-4040.  
[www.tpac.org](http://www.tpac.org).



### CHRISTMAS AT BELMONT MANSION

Belmont Mansion, Nashville  
This historic home is dressed in Victorian finery for the holidays (through Jan. 4). Special events include Christmas Dinner on Nov. 30, Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 1 (prices not available) and Christmas Camerata Concert (free). Regular mansion tours: \$10 adults; \$9 seniors and military; \$3 ages 6-12. 615-460-5459.  
[www.belmontmansion.com](http://www.belmontmansion.com).



Photo: Ryan Glaze

>> WAYS TO GET OUT, PAGE 4



Men's Rally Moc – Dark Earth, Espresso & Black (not shown)



Captive Strap Waterproof – Cinnamon, Espresso & Black (not shown)



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## Ways to get out (continued)

### CHRISTMAS LUNCHEONS & CONCERTS

Scarritt-Bennett Center, Nashville

Enjoy a special lunch menu in the historic dining hall and listen to free Christmas concerts in Wightman Chapel. Shop for handmade gifts at Scarritt-Bennett Gifts & Books (open on Christmas Concert days). Overnight accommodations also available. Luncheons on Dec. 4-6 & 11-13 (Dec. 4, 5 & 13 are sold out); concerts Dec. 4-7 & 11-14. Lunch: \$19.99. 615-340-7500. [www.scarrittbennett.org](http://www.scarrittbennett.org).



### DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS

Downtown Franklin

Charles Dickens' Victorian world comes to life with characters in period dress, tasty treats from the era, carriage rides and a Town Sing. Admission is free; some activities require a fee. Dec. 8-9. [www.historicfranklin.com/events/dickens-of-a-christmas](http://www.historicfranklin.com/events/dickens-of-a-christmas).



### HOLIDAYS AT CHEEKWOOD

Cheekwood Botanical Garden & Museum of Art, Nashville

Cheekwood will host a variety of holiday-themed events in November and December, including holiday concerts, Santa Saturdays, Breakfast with Santa, Martinis and Mistletoe, plus cookie decorating and other activities for kids. Visit the Holiday Gift Shop for a

unique gift selection. Nonmembers: \$12 for adults; \$10 for Seniors; \$5 for ages 3-17 and college students; free for ages 2 and under. Discount for active military. \$3 for parking (free to Cheekwood members). [www.cheekwood.org](http://www.cheekwood.org).



### MARSHMALLOW HOT CHOCOLATE HIKES

Owls' Hill Nature Sanctuary, Nashville

Bundle up and bring the family for a walk in the woods followed by hot chocolate around the outdoor fireplace. Dec. 26-28, 1-3 p.m. \$7. 615-370-4672. [www.owlshill.org](http://www.owlshill.org).



### MRS. BOB CRATCHIT'S WILD CHRISTMAS BINGE

Boiler Room Theatre, Franklin

Billed as "A Twisted Christmas Carol," this somewhat irreverent take on the classic Dickens tale will leave you in stitches. Opens Nov. 30; closes Dec. 22. \$13.50-\$27. [www.boilerroomtheatre.com](http://www.boilerroomtheatre.com).

### NASHVILLE'S NUTCRACKER

TPAC-Andrew Jackson Hall, Nashville

Nashville's own version of the Nutcracker story featuring local historic people and places. Dec 9-23. \$35-\$82. 615-782-4040. [www.tpac.org](http://www.tpac.org).



### NAUGHTY AND NICE

TPAC-James K. Polk Theater, Nashville

A variety of holiday hijinks and musical fun, including holiday favorites as well as new takes on well-loved pop songs — all mixed with some naughty fun. Dec. 4. \$20. 615-782-4040. [www.tpac.org](http://www.tpac.org).



### NORTH POLE EXPRESS WITH SANTA

Tennessee Central Railway Museum, Nashville

A train ride with Santa from Nashville to Lebanon or Watertown. Nov. 24 and Dec. 8 & 15. \$21-\$75. 615-244-9001. [www.tcr.org](http://www.tcr.org).

### SCROOGE: THE MUSICAL

Town Centre Theatre, Brentwood

A charming stage production of Leslie Bricusse's screen musical adaptation of the Dickens' tale. Opens Nov. 30; closes Dec. 22. \$16-\$20. [www.towncentretheatre.com](http://www.towncentretheatre.com).



### STUDIO TENN'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

Franklin Theatre, Franklin

This production breathes new life into the Dickens classic. Features a live five-piece orchestra. Opens Dec. 6; closes Dec. 14. \$47.50, \$57.50, \$270 for cabaret table (seats four). [www.franklintheatre.com](http://www.franklintheatre.com).



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## Ways to stuff stockings

### FOR THE GARDENER

#### Solar Jar Lid Light

Perfect for lighting up a garden path or patio corner. Screw-on lid fits standard-size Mason and other type jars. Contains a water-resistant solar cell and rechargeable battery. Automatic switch activates light when it's dark. \$13.75 each at **Yarrow Acres** in Franklin.



### FOR THE BOOK LOVER

Treat your favorite bibliophile to a bookmark with a miniature book charm. Made by Nashville artist Laura Matthews, each bookmark has a tiny blank book. Some have leather or paper covers while others feature facsimiles of real book jackets. \$18 at **Parnassus Books** in Green Hills.



>> WAYS TO STUFF, 6



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