



# CHRISTMAS

in Kansas city

2011 christmas media guide

# CHRISTMAS IN KANSAS CITY



## Attractions



No where else can you show off your ice skating skills, experience 100+ years of Hallmark Cards history and watch your kids create to their hearts' content.

Many winter trips to Crown Center begin or end at the Ice Terrace, the city's only public, outdoor ice skating rink. It's steps away from the [Hallmark Visitors Center](#), where you see the J.C. Hall Christmas Tree Collection, watch those famous Hallmark commercials and even make your own bow.

Next door to the Visitors Center is [Kaleidoscope](#), a Hallmark-sponsored experience where children and their families make their own amazing art. (The Visitors Center and Kaleidoscope are both FREE!)

The holiday fun spreads to historic [Union Station](#), which is connected to Crown Center by The Link, an enclosed, climate-controlled walkway. (They're hosting the "America I Am" exhibit from October 22 to January 8.) Across the street from Union Station is the Liberty Memorial, home to the [National World War I Museum](#). And just south of that excellent attraction is [The Money Museum](#) at the Federal Reserve Bank, where you can peek into one of the region's largest cash vaults on a FREE tour.

Finally, Crown Center is just a short drive from Sprint Center concerts, shopping at the Country Club Plaza, Kansas City Chiefs football, and much more.



## Hotels

You won't find more hotel rooms in one place in Kansas City than Crown Center. Between [The Westin Kansas City](#) and the [Sheraton Kansas City](#), we've got more than 1,400 rooms in all.

The Westin is the reigning Favorite Hotel (More Than 300 Rooms) in the KC Visitors' Choice Awards. Indulge with a night in one of the hotel's suites, which recently underwent a \$1.4 million renovation. Enjoy delicious, affordable dining at The Brasserie. Other amenities include an indoor tropical garden, health club, swimming pool and tennis court.

The Sheraton is a 40-story gem, featuring unparalleled views of the city. The hotel is home to restaurants, a fitness center and pool. It's connected to the Crown Center Shops by The Link, an elevated, climate-controlled walkway.

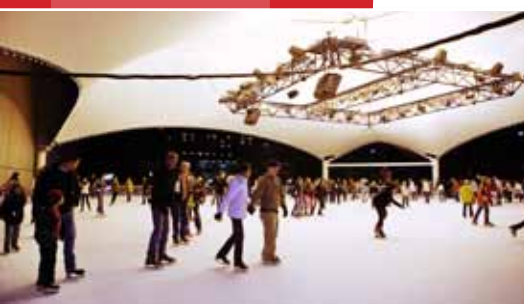


# events



## **Arrival of the Mayor's Christmas Tree ..... NOVEMBER 3**

Crown Center Square. The first sign of the holiday season arrives at Crown Center, the culmination of a journey from Oregon. The 100-foot-tall tree arrives at 9 a.m. on November 3 and is put into its stand at approximately 10 a.m. on Friday, November 4. 816-274-8444.



## **Crown Center Ice Terrace Opening Day ..... NOVEMBER 4**

Crown Center Square. Kansas City's only public outdoor ice skating rink opens for its 39th season of great skating fun. Enjoy free skating from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. on opening day! Regular admission is \$6, or free for adults over age 60 and children age 4 and under. Skate rental is \$3, or skaters may bring their own. Hours through January: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday & Saturday. Hours during February and March: noon to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday; noon to 11 p.m., Friday; 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday. 816-274-8411. (The rink is open until March 18, 2012.)



## **Santa's Arrival at Crown Center ..... NOVEMBER 25**

Crown Center Shops, Grand Boulevard entrance. Santa Claus arrives in a horse-drawn carriage to kick off the holiday season. Perry the Penguin, Casey Bear and other costume characters help greet Jolly Ol' St. Nick. Join Santa as he makes his way to Crayola Christmas Land, where he resides through December 24. FREE admission. 10 a.m. 816-274-8444.



## **Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony ..... NOVEMBER 25**

Crown Center Square. The 100-foot-tall Mayor's Christmas Tree, one of the nation's tallest, is the centerpiece for an illuminating holiday celebration. Mayor Sly James and a celebrity guest will flip the switch to light the tree. The tree is a symbol of the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund, which is dedicated to assisting the city's less fortunate. Program begins at 5:30 p.m. FREE. 816-274-8444.

After the holidays, the wood from the Mayor's Christmas Tree is made into commemorative ornaments, which are sold the following year to benefit the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund. The 2011 ornament, "Holiday Mittens," is on sale exclusively at Crown Center Customer Service beginning the day after Thanksgiving.





**Santa's Crayola® Christmas Land ..... NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 31**

Crown Center Shops Showplace, Level 1. Children can play on super-sized Crayola® products, while waiting to tell Santa all their holiday wishes. Santa is in residence November 25 through December 24. The Crayola Christmas Land play area is open through December 31. FREE admission. Photos with Santa are available for a fee. Open during Crown Center Shops holiday hours. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Closed Christmas Day. 816-274-8444.



**Santa's Gingerbread Village ..... NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 31**

Crown Center Shops Atrium, Level 1. Three locomotives travel through a Santa's gingerbread village in the North Pole, all created by the chefs at The Westin Crown Center hotel. See the reindeer stable, Santa's sleigh garage, the elves' dorm, a doll, rocking horse, and ball factory, and even Mr. & Mrs. Claus' home. FREE admission. Open during Crown Center Shops holiday hours. Closed Christmas Day. 816-274-8444.



**Weekday Holiday Choirs ..... NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 16**

Crown Center Shops Atrium, Level 1. Beautiful music fills the halls of Crown Center, as more than 130 area school, church and community choirs perform during weekday lunch hours and weekday evenings. FREE admission. 816-274-8444.



**Musical Fun For Kids ..... DECEMBER 3, 10, 17**

Crown Center Shops Atrium, Level 1. Enjoy holiday music for kids and families on three Saturdays in December with The Doo Dads (December 3), Jim Cosgrove, aka Mr. Stinky Feet & The Hiccups (December 10) and Dino O'Dell and the Veloci Rappers (December 17). Shows at noon and 2 p.m. FREE admission. 816-274-8444.

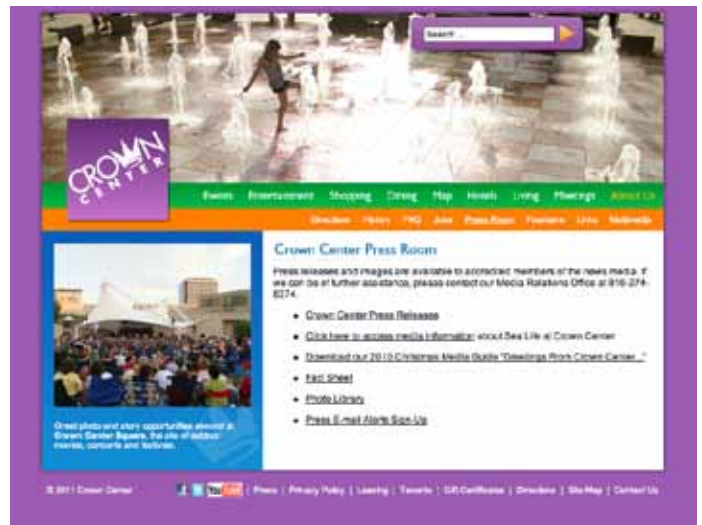
press room



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# theatres



Recognized by TIME magazine as one of the nation's top five theatres for young audiences. Level 1 of the Crown Center Shops.

## coterie theatre

**Seussical**..... **NOVEMBER 1 – DECEMBER 31**

The plots of "Horton Hears a Who" and "Horton Hatches the Egg" are tunefully interwoven in this widely celebrated and critically acclaimed production. The Coterie was credited in *The New York Times* for originating this version "for all ages"... a true family classic!" Part of the Coterie's Family Series. 816-474-6552 or [CoterieTheatre.org](http://CoterieTheatre.org).



Located on Level 3 of the Crown Center Shops, the American Heartland Theatre has been Kansas City's place for awesome Broadway-style shows for 25 years.

## American Heartland theatre

**The Marvelous Wonderettes** ..... **NOVEMBER 4 – DECEMBER 24**

Everyone wants the perfect prom night. But when the entertainment fails to show up for the 1958 Springfield High Prom, it's up to The Wonderettes to save the night, with such hits as "It's My Party," "Alleghany Moon," "Dream Lover" and more. An unforgettable musical trip down memory lane for the whole family! 816-842-9999 or [AHTKC.com](http://AHTKC.com).

## off center theatre

**"A Spectacular Christmas Concert"** ..... **DECEMBER 1-18**

Presented by Musical Theater Heritage, their holiday offering will feature special songs from movies and musicals. Bring your family for a special holiday memory! Call 816-842-9999 or visit [AHTKC.com](http://AHTKC.com) for tickets.



Some of the area's finest acting and singing troupes make their home at Off Center Theatre, located on Level 3 of the Crown Center Shops.

## screenland crown center

**Family Fun Holiday Movies**..... **NOVEMBER 25 - JANUARY 5**

Screenland Crown Center offers a great family movie every Thursday through Sunday. The lineup: "The Smurfs" (November 25-27, December 1), "Zookeeper" (December 2-4 and 8), "Mr. Popper's Penguins" (December 9-11 and 15), "Spy Kids 2" (December 16-18 and 22), "The Polar Express" (December 23-25 and 29), "Dolphin Tale" (December 30-January 1 and January 8). Showtime is 2 p.m. \$3 admission. Add a small popcorn and juicebox or small soft drink for just \$2 more. 816-545-8034 or [Screenland.com](http://Screenland.com).

# shops & restaurants



*Bring your Christmas list to Crown Center, or make one while you're here!*

## shopping

Amy's Hallmark  
[Bacara Designs](#)  
[Bath & Body Works](#)  
[Best of Kansas City](#)  
Club 223  
Crayola® Kansas City  
Express Yourself  
Feathered Nest  
[Finishings For Her](#)  
[Function Junction](#)  
[Gatos Cat Boutique](#)  
[Gifted Hands Gift Shop & Gallery](#)  
[Halls for Her](#)  
[Halls Downstairs](#)  
[Halls The Store for Men](#)  
Holiday Magic  
The Missing Piece  
Mobile Solutions  
Orion Golf  
[Pen Place](#)  
Playful Paws  
Quen Stone Jewelry  
[RAGZ](#)  
Russian & European Giftware  
[Sage & Daisy](#)  
[Shang Tea Co.](#)  
[Sportibles](#)  
Toy Time  
[Victoria's Secret](#)  
Vinone's  
[Wilderness Reflections](#)

## fun food

[Big Momma's Bakery-Café](#)  
[The Candy Store](#)  
[Chip's Chocolate Factory](#)  
[Crayola® Café](#)  
[d'Bronx](#)  
[Einstein Bros. Bagels](#)  
[Fritz's Railroad Restaurant](#)  
Greek Food, Ltd.  
K.C. Bar B.Q.  
Pak Ling Express  
[Panera Bread](#)  
Potatoes and More  
[Sheridan's Lattés & Frozen Custard](#)  
Spectators (Sheraton)  
[A Streetcar Named Desire](#)  
Taste of Philly  
The Terrace (Sheraton)  
[Three Little Pigs BBQ](#)  
[Topsy's Shoppes](#)  
[Z•TECA](#)

## fine dining

[The American Restaurant](#)  
[The Brasserie \(Westin\)](#)  
[Kabuki](#)  
[Milano](#)

## services

The Apothecary  
[Caricature Entertainment](#)  
[Crown Center Customer Service](#)  
[Naturally Salon and Day Spa](#)  
[Sciandrone's Classic Touch Florist](#)

