



City of Manassas, Virginia
9027 Center Street, Manassas, VA 20110

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**December Happenings at the Manassas Museum
and Around the City**

City of Manassas, VA . . . The Manassas Museum features not only history, but great experiential learning with seminars, talks, tours and more.

Nov. 30 from 5-8 p.m. – Holiday Open House on the Lawn of the Manassas Museum. As part of the **Santa Lights Manassas** festivities, enjoy cookies in the Museum courtyard and a 10% discount at Echoes the Manassas Museum Store.

Nov. 30 from 5:15 to 8 p.m. – **Santa Lights Manassas**. This event has been a fixture in the community for more than 25 years. The night begins with festive music on the Museum Lawn followed by Santa's arrival by VRE train. Santa is delivered by wagon to the Manassas Museum Lawn where he hits the switch to light up the City tree. Shortly after the annual tree lighting, Santa and Mrs. Claus greet children and listen to their wishes at the Gazebo next to the Harris Pavilion. The Harris Pavilion Ice Rink will be open for skaters.

Dec. 1, 10 a.m. don't miss the **73rd Annual Greater Manassas Christmas Parade**. With more than 100 participating bands, floats, balloons and dancers, the parade sets the mood for the holiday season. For more information, visit gmchristmasparade.org.

Dec. 2, 1:30 p.m. join the Manassas Museum for ***We Once Met By Chance: Four Life Stories of the American Civil War***, a free book talk about the lives of John S. Mosby, a Confederate officer from Virginia assigned to lead guerrilla activities; Charles Russell Lowell, a Massachusetts native and Harvard graduate from a prominent abolitionist family sent to Virginia to capture or kill Mosby; Laura Ratcliffe, a young Northern Virginia woman who spied for Colonel Mosby; and James Robinson, an African American living with his family in Manassas on land that would become the central part of the battleground for two of the major battles during the Civil War.

Dec. 5 – Feb. 23 the Manassas Museum will feature a new exhibit called **True Sons of Freedom**. This is the Library of Virginia photographic exhibition that features images of African American soldiers from Virginia who served in World War I.

Dec. 8 at 4 p.m. discover how the holidays were celebrated in wartime and peace at the 1825 historic Liberia House. Advance tickets are required and may be purchased at manassasechoes.com by phone at 703-368-1873, or at the museum.

Dec. 12 – 16 visit the **Winter Wonderland Train Show**. It's free for all ages. Relive the wonder of childhood holidays at the Winter Wonderland Model Train Show at the Center for the Arts at the Historic Candy Factory, 9419 Battle St. The National Capital Trackers set up their O gauge trains amid an elaborate winter fantasy background for the annual display. Hours are:

December 12, Wednesday 5 - 8 p.m.;

December 13, Thursday 5 - 8 p.m.;

December 14 Friday 5 - 8 p.m.;

December 15 Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.;

December 16, Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

end