

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 14, 2025

Contact: Taylor Henderson, 757/728-5316

taylor.henderson@hampton.gov

Jingle, Shop, Ride & Cheer: Hampton's Season of Holiday Smiles is Here!

Hampton, VA—Celebrate the season in Hampton, where holiday cheer comes alive for the whole family with a lineup of festive favorites. With free events, special activities for kids, and plenty of opportunities to support small businesses, this holiday calendar offers something bright and merry for all! Make sure to mark your calendars!

[4th Annual Whimsical Winter Wonderland](#)

Saturday, November 22, 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Hampton Coliseum

1000 Coliseum Drive

Prepare for a day of pure enchantment at the 4th Annual Whimsical Winter Wonderland! This FREE, festive celebration promises endless fun for the whole family. Delight in indoor activities like roaming characters, photo booths, face painting, and carnival games, or head outside for “snow” flurries, a petting zoo, and massive inflatables including a 30-foot snowman, mazes, and slides.

[Winter Whimsy at the Hampton Carousel](#)

Tuesday, November 25 - Wednesday, December 31, 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Hampton Carousel

602 Settlers Landing Road

Enjoy a magical experience with festively decorated horses, classic holiday tunes filling the air, and a complimentary candy cane to sweeten every visit. Each ride is just \$1, making it the perfect and affordable way to create new holiday memories before the carousel closes for the winter!

[31st Annual Holiday & Kwanzaa Marketplace](#)

Thursday, December 4, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday, December 5, 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 6, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Hampton University Museum

200 William R. Harvey Way

Get a head start on your holiday shopping and discover unique treasures at this special event! Explore a diverse selection of handcrafted items and exquisite artwork, perfect for finding that one-of-a-kind gift. Join us at this historic location to support talented

local craftsmen and artisans, all while enjoying the museum's captivating art exhibitions. This event is open to the public.

Santa's Attic

Friday, December 5, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Hampton City Hall - Lobby

22 Lincoln Street

The Hampton Department of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services presents its annual Santa's Attic Arts and Crafts Show every December. Shop one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted items made by local artisans. Grab-and-go lunch and holiday treats will be available for purchase. Admission is FREE!

Applications for vendors are now open! Don't miss out, [apply](#) before it's too late. The deadline is November 25, 2025.

Phoebus Holiday Illumination & Craft Market

Saturday, December 6, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Mellen Street, Phoebus

Kick off the holiday season in Historic Downtown Phoebus with handmade gifts from local artisans, delicious bites from your favorite trucks or Phoebus restaurants, and lively tunes from a local DJ, all while enjoying adult beverages and free hot chocolate for the kids with a special visit from Santa! And don't miss the magical lighting of the Phoebus Christmas tree at dusk!

Hampton Holly Days Parade

Saturday, December 6, 5:00 p.m. STEP OFF

Downtown Hampton

Ring in the Holiday season in Hampton with the Holly Days Parade. Watch as illuminated floats, marching bands, community groups and organizations light up the night and the downtown area. Join us for the longest-running illuminated holiday parade on the Peninsula spreading magic and cheer through the streets of Hampton.

Jane Monheit: The Merriest

Saturday, December 6, 7:30 p.m.

The American Theatre

125 East Mellen Street

An Unforgettable Jazzy Christmas! The GRAMMY-nominated jazz vocalist with the silken voice, and masterful sense of swing returns with a concert celebrating Christmas and holiday favorites!

Grand Holiday Bazaar

Friday, December 12, 12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14, 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Hampton Roads Convention Center

1610 Coliseum Drive

The Grand Holiday Bazaar returns to the Hampton Roads Convention Center for its second year, bringing together a curated mix of local and regional vendors offering handcrafted gifts, seasonal decor, gourmet treats, and artisan products; with buy one get one (BOGO) tickets available [online](#), new earlier hours, and a warm, welcoming atmosphere!

Mark your calendar and bring your friends and family for a weekend of joyful browsing, shopping, and celebrating the season!

Hampton for the Holidays: 12 Days of Yule, Hearth and Herald

Friday, December 12, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Hampton History Museum

120 Old Hampton Lane

Hampton for the Holiday is back – join Msesippi’s Tornado Bait and friends for “Hampton for the Holidays: The 12 Days of Yule, Hearth and Herald,” created and directed by Msesippi and hosted by K’Bana Blaq, as the museum transforms into a living celebration of Yule filled with story, song, and community spirit.

The evening features Anita Darling, Lori Creek, and Esmaralda from Visual Artistry Entertainment, Eric Quintin’s traditional Taiko drumming, humorist Anthony Burcher, U Rock Art, Harold the Magician, Imara Gabe Diaz, and former WVEC talent Joe Flanagan reading an original holiday piece by Hampton City Communications Coordinator Mike Holtzclaw, and Unk Al joining as Winter’s Trickster to close the night.

Admission is FREE for members, and \$5 for non-members.

Downtown Hampton Lighted Boat Parade

Saturday, December 13, 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Downtown Hampton Docks/Maritime Center

710 Settlers Landing Road

The Hampton River will come to life, as a fleet of decorated boats parade past the Downtown Hampton waterfront, offering a festive evening for families and spectators alike. Santa is set to arrive at 5:00 p.m. to kick things off at Santa’s Boathouse where families can take their own photos and kids may enjoy free face paintings.

As the parade begins at 7:00 p.m., a holiday DJ will keep the holiday spirit bright with festive tunes while the illuminated boats cruise by. The evening will wrap up with an

awards ceremony beginning at 8:30 p.m., recognizing the most creative and dazzling boats, plus a final chance to visit Santa before he sets sail for the season.

Hampton Roads Philharmonic: Winter Classics and Holiday Favorites!

Sunday, December 14, 2:30 p.m.

The American Theatre

125 East Mellen Street

Celebrate the magic of the season with the Hampton Roads Philharmonic's annual Winter Classics and Holiday Favorites concert. This program blends the enchanting charm of winter-inspired classical music with the heartwarming sounds of beloved holiday and Christmas tunes.

Two highlights of the afternoon will be the winner of our annual Golden Baton raffle taking the podium to conduct Leroy Anderson's lively Sleigh Ride and a surprise guest narrator to recite 'Twas the Night Before Christmas with live orchestra.

This concert is a light, bite-sized performance to delight the whole family. Tickets can be purchased [here](#).

Hampton Holiday Fine Arts Bazaar

Saturday, December 13 - Sunday, December 14, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Charles H. Taylor Visual Arts Center

4205 Victoria Boulevard

Join us for the 4th annual Hampton Holiday Fine Arts Bazaar. The opening of the Small Works Exhibition will be accompanied by this free two-day fine arts bazaar featuring original, handmade works from artists around the region. Come meet the artists and shop for extra special holiday gifts!

New Year's Eve Crab Pot Drop

Wednesday, December 31, 9:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

Downtown Hampton

Ring in the new year in classic Hampton style with the traditional dropping of the crab pot downtown. The celebration will start at 9 p.m. and will run until 12:30 a.m. at the intersection of Queen and Wine streets. The free event will include live entertainment, a 360 Photo Booth, and lots of food and drink available for purchase from local vendors.

###

Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with

the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Science Center, Fort Monroe National Monument, Hampton History Museum, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.