

The Monthly Special

By: PHL – OSE

December 2015



Photo by: M. Fischetti

The Office of Special Events

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From all of us here at the Special Events Taskforce, we'd like to wish you a very happy, healthy and fun holiday season. Enjoy your festivities and celebrations galore as we welcome the last month of the year. Remember to use the buddy system when attending events and be sure to have your designated driver on call. We look forward to bringing you lots of exciting news and more events in the coming new year. Thanks for being a part of our #TheMonthlySpecial family.



Happy Holidays!

Spreading Holiday Cheer

By: Olivia Gillison

December is a month about family, cheer and reflection on many levels. It's important to take time and share your thoughts with friends and loved ones. It is also a month to look back on all that you've accomplished in the past year, while looking ahead and setting new goals for the upcoming year.

As we celebrate our year in review, I hope that you will spend this holiday season with as many of your friends and family as possible. Take advantage of all the great holiday events happening in Philly by keeping up with our calendar of events. But, most importantly, go out and share the holiday spirit with others.

"The best way to spread Christmas cheer is for singing loud for all to hear." - Buddy, the Elf. What great advice Buddy! I think the Dunkin' Donuts 6abc Thanksgiving Day Parade accomplished just that and more. With so many great songs and performances, it was very clear that it's the most wonderful time of the year. Here's an inside look at some of the great scenes from the 96th annual parade this year.



A Look Back On 2015



For Philadelphia, 2015 has been a groundbreaking year—one that has put our City on the map as a world-class destination. Featured above are just a handful of some of the standout moments that have made 2015 such a memorable year for us.

The Office of Special Events has issued over 600 Festival Street Closure Permits, can you believe that? Over 600 festivals have taken place this year throughout our City—including community gatherings, cultural traditions, holiday celebrations and plenty more to be proud of!

Our Office has also seen its fair share of parades and runs. This year alone over 200 parades and over 50 runs/walks occurred. How amazing it is to see our City residents joining together for such inspiring causes like the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Awareness as pictured above.

All of these events, parades and runs went off without a hitch thanks to the tireless effort and collaboration of the City of Philadelphia Special Events Taskforce, made up of 16 different City Operating Departments including Licenses and Inspections, Public Property, Fire, Police, Risk Management, Law, Health, Parks and Recreation, Streets Sanitation, Streets Right of Way, the Office of Innovation and Technology, the Office of Emergency Management, Philadelphia Parking Authority, the Office of the City Representative, and SEPTA.

On the Horizon

December's Event Agenda

December 1st – 7th

Christmas Village – 1599 JFK Plaza (11/21-12/27)

Passyunk Avenue Tree Lighting Ceremony – 1500 East Passyunk Ave (12/3)

7th Annual Holiday Lighting Ceremony – 1500 Wadsworth Ave (12/4)

Elfreth's Alley 'Deck the Alley' – 100 Elfreth's Alley (12/5)

Mayfair CDC Christmas Village & Tree Lighting Ceremony – 3500 Ryan Ave (12/6)

Holiday Lighting Ceremony – 2300 Ridge Avenue (12/7)



December 8th – 14th

East Passyunk Ave 'Arctic Ave' – 1200 East Passyunk Ave (12/12)

Patriot Games – Various locations throughout the City (12/11-12/12)

Army-Navy Pep Rally – Shops at Liberty Place (12/11)

USAA Army-Navy Boxing Classic – Pennsylvania Convention Center (12/11)

ESPN College Game Day – TBD (12/12)

Army-Navy Fan Fest – Lincoln Financial Field (12/12)

116th Army-Navy Game – Lincoln Financial Field (12/12)

December 15th – 31st

Annual Holiday Toy Drive Delivery – 1900 Cherry St (12/19)

SugarHouse New Year's Eve Fireworks on the Waterfront – Penn's Landing Riverfront Area (12/31)

January and Beyond...

To kick off 2016 we must first offer a huge Thank You to Mayor Michael Nutter and his Administration. It has been an honor to work with such amazing people and we are utterly grateful for the support they provided year after year for all of the events our City has hosted. We would also like to extend a congratulations to our new Mayor Elect Jim Kenney. We look forward to working with you and your team and are excited to see your vision for our City.

The countdown has already began to the 2016 Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts—which will take place in April and feature some of the most talented artists, performers, and musicians in our City.

The 2016 Summer Olympics take place in Rio this year! Be on the lookout for exciting Olympic festivals and viewing parties that are sure to hit our streets.

Philadelphia has been selected as the Host City for the 2016 Democratic National Convention, which will take place at the Wells Fargo Center during the last week of July, leading up to the Presidential Election.

But let's not get too far ahead of ourselves. We still have one month left of 2015, so if there's anything you forgot on your 2015 To Do List, now's the time! Happy Holiday's and see you next year!

For a full detailed list of events, please visit the Calendar on our website!