



December at the Vanderbilt Museum: Twilight Tours of the Decorated Mansion, Winter Workshops for Children

CENTERPORT, N.Y. (December 18, 2018) – Guided tours of Rosamond and William Vanderbilt's *Eagle's Nest* decorated mansion and creative workshops for children are on the December calendar at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum.

The grand 24-room, Spanish Revival house, one of the last of Long Island's Gold Coast mansions, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Each year, local designers and garden clubs deck the mansion halls.

The decorators create magic in the rooms with lighted trees, ornaments, wreaths, ribbons, poinsettias, garlands, toys, and elegantly wrapped faux gifts. Visitors can see the captivating results from now through December 30.

Guides take guests on tours of the Mansion on Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday (and Wednesday-Sunday, December 26-30 during school vacation) at regular intervals between 12:30 and 3:30 p.m.



Vanderbilt Mansion Library

Vanderbilt Museum photos



Making Winter Solstice lanterns

Special Twilight Tours of the Mansion will be given on Thursday and Friday, December 27 and 28, from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

To purchase tickets, visit vanderbiltmuseum.org and click on Events. Admission: \$10 for adults, \$9 for students and seniors (student ID, or age 62 plus) and \$5 for children 12 and under.

This event is a treat for visitors, and the only time of the year the Vanderbilt family's private living quarters can be seen at night. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served.

Workshops for Pre-K through Grade 3

There's still time to register your Pre-K through 3rd Grade children for workshops on December 26, 27 and 28

where they can learn, create and have fun.

The workshops, sponsored by Northwell Health, are offered by the Education Department at the Vanderbilt Learning Center, located on the Museum grounds at 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, N.Y.

All workshops are from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Fee: \$20 / \$18 members. Advanced registration is required. **To register, or get more information, please call 631-854-5539.**

Grades K-3

December 26

The Winter Solstice and Glowing Lantern

Visit the decorated Vanderbilt Mansion, observe the sun with a solar telescope, learn about the winter solstice, and make a working lantern.

December 27

Animals at Night and Moonlight Diorama

Learn how animals adapt to less light, observe the sun with a solar telescope, and create a nocturnal diorama.

Preschool with Adult

December 28

Starry Night Snow Globe

Explore the wildlife dioramas, learn how animals adapt to less light, and make a snow globe.

MUSEUM AND PLANETARIUM INFORMATION

(Museum administrative office hours: Monday through Friday, 10:00 to 4:00. Closed weekends and holidays. For information, call 631-854-5579.)

WINTER 2018-2019 HOURS

Hours - Museum and Mansion

November 5 – April 1: Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Mansion tours given at 12:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00. Admissions close at 4:00 p.m. Grounds close at 5:00. *(The Museum and Mansion are closed on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Planetarium open Friday and Saturday nights).*

Open Monday, November 12 (Veterans Day weekend), Friday, November 23 (day after Thanksgiving), **Wednesday-Sunday, December 26 – 30 (school vacation)**, and Monday, January 21, 2019 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day).

Hours - Charles and Helen Reichert Planetarium

November 4 – April 1: Daytime shows Tuesday, 2:00; Saturday and Sunday, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. Evening shows Friday at 8:00, 9:00 and 10:00 p.m. and Saturday at 7:00, 8:00, 9:00 and 10:00 p.m. *(The Planetarium is closed Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.)*

Museum Admission

General museum admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for students with ID and seniors (62 and older), and \$5 for children 12 and under. General admission includes estate-grounds access to the Marine Museum (closed temporarily for renovation), Memorial Wing natural-history and ethnographic-artifact galleries, Nursery Wing, Habitat Room, Egyptian mummy and Stoll Wing animal-habitat dioramas. For a mansion tour, add \$6 per ticket. (A video tour of the mansion is available on request.)

Mansion Tours

Guided tours of the Vanderbilt Mansion -- listed on the National Register of Historic Places -- are available Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday at 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00.

Planetarium Admission

During the day, visitors to the Planetarium pay general museum admission (\$7 for adults, \$6 for students with IDs and seniors 62 and older, and \$3 for children 12 and under), plus \$6 each for a Planetarium show. For evening Planetarium shows on Friday and Saturday, visitors pay \$10 for adults, \$9 for students with IDs and seniors 62 and older, and \$8 for children 12 and under.

Location and Website

The Vanderbilt Museum is located at 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, NY. Directions and updated details on programs and events are available at www.vanderbiltmuseum.org. For information, call 631-854-5579.)

Images

Available upon request. Call Patrick Keefe at 631-854-5562.

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum -- a unique combination of mansion, marine and natural history museum, planetarium and park -- is dedicated to the education and enjoyment of the people of Long Island and beyond. This mission is achieved through the thoughtful preservation, interpretation and enhancement of the Eagle's Nest estate as an informal educational facility. Many exhibition and program themes focus upon Long Island's Gold Coast Era. Programs also concentrate on William K. Vanderbilt II's desire that his marine, natural history and ethnographic collections promote appreciation and understanding of the marvelous diversity of life, other cultures, and scientific knowledge. Planetarium programming, more specifically, focuses on scientific knowledge and seeks to capture Mr. Vanderbilt's sense of adventure and exploration through state-of-the-art entertainment.

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