



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR &  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Deanna J. Santana

**SUBJECT:** City Administrator's Weekly Report

**DATE:** December 7, 2012

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### INFORMATION

Following are the key activities to be highlighted this week:

***Mayor's Town Hall Meeting*** – On Wednesday, December 5, Chief Howard Jordan joined Mayor Jean Quan, Deputy Mayor Sandre Swanson, Councilmember Pat Kernighan, City Administrator Deanna J. Santana and others at the Mayor's Town Hall Meeting for Council District 2 at Edna Brewer Middle School. Community members received an overview of crime prevention and public safety strategies. Additionally, community members chose one of many small group "break-out" sessions where neighborhood or beat specific topics were discussed, including economic development and employment, and crime trends and solutions. Crime reduction was the main topic for neighborhoods, and was the main priority by Chief Jordan and Department commanders and neighborhood officers. Ongoing initiatives and solutions were shared, ranging from short-term, focused violence reduction plans to long-term solutions such as Operation Ceasefire and the community led "Dear John" anti-prostitution campaign. The ongoing collaboration to strengthen officers on our streets through California Highway Patrol and Alameda County Sheriff's Department was presented along with the current plan to build the Department's strength to the level the City needs. Fifty-one officers are currently attending an academy with another academy set to begin in March 2013. For more information, please contact Sergeant Chris Bolton at 510-238-3131 or [cbolton@oaklandnet.com](mailto:cbolton@oaklandnet.com).

***First CityCamp Oakland Unconference a Success*** – On Saturday, December 1, approximately 120 professionals and residents connected at the First CityCamp "Unconference" to re-imagine how the web, online applications and technology will shape the future of Oakland. Staff from 11 City agencies participated in the event. Mayor Jean Quan, Councilmember Libby Schaaf and Councilmember-elect Noel Gallo attended. City Administrator Deanna J. Santana delivered the closing keynote address. Hosted by OpenOakland, a Code for America Brigade, the "Unconference" saw impromptu sessions emerge through a collective effort to pinpoint ideas most relevant to participants, including issues such as web-driven transparency and open data, civic engagement and new ways to celebrate Oakland's unique community and flavor. Business representatives and techies from Code for America received a crash course on City Government 101, presented by Karen Boyd, the Citywide Communications Director, while city employees were exposed to new technological possibilities to enhance efficiency and accountability. In short, the event was a remarkable mix of problem solvers eager to address issues head on through collaboration and innovation. The City of Oakland can look forward to a whole new

push in communications, data, transparency and ease of access because of these people's efforts to work with us and join in the larger civic conversation. Participants and others interested in joining the conversation can share their ideas at [www.engageoakland.com](http://www.engageoakland.com) or come to an OpenOakland Tuesday night meet-up in City Hall. For more information, please contact Nicole Neditch, Online Engagement Manager, at [nneditch@oaklandnet.com](mailto:nneditch@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-2105.

***Driving Under the Influence and Drivers License Checkpoint Planned*** – On Sunday, December 16, the Oakland Police Department (OPD) Traffic Unit will be conducting a DUI/Drivers License Checkpoint at an undisclosed location within the city limits between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. DUI checkpoints are a proven enforcement tool effective in reducing the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol-involved crashes. Research shows that crashes involving alcohol drop by an average of 20 percent when well publicized checkpoints are conducted often enough. Officers will be approaching drivers passing through the checkpoint and looking for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment. Officers will also check drivers for proper licensing and will strive to delay motorists only momentarily. Drivers caught driving impaired can expect jail, license suspension and insurance increases, as well as fines, fees, DUI classes and other expenses that can exceed \$10,000. According to the National

Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), checkpoints have provided the most effective documented results of any of the DUI enforcement strategies, while also yielding considerable cost savings of \$6 for every \$1 spent. Checkpoints are placed in locations that have the greatest opportunity for achieving drunk and drugged driving deterrence and provide the greatest safety for officers and the public. Funding for this checkpoint is provided to OPD by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the NHTSA, targeting those who still don't heed the message to designate a sober driver. For more information, please contact the OPD Media Relations Office at [opdmedia@oaklandnet.com](mailto:opdmedia@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-7230.

***Help Bring Holiday Joy to Oakland's Children by Donating to the Mayor's Community Toy Drive*** – Until December 23, the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Mayor's Community Toy Drive is accepting donations to provide holiday gifts to children whose families are unable to afford gifts. The Oaklanders Assistance Center, with help from the Oakland Fire Department, has organized one of the city's largest toy distribution sites. In 2011, more than 11,000 toys were provided to over 5,400 children from low-income families. There are two ways to help – made a tax-deductible contribution or donate toys. While many toys are donated directly to the Mayor's Community Toy Drive, each year additional toys – especially for older kids – are purchased from local toy stores. A tax-deductible monetary donation ensures the purchase of these needed toys. To make a secure, online donation, visit [www.oaklandnet.com](http://www.oaklandnet.com). For those wishing to donate a new, unwrapped toy, donation bins will be in place throughout Oakland until December 23. For more information, please visit the Mayor's Community Toy Drive web page at [www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/Mayor/OAK023177](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/Mayor/OAK023177). For more information on the Mayor's Community Toy Drive, please call (510) 777-TOYS or contact Al Lujan, Oaklanders Assistance Center Supervisor, at [alujan@oaklandnet.com](mailto:alujan@oaklandnet.com).

***BART Safety Escort Program*** – On Thursday, December 13, members of the Oakland Police Department's Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA) are volunteering their

time at the West Oakland BART station. CPAAA members will escort BART patrons to their parked cars and distribute Holiday Safety and Personal Safety materials from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. OPD and BART police will be on hand to provide an extra layer of security. For more information, please contact Felicia Verdin, Neighborhood Services Division's Community Program Supervisor, at [fverdina@oaklandnet.com](mailto:fverdina@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-3128.

***OakX Hosts "Better By Design" Panel Discussion*** – On Tuesday, December 11, OakX will host a panel discussion that explores design thinking as a way to innovate and improve services. The panel, moderated by the City of Oakland's Senior Deputy City Attorney Kiran Jain, will include Rich Crandall from the NewSchools Venture Fund, Hilary Hoeber from IDEO and user experience designer Cyd Harrell. The panelists will discuss their work, emerging trends and take questions from the audience. The event will be held from Noon to 1:30 p.m. at the East Bay Community Foundation, 200 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. To register for the event, please visit [www.eventbrite.com/event/4879240941/efblike](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/4879240941/efblike). For more information, please contact Nicole Neditch, Online Engagement Manager, at [nneditch@oaklandnet.com](mailto:nneditch@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-2105.

***Learn to Double-Dutch at San Antonio Recreation Center*** – On Tuesdays and Thursdays from December 11 to January 17, 2013, the San Antonio Recreation Center, at 1701 E. 19<sup>th</sup> Street, will host a four-week clinic on Double-Dutch jump roping. Participants can learn jump rope techniques, turning techniques, the history of double-dutch and the importance of building character with physical fitness. There will be a maximum of 10 enrollees per session. Sessions held on Tuesdays are for girls ages 7-10 while Thursday's sessions will cater to girls ages 11-14. Both weekly sessions will run from 4:15 to 5:45 p.m. For more information, please contact Coach Love, Recreation Specialist, at (510) 535-5608.

***DHS Recaps Thanksgiving Dinner*** – On Tuesday, November 20, more than 2,000 meals were served by more than 400 volunteers at the Department of Human Services' (DHS) 21st Annual Thanksgiving Dinner held at the Oakland Marriott City Center. The annual community event helps lift the hopes and fills Oakland's most vulnerable populations with turkey dinner and all the fixings while enjoying entertainment and receiving warm coats. This year's dinner would not have happened without the generosity of David Lee, a forward for the Golden State Warriors. His \$25,000 contribution allowed DHS to continue this tradition. DHS would also like to thank the community for its financial support and all the volunteers who helped make the event a success – the event could not have happened without you. For more information, please contact Susan Shelton, Community Housing Services Manager, at [sshelton@oaklandnet.com](mailto:sshelton@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-6186.

***Upcoming City of Oakland Job Announcements*** – During the week of December 10, the Department of Human Resources Management (DHRM) anticipates posting job announcements for Program Analyst I and Parking Control Technician. For updated information on City jobs, please visit the DHRM website at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/oaklandca/default.cfm>. This Employment Information page also contains information on minimum qualifications of specific job classifications, how to apply for a job on-line and how to submit a job interest card

for positions not currently posted. For more information, please contact Daryl Look, Principal Human Resource Analyst, at (510) 238-4479.

### **Information Memorandums:**

The following Information Memorandum was released in the last week.

***Executive Retirement & Interim Appointment*** – This memorandum provides information on the retirement of Andrea Gourdine, Director of Human Resources, as of December 14, 2012, and the appointment of Jim Reese as Interim Human Resources Director.

[www2.oaklandnet.com/w/oak038984](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/oak038984)

***Responses to Follow Up Questions from Councilmembers Regarding the FY 2011-12 Fourth Quarter Revenue and Expenditure Report*** – This memorandum provides responses to follow up questions asked by City Councilmembers related to the recently issued FY 2011-12 Fourth Quarter Revenue and Expenditure Report. [www2.oaklandnet.com/w/OAK038994](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/OAK038994)

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events:**

***Ira Jinkins Basketball Clinic*** – Every Saturday year-round, 10:30 a.m. - Noon, Ira Jinkins Recreation Center, 9175 Edes Avenue. The basketball clinic is designed for youth, ages 7-12, to experience the basics of basketball techniques while enjoying fitness. For more information including registration fees, please contact Donte Watson, Center Director, at (510) 615-5959.

***18th Annual Days of the Dead Exhibition*** – Through Sunday, December 9, Various Hours, Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak Street. A wide range of local artists are featured in this observance and exhibition entitled *Forgotten Stories, Remarkable Lives: Dias de los Muertos 2012*. Through altars and installations, the exhibition pays tribute to Californians in the recent and more distant past. For more information, please visit [www.museumca.org](http://www.museumca.org).

***A Holiday Tradition*** – Saturdays & Sundays through December 16, 11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Dunsmuir-Hellman Historic Estate, 2960 Peralta Oaks Court. Visitors tour the magnificent 37-room mansion, which features turn-of-the-20th-century holiday decorations plus indulge in Holiday teas, ride the romantic horse-drawn carriage and sip something warm while being entertained by holiday performers. Work on your holiday shopping list at the mansion gift shop or the Carriage House crafters. The Kids' Zone will have pony rides, holiday face-painting, crafts and Breakfast with Santa. The Oakland Ballet will perform an excerpt of "The Nutcracker". For more information, please visit [www.dunsmuir-hellman.com](http://www.dunsmuir-hellman.com) or call (510) 238-3052.

***Re-Create Exhibition*** – Wednesdays to Fridays through December 21, Noon - 3:00 p.m., Re-Create Art Gallery, 1423 Broadway. Re-Create is a recycled art competition open to students in Oakland schools. Students create art using 100% found, reused or recycled materials. For more information, please visit [www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/PWA/o/FE/s/GAR/OAK024607](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/PWA/o/FE/s/GAR/OAK024607).

***Beginners' Jewelry Class*** – Saturdays through December 22, 10:30 a.m. to Noon, Ira Jinkins Recreation Center, 9175 Edes Avenue. The beginners' classes teach the use of appropriate tools to create original unique jewelry such as, earrings, necklace, bracelets and body jewelry. The class instructor will discuss new techniques in beading, wire chains, jump rings and more. For additional information, please contact Donte Watson, Recreation Center Director, at (510) 615-5959.

***We Are America: Resistance & Resilience*** – Through Sunday, December 30, Various Hours, Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 Ninth Street, Suite 290. An exhibit featuring a 100-year timeline about the civil rights of Filipinos which provides a visual account of Filipino resistance to discrimination and a chronology of the community's struggle for equality. In addition to the timeline a display of photos, artifacts and news articles will be on exhibit. For more information, please visit [www.oacc.cc/programs/exhibitions.html](http://www.oacc.cc/programs/exhibitions.html).

***Snow Flurries*** – Through Monday, December 31, 5:00 - 9:00 p.m., Jack London Square, foot of Broadway. Enjoy snow flurries on ever hour sprouting 15 feet into the air from atop life-sized snowmen located throughout the Square. For more information, please visit [www.jacklondonsquare.com](http://www.jacklondonsquare.com).

***ZooLights*** – Through Monday, December 31, 5:30 - 9:00 p.m., Oakland Zoo, 9777 Golf Links Road. Hundreds of thousands of LED lights brighten Oakland's night sky. Highlights include a candy-cane-lane themed rides area, a nighttime adventure on the Outback Express train, rocking around the Christmas trees in the Children's Zoo and a light show that's sure to blow out any bah hum bugs. Closed December 24-25. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandzoo.org](http://www.oaklandzoo.org) or call (510) 632-9525, ext. 100.

***Playing with Fire Exhibit*** – Daily through Tuesday, January 1, 2013, Various Hours, second floor, Terminal 2, Oakland International Airport, 1 Airport Drive. Exhibition curated by the Oakland Museum of California features a compilation of glass objects created by youth and adult students at Office of Parks and Recreation's Studio One along with the work of a few other glass art makers. This wonderful art display spotlights the beauty of glass art and flame work created in Oakland. For more information, please contact Karis Griffin, Recreation Supervisor, at (510) 597-5096.

***Holiday Ice*** – Through Saturday, January 5, Various Times, Oakland Ice Center, 519 18th Street. Enjoy the holiday season by gliding across the ice on a pair of skates during one of the many public skating sessions. Warm clothing and gloves are recommended. All Holiday Ice sessions are skate one session, and get the second session 50 percent off. Discount applies for same day only. Closed Christmas day. Skate rentals available. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandice.com](http://www.oaklandice.com).

***Tree Lighting Ceremony*** – Friday, December 7, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., Oakland City Center, Broadway at 13th Street. City Center's fun-filled tree lighting and holiday celebration. Santa and his elves will be on hand in City Square Plaza. Enjoy music by SoVoSo, Oakland Youth Chorus,

Vocal Rush (Oakland School of the Arts) and dance performances by the Oakland Ballet Company. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandcitycenter.com](http://www.oaklandcitycenter.com).

***Oakland First Fridays Holiday Edition*** – Friday, December 7, 5:00 - 10:00 p.m., Telegraph Avenue from 17th to 27th streets; various other locations throughout KONO, Uptown and downtown Oakland. Monthly arts and culture event featuring local crafts/artisan bazaar, unique food vendors, live music performances, performance artists, DJs, interactive art installations, live painting, gallery exhibitions, beer garden, food trucks and much more. Get your holiday gifts or just enjoy the festivities. The Great Wall of Oakland will be transformed into the World's Largest Christmas Tree and will be the city's first digital tree lighting ceremony. The event is accessible via BART, AC Transit and the free Broadway Shuttle. Bike valet parking is also available. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandfirstfridays.org](http://www.oaklandfirstfridays.org), [www.konooakland.org](http://www.konooakland.org) or [www.oaklandartmurmur.org](http://www.oaklandartmurmur.org).

***6<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Sales Bazaar*** – Friday, December 7, 5:30 - 9:00 p.m., Pavilion Building, Jack London Square, foot of Broadway. Meet the youth entrepreneurs from BUILD and do your holiday shopping at this family-friendly event. BUILD is a college prep organization that teaches teens about the business world. For more information, please visit [www.jacklondonsquare.com](http://www.jacklondonsquare.com).

***27th Annual Christmas Revels*** – Friday, December 7 to Sunday December 9 & Friday, December 14 to Sunday, December 16, Various Times, Scottish Rite Theater, 1547 Lakeside Drive. Celebrate the Solstice on the shores off the Adriatic Sea with three Festive Fools and a whole village worth of song, dance and seasonal merriment circa 1520. The Christmas Revels blend traditional music, dance, ritual and folk plays from many different cultures, presented by a large volunteer chorus of local children and adults accompanied by professional actors, musicians and artists. For more information, please visit [www.californiarevels.org](http://www.californiarevels.org).

***Holiday Caroling on Lake Merritt*** – Friday, December 7 to Sunday, December 9; Friday, December 14 to Sunday, December 16 & Thursday, December 20 to Sunday, December 23, Various Hours, Lake Merritt Boating Center, 568 Bellevue Avenue. Enjoy a unique view of Oakland from our Water Sleigh as you and your friends sing holiday carols on an hour-long program that includes treats before a tour of Lake Merritt. Advance registration required. 6:00 p.m. tours are for individual participants. Other tour times for are for whole boat charter only. Call for details and to register. For more information, please visit [www.sailoakland.com](http://www.sailoakland.com) or call (510) 238-2916.

***Keep Calm and Sing a Song Sing-a-long*** – Saturday, December 8, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., The New Parkway Theater, 474 24th Street. A magical day of educational film, videos, storytelling, music, movement and song that celebrates the genius of quality educational children's films, shows and music. For more information, please visit [www.facebook.com/events/467005186683627/](http://www.facebook.com/events/467005186683627/).

***A Holiday Affair*** – Saturday, December 8, 1:00 - 6:00 p.m., 25th Street Collective, 477 25th Street. Enjoy a local, ethical, socially responsible shopping event showcasing the local artisan

community, sustainable businesses and emerging Bay Area designers. Live music, wine and food round out this festive event. For more information, please visit [www.25thstreetcollective.com](http://www.25thstreetcollective.com).

***Holiday Wreath Making*** – Saturday, December 8, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Oakland Public Library 125 14th Street. Make holiday wreaths with the Museum of Children's Art (MOCHA). For more information, please call (510) 238-3134.

***Winter Gift Making: Sewing Felt Creatures*** – Saturday, December 8, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m., Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College Avenue. Learn how to sew felt creatures - the perfect size for an ornament, a toy or a pocket snuggly. For children ages 5 to 12. Kids 7 & under please bring a grown-up. For more information, please call (510) 597-5017.

***Holiday Smooth Jazz Concert*** – Saturday, December 8, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., African American Museum & Library at Oakland (AAMLO), 659 14th Street. The Friends of AAMLO invite you to get into the holiday spirit with an evening of live jazz, food and beverages. Guests are encouraged to contribute to the holiday toy and food drive. For more information, please call (510) 637-0200.

***Sounds of the Season Concert*** – Saturday, December 8, 7:00 p.m., First Congregational Church, 2501 Harrison Street. The Oakland School for the Arts hosts a holiday choral concert. For more information, please visit [www.OakArts.org](http://www.OakArts.org).

***Holiday Gifty Art Sale & Open House*** – Saturday, December 8 & Sunday, December 9, Noon - 6:00 p.m. Saturday, Noon - 4:00 p.m. Sunday. The Crucible, 1260 7th Street. A fun day for the whole family featuring live demonstrations, molten metal pour, handmade art for sale, a visit from Santa, class discounts and more. For more information, please visit [www.thecrucible.org](http://www.thecrucible.org).

***Family Drop-In Art Workshop and Days of the Dead Family Gallery Tour*** – Sunday, December 9, Noon - 3:00 p.m., Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak Street. Drop in for an artistic afternoon of family fun. Craft your own work of art inspired by the exhibition *Forgotten Stories, Remarkable Lives: Days of the Dead 2012*. A docent-led talk will be held at 2:30 p.m. followed by a Family Tour of the exhibition at 3:00 p.m. For more information, please visit [www.museumca.org](http://www.museumca.org).

***Oakland East Bay Symphony Concert: Let Us Break Bread Together*** – Sunday, December 9, 4:00 p.m., Paramount Theatre of the Arts, 2025 Broadway. A holiday celebration with Michael Morgan, Conductor, featuring inspiring performances of gospel music, classical selections, holiday favorites and sing-a-longs with the Oakland Symphony Chorus, Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, Piedmont Choirs, Mt. Eden High School Choir & Klezmer band Kugelplex. For more information, please visit [www.paramounttheatre.com](http://www.paramounttheatre.com).

***Community Menorah Lighting*** – Sunday, December 9, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., Splash Pad Park, Grand Avenue at LakePark. Menorah lighting to celebrate the beginning of Hanukkah. For more information, please visit [www.jewishoakland.org](http://www.jewishoakland.org).

***OPR Citywide Programs Focus Groups*** – Monday, December 10, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Lake Merritt Sailboat House, 568 Bellevue Avenue. Office of Parks and Recreation (OPR) will host a series of focus groups to gather community input on OPR facilities and programming. Participants will hear plans for the New Year, discuss park programs, dog play areas, park use hours, facility improvements and public safety. For more information on the focus groups, please contact Karis Griffin, Recreation Supervisor, at (510) 597-5027.

***Kwanzaa Celebration*** – Wednesday, December 12, Noon - 1:00 p.m., Oakland City Center, Broadway at 13<sup>th</sup> Street. The West African Highlife Band revives the “highlife” dance classics with a fusion of African and world music. This amazing band blends rich vocal harmonies, intertwining guitars and exciting percussion. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandcitycenter.com](http://www.oaklandcitycenter.com).

***Neighborhood Watch Block Captains Holiday Reception*** – Wednesday, December 12, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. The Neighborhood Watch Steering Committee and Neighborhood Services Division will host a reception for block captains citywide. This will be a fun evening of networking, information sharing and refreshments. For more information, please contact Brenda Ivey, OPD Volunteer and Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, at [bivey@oaklandnet.com](mailto:bivey@oaklandnet.com) or (510) 238-3091.

***Holiday Concerts*** – Wednesday, December 12 to Friday, December 14, Noon, Various Locations. Enjoy old holiday favorites, new sounds and sing-a-longs during three free Holiday Concerts by the City and Port of Oakland Employees' Chorus. Wednesday & Thursday concerts will be held in the lobby of the Dalziel Building, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. Friday's concert will be in the Rotunda of City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. For more information, please call (510) 444-CITY.

***OPR District 7 Community Focus Groups*** – Thursday, December 13, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Ira Jinkins Recreation Center, 9175 Edes Avenue. Office of Parks and Recreation (OPR) will host a series of focus groups to gather community input on OPR facilities and programming. Participants will hear plans for the New Year, discuss park programs, dog play areas, park use hours, facility improvements and public safety. For more information on the focus groups, please contact Karis Griffin, Recreation Supervisor, at (510) 597-5027.

***Food Distribution for Low-Income Families*** – Friday, December 14, Various Hours, Multiple Locations. The Department of Human Services' Hunger Program is sponsoring a food distribution for low-income families and seniors at multiple sites throughout Oakland. Bags consist of frozen poultry, fresh produce and dried goods and will weigh approximately 15 pounds each. To be eligible, families must reside in one of the seven Community Development (CD) Districts in the City of Oakland. Proof of residence in the CD District of distribution is required. For specific distribution site locations, please visit [www2.oaklandnet.com/w/oak038921](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/oak038921). Please call specific sites for distribution times. For more information, please call (510) 238-6590.

***Fruitvale Traditional Christmas Posada*** – Friday, December 14, 4:00 p.m., Meet at the corner of Fruitvale Avenue and International to start the procession. The Christmas Posada is a Mexican tradition re-enacting Mary's and Joseph's search for lodging in Bethlehem. Pilgrims participating in Posadas traditionally sing hymns and go door-to-door symbolically asking for shelter. After the procession, a celebration with piñatas and traditional tea for the participants will be held. For more information, please visit [www.unitycouncil.org](http://www.unitycouncil.org) or call (510) 535-6919.

***2012 Holiday Lights by the Bay*** – Friday, December 14 & Sunday, December 16, 7:00 p.m. Friday, 1:00 p.m. Sunday, Oakland Ice Center, 519 18th Street. A 90-minute figure skating exhibition presented by the Oakland Ice Center Skating School – Operated by Sharks Ice. Skaters from the Learn to Skate program of all levels will be performing as well as the Special Skaters program and Adult Synchronized Skating team. Special guests to include current Elite and National level competitors. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandice.com](http://www.oaklandice.com).

***Fairy Winterland*** – Friday, December 14 to Sunday, December 23, Noon - 7:00 p.m., Children's Fairyland, 699 Bellevue Avenue. Fairy Winterland celebrates the winter holidays of many cultures: Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Las Posadas, Diwali and Chinese New Year with stories, crafts, a festival of lights and a visit from Santa. For more information, please visit [www.fairyland.org](http://www.fairyland.org).

***Lake Merritt BART Station Area Plan Open House*** – Saturday, December 15, 9:00 a.m. - Noon, Laney College's Student Center, 900 Fallon Street. Part of the City of Oakland's ongoing planning process to guide future transit-oriented development within a half-mile radius of the Lake Merritt BART station, the open house will focus on the proposals for improvements to streets and open space and land use guidelines for new development within the Planning Area that are included in the Draft Station Area Plan, as well as possible funding and implementation mechanisms to achieve these improvements. Interpretation services will be available during the presentation and materials will be provided in English, Chinese and Vietnamese. Individuals requiring special arrangements, must contact the City five days in advance of the meeting. Please visit [www.business2oakland.com/lakemerrittsap](http://www.business2oakland.com/lakemerrittsap) for more information and a map. R.S.V.P. to (510) 238-7904 or [Lake\\_merritt\\_plan@oaklandnet.com](mailto:Lake_merritt_plan@oaklandnet.com).

***Oakland Youth Chorus Gifts of Unity Concert*** – Saturday, December 15, 6:00 p.m., Presbyterian Church of Oakland, 2619 Broadway. OYC's singers, ages 5 to 18, will warm up a chilly December evening with traditional and exciting new arrangements of songs from around the world. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandyouthchorus.org](http://www.oaklandyouthchorus.org).

***Laurel Holiday Stroll and Donation Drive*** – Saturday, December 15, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Laurel District, MacArthur Boulevard between 35th Avenue and High Street. The Stroll features food sampling, wine tasting, music, tree lights and live art. Begin at Marquardt Property Management (4164 MacArthur Boulevard) with your canned food, toy or coat donation and get an All-Access Stamp. For more information, please visit [www.laureldistrictassociation.org/events](http://www.laureldistrictassociation.org/events).

**35th Annual Middle School Holiday Basketball Tournament** – Saturday, December 15 & Sunday, December 16, 9:00 a.m., Skyline High School, 12250 Skyline Boulevard and Oakland Technical High School, 4351 Broadway. The Office of Parks and Recreation will host its annual holiday tournament. The Boys' tournament will be held at Skyline High School while the Girls' tournament will be held at Oakland Technical High School. For more information, please contact Armond Gray, Recreation Specialist, at (510) 238-3897.

**Family Holiday Craft Exchange** – Sunday, December 16, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts, 1428 Alice Street. Bring your family together to make this a merry holiday season. Enjoy making handmade holiday ornaments as gifts to exchange. For more information, please call (510) 238-7526.

**Annual Holiday Concert** – Sunday, December 16, 7:00 p.m., Imani Community Church, 3300 MacArthur Boulevard. The Oakland Interfaith Youth Choir brightens the holidays with its annual holiday concert. For more information, please visit [www.oigc.org](http://www.oigc.org).

**Chanukah Celebration** – Wednesday, December 19, Noon - 1:00 p.m., Oakland City Center, Broadway at 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Playing exuberant, old-world soul music, Kugelplex performs with special guest vocalist Jewlia Eisenberg. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandcitycenter.com](http://www.oaklandcitycenter.com).

**Fruitvale Holiday Bargains** – Thursday, December 20 to Saturday, December 22, 3:00 - 8:00 p.m., International Boulevard from Fruitvale to 42nd avenues. Enjoy live music, Santa Claus, the festive holiday decorations and the spectacular sales. For more information, please visit [www.unitycouncil.org](http://www.unitycouncil.org) or call (510) 535-6919.

**Holidays on Lakeshore Avenue** – Friday, December 21 & Saturday, December 22, 5:00 -7:00 p.m. Friday; 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Saturday, Lakeshore Avenue between LakePark and Trestle Glen. Enjoy free horse-drawn carriage rides and face painting as merchants offer holiday specials, refreshments and fun for everyone. Santa Claus will be on hand with candy canes on both days. For more information, please visit [www.lakeshoreoakland.com](http://www.lakeshoreoakland.com) or call (510) 451-1257.

**Graham Lustig's "The Nutcracker"** – Saturday, December 22 to Monday, December 24, Various Times, Paramount Theatre of the Arts, 2025 Broadway. Holiday magic for all ages featuring artists of the Oakland Ballet Company, and members of the Oakland East Bay Symphony conducted by Michael Morgan. Sweet Dreams Party follows the matinee performances on Saturday and Sunday. For more information, please visit [www.paramounttheatre.com](http://www.paramounttheatre.com).

**Chabot New Year's Eve Balloon Drop** – Monday, December 31, Various Hours, Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Boulevard. Ring in the New Year without staying up all night - come to Chabot and celebrate strokes of midnight around the world at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Kids count down and catch colorful balloons as they drop from the ceiling to receive a special prize. For more information, please visit [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org).

Respectfully submitted,

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DEANNA J. SANTANA  
City Administrator