



PRESS RELEASE

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BIG ARTS HOLIDAY EXPERIENCES *FOUR FESTIVE COMMUNITY EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF DECEMBER*

Sanibel Island, FL – Mark your calendars and celebrate the holiday season with BIG ARTS *Annual Holiday Magic*, featuring four heartwarming events that promise to fill your season with joy and delight. From enchanting performances and a classic holiday ballet to a family-friendly film and an open house brimming with holiday cheer, there's something for everyone at BIG ARTS this December!

Event Schedule:

BIG ARTS COMMUNITY CHORUS & BIG ARTS CONCERT BAND – HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE

Thursday, December 12, 7:00 P.M.

Immerse yourself in the sounds of the season as the BIG ARTS Community Chorus and Concert Band join forces for a special holiday performance. Experience beloved holiday classics and cherished melodies brought to life by talented local musicians in the delightful setting of the Christensen Performance Hall.

Tickets available at: <https://bigarts.org/event/community-chorus-concert-band-holiday/>

GULFSHORE BALLET PRESENTS *THE NUTCRACKER*

Saturday, December 14, 6:30 P.M.

Tchaikovsky's timeless holiday classic, *The Nutcracker*, comes to life with a dazzling new choreography by Gulfshore Ballet Artistic Directors Iliana Lopez and Franklin Gamero, both former Principal Dancers with the Miami City Ballet. Witness the magic and grace of professional ballet in this stunning production, perfect for audiences of all ages.

Tickets available at: <https://bigarts.org/event/gulfshore-ballet-the-nutcracker/>

FREE HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Friday, December 20, 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Step into a holiday wonderland at BIG ARTS' annual Holiday Open House! Delight in caroling led by the BIG ARTS Community Chorus and enjoy a visit from Santa Claus himself. Guests can savor light bites and seasonal refreshments

while exploring engaging gallery exhibits and watching live demonstrations by talented local artists. The BIG ARTS Gift Shop will be brimming with unique, handcrafted treasures, perfect for last-minute holiday shopping.

This event is free and open to the public; a ticket is not required.

FREE HOLIDAY FAMILY FILM: *THE POLAR EXPRESS*

Monday, December 23, 6:30 P.M.

Join us for a magical evening as we present *The Polar Express* on the big screen in Christensen Performance Hall. This beloved holiday classic tells the story of a young boy's journey to the North Pole, where he discovers the true meaning of friendship, bravery, and the spirit of Christmas. Children will receive jingle bells to add to the fun and can enjoy festive seasonal mocktails during this heartwarming holiday tradition.

This is a free event, but a ticket is required. Tickets are available at: <https://bigarts.org/event/the-polar-express-2024/>

About BIG ARTS

Celebrating its 45th season, BIG ARTS is dedicated to creating great arts, entertainment, and learning experiences that inspire, enrich, and delight. Our mission is to provide an array of quality entertainment, arts, and education programs that enrich and nurture the lives of Sanibel and Captiva residents and visitors through professionally led arts and enrichment classes and workshops for students of all ages, stimulating lectures and discussions with renowned national thought leaders, and dynamic visual and performing arts presentations of the highest caliber.

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