

# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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## The Holidays Hit the Virginia Aquarium

### **VIRGINIA AQUARIUM SEA ADVENTURES:**

**Sailing with Santa**, December 17, 10:30 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Set sail with Santa and his crew on a 60 minute cruise along Owls Creek while enjoying refreshments and festive activities. Tickets are \$12 for Aquarium members and \$15 for non-members. Call (757) 385-3473 for reservations.

**Whales & Wildlife**, Season begins December 26

See the ocean's most magnificent creatures as they visit our coastal waters, while our on-board educators help bring the ocean to life with items to see and touch. This 2-2.5 hour trip in search of whales, dolphins, seals, and seabirds brings you as close as possible to these charismatic animals. The full schedule begins on December 26 with special preview trips until then announced on our website and Facebook page as weather and sightings allow. Tickets are \$26 for Aquarium members and \$28 for non-members. Call (757) 385-3474 for reservations.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**Scuba Santa**, Saturdays and Sundays through December 24, 11 a.m.

Watch Santa dive with resident sea life like zebra sharks and spotted eagle rays in the Red Sea Tunnel. Included with Aquarium admission.

**Sundays with Santa**, November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 12-3 p.m.

Join Santa and his elves for festivities and fun activities in the Marsh Pavilion. Included with Aquarium admission.

**Countdown to 2017**, December 31, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Children and adults, get ready for the New Year! Join us for contests, games, activities, and treats in the Marsh Pavilion. Included with Aquarium admission.

### **CHANGING EXHIBIT:**

**Treehouses** Through January 1, 2017

Spend some time hanging out in the trees! Immerse yourself in an indoor treehouse and learn who lives in trees through stereoscopic viewfinders, tracking clues, natural artifacts, and sound. It is featured in the Virginia Aquarium's Changing Exhibit gallery through January 1, 2017. Included with Aquarium admission.

### **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 3D THEATER**

**Polar Express 3D**, December 17, 18, & 23, 4:30 p.m., December 24, 2:30 p.m.

A young boy embarks on a magical adventure to the North Pole on the Polar Express. During his adventure, he learns about friendship, bravery, and the spirit of Christmas. Tickets are \$5 for Aquarium members and \$7 for non-members. Call (757) 385-3474 or visit the website to purchase tickets.

**Big Screen Saturdays**, Saturdays at 7:50 p.m.

Each Saturday night brings a new holiday themed movie on the largest screen in Virginia. Bring your friends and enjoy a classic for only \$5 for Aquarium members and \$7 for non-members. Call (757) 385-3474 or visit the website for tickets.

- November 26: *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*
- December 3: *Elf*
- December 10: *The Wizard of Oz 3D*
- December 17: *It's a Wonderful Life*

**THE GIVING TREE:**

We are always looking for new and exciting things that stimulate our animals' lives, and this year, guests can join in! For the first time, the Virginia Aquarium has an Amazon Wish List filled with treats and trinkets that we think our animals will love. Guests can log on to [bit.ly/VAQWishList](http://bit.ly/VAQWishList) to find our Wish List or visit the Virginia Aquarium and pick an ornament off of our Giving Tree. More information is also available on our website at [www.VirginiaAquarium.com/contribute/amazon-wish-list](http://www.VirginiaAquarium.com/contribute/amazon-wish-list)

*The Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums whose mission is conservation through education. The Aquarium is located at 717 General Booth Boulevard, just south of Rudee Inlet in Virginia Beach. For more information on exhibits, movies, boat rides and special events, call (757) 385-FISH (3474), (TDD 385-4305) or visit [www.VirginiaAquarium.com](http://www.VirginiaAquarium.com).*

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