

Magnificent Mile Lights Festival



The holiday celebration kicks-off Saturday, Nov. 23rd with the largest nighttime parade in the United States down North Michigan ave. from Oak street to Van Buren at 5:30 p.m. Led by Mickey and Minnie Mouse of Walt Disney World® Resort, the parade will feature fabulous floats with characters Buzz Lightyear and Woody, Anna and Elsa, Tiana and Belle, marching bands, musical celebrities, Santa Claus, The Wintrust Fireworks Spectacular, and one million lights illuminating The Magnificent Mile's 200 plus trees.

Performances along the parade route will include Chicago Blackhawks Official Game DJ Lee Michaels and The Pack Drumline along with Big Lincoln aboard the Enjoy Illinois float; The Sharpe Family Singers aboard the Dunkin' float; Quad City DJ's aboard the Wintrust Express; the former Ladies of Chic, Norma Jean Wright and Luci Martin, aboard the City Cruises float; 80's funk-icons Cameo and Uniting Voices Chicago aboard Lifeway Kefir's float.

See the Chicago debut of two super-colossal balloons — 60 ft. tall Santa Kermit; 50 ft. tall Animal, Kermit the Frog's lovable friend and the Rudolph balloon.

Lights Festival Lane in Pioneer Court at 401 N. Michigan ave. will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with free family activities. Visit the Wintrust Pavilion for complimentary photos with Santa Claus.

The Wintrust Fire-works spectacular happens over the DuSable Bridge at approximately 7 p.m., so standing along Wacker Drive is a prime place to view the show.

Tune in to the Lights Festival broadcast on ABC7 Chicago on Sunday, Nov. 24th at 6 p.m. for Virginia Bocelli and Heather Headley.