



## NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release  
November 24, 2010

Contact: Howard Pollman  
hpollman@state.pa.us or (717) 705-8639

### **Holiday Planetarium Schedule, Kwanzaa Festival, Noon Years Eve, and other December 2010 Events at The State Museum of Pennsylvania**

**Harrisburg, Pa.** – The State Museum of Pennsylvania, the Commonwealth’s official museum, announces its program schedule for December 2010:

“SEASON OF LIGHT,” HOLIDAY PLANETARIUM SHOW: In celebration of the Winter Solstice and holiday gatherings, The State Museum of Pennsylvania presents **Season of Light**, a vibrant look at how many of our modern traditions trace their roots in the winter festivals of long ago. A show for the whole family, **Season of Light** will be presented Saturday, December 18 at 11:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, 1:00 p.m., and 2:00 p.m., and Sunday, December 19 and 26 at 1:00 p.m., and 2:00 p.m. Weekday showings: December 22, 23, 29, and 30 at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Admission to the Planetarium is \$2 per person in addition to general museum admission. State Museum members are admitted free of charge.

KWANZAA FESTIVAL: **The International Kwanzaa Festival 2010** will be held at The State Museum of Pennsylvania on December 18, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. A community celebration of the family, the festival will feature the Imani Edu-Tainers African Dance and Drumming Troop, fashions by Vernon Ballard, authors and poets, African Art and gift items, the Life Esteem Kwanzaa Award Recipients, workshops, music, food and much more. Free and open to the public, the **Kwanzaa Festival** is sponsored by Nathaniel Gadsden's Writers Wordshop in partnership with The State Museum, *Women Connect* Magazine, and Life Esteem, Inc.

MORE

NOON YEARS' EVE: The State Museum of Pennsylvania will welcome the New Year with its annual **Noon Year's Eve** celebration for young children and their families on Thursday, December 30, 2010, 10 am to 1 pm. An opportunity for kids to enjoy their own special "ringing in the New Year," **Noon Year's Eve** features playtime, crafts, snacks and the museum's famous firefly drop in Memorial Hall at 12 noon. This family-friendly event is free with museum admission. State Museum members are admitted free of charge.

"SANTA'S BEST STOCKING-STUFFER STORE:" **The State Museum Store** offers an exciting array of fun educational toys and engaging products just in time for the holiday season. Find the area's best stocking stuffers for the holidays and support the work of the museum with your purchases. Store hours: Wednesday – Saturday, 10 am – 4 pm, Sundays 1 – 4 pm. Special after-Christmas sale starts on Sunday, December 26. Admission is free to the store: enter at The State Museum's main entrance on Third Street between North and Forster Streets.

THROUGH MAY 1, 2011 – SPECIAL EXHIBIT – WOOD ON GLASS: THE LUMBER INDUSTRY PHOTOGRAPHS OF WILLIAM T. CLARKE: William T. Clarke (1859-1930) photographed the transformation of North Central Pennsylvania's forests during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He produced stunning images that tell the story of lumbering in the vast stands of old-growth white pine and hemlock. **Wood on Glass** showcases Clarke's historic visual legacy from the State Archives and a private collection and will be on view November 21, 2010 – May 1, 2011.

HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT PROGRAM: For a second year, Penn National Insurance is sponsoring a special program for the Harrisburg School District students to provide in-depth science-related programs at The State Museum. The museum's education staff is conducting special tours and workshops for all 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders from the school district through early January 2011.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES: The State Museum's administrative offices and galleries will be closed on Friday, December 24, Christmas Eve, and Saturday, December 25, Christmas Day, as well as Friday December 31, New Year's Eve, and Saturday, January 1, New Year's Day.

MORE

---

The State Museum of Pennsylvania, located at 300 North Street, is one of 25 historic sites and museums on the Pennsylvania Trails of History®, administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Sunday, 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for children and Senior Citizens and includes admission to the popular young children’s space, Curiosity Connection. Planetarium shows are \$2 per person in addition to general admission.

The State Museum Store offers an array of museum and Pennsylvania-related products, children’s items, and souvenirs and is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 am – 4 pm; Sunday, 1 pm – 4 pm.

Members of the Pennsylvania Heritage Society (including State Museum affiliate members) receive free general admission (some programs require a separate fee) and free admission to Planetarium shows. Please contact (717) 772-6997, Monday-Friday, 9 am – 4 pm to register for the program and to learn more about State Museum and Pennsylvania Heritage Society membership.

Individuals who need special assistance should call (717) 787-6778 or the Pennsylvania TDD relay service at (800) 654-5984. For more information on museum programs, planetarium shows, exhibitions and other events at The State Museum, click on [www.statemuseumpa.org](http://www.statemuseumpa.org).

###