



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts:

Christine Dunn, Vic Gutman & Associates: (402) 345-5401 marketing@vgagroup.com
Onsite Event Contact: 402-301-8736

**WELLS FARGO FAMILY FESTIVAL
OFFERS AFTERNOON OF FREE ACTIVITIES
Omaha's Premier Family Celebration Showcases
Six Downtown Venues**

(OMAHA, Neb.) Nov. 10, 2016 – For the 11th consecutive year, Wells Fargo will present Omaha-area families with the opportunity to experience an afternoon of fun—for free—at a variety of Omaha's leading downtown attractions. This year's Family Festival will be held Sunday, Dec. 4, from noon to 5 p.m. Families can park at any of the six participating venues to access a free trolley service provided by Ollie the Trolley that connects the sites. All offer free admission and family activities.

Families are encouraged to “Shine the Light on Hunger” and donate non-perishable foods and household goods to be distributed to families in need through Food Bank for the Heartland.

“Wells Fargo is pleased to serve as the Family Festival sponsor and continue what has become an important tradition for both us and the community,” said Kirk Kellner, region president for Wells Fargo in Nebraska. “The Wells Fargo team has enjoyed watching the event grow in the last decade, and we love seeing how much fun parents and children have at the community's best family-friendly venues.”

The 2016 Family Festival will feature the following attractions and special programs at these locations:

Wells Fargo, 1919 Douglas St.

- Children can pose for a picture with **Wells Fargo's** very own "Jack the Dog" and make holiday crafts.
- Snack on a free bag of popcorn.
- Stop by the company museum and see the historically accurate reproduction of the **Wells Fargo Stagecoach** in the lobby.
- Listen to holiday music and participate in other fun activities.

Omaha Children's Museum, 500 S. 20th St.

- Engage in active play in the museum's exhibits.
- Visit with Santa from 2 to 5 p.m.
- Enjoy the free *Amazing Science Shows* in the Science Theatre.
- Take a carousel or train ride for \$2 each

Omaha Police Mounted Patrol Barn, 615 Leavenworth St.

- Tour the stables and visit with Santa!
- Learn how police officers care for the animals at the Mounted Patrol Barn and get your picture taken with the horses; watch officers present horse demonstrations as you warm up with Swiss Miss hot cocoa.
- Saddle up with LaRue's Little Horse Ranch Pony Rides.
- **Wells Fargo** will be giving free stagecoach rides from 1 to 4 p.m. and helping young buckaroos decorate their own cowboy hats!
- The Citizen's Foundation for the Omaha Police Mounted Patrol will offer face painting and families can enjoy entertainment from a balloon artist.

The Durham Museum, 801 S. 10th St.

- Experience the wonder of the season at The Durham Museum during Christmas at Union Station.
- See Omaha's largest indoor Christmas tree, visit with Santa and enjoy an exceptional lineup of family-friendly activities, including live musical performances.
- Visit the *Ethnic Holiday Trees* exhibit, an annual favorite which highlights the holiday traditions of approximately a dozen cultures in the Omaha community.
- View the wonderful temporary exhibitions on display including *American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* from the National Constitution Center and *Homebrew: A Spirited History of Omaha*.
- Children can also pan for gold and participate in a scavenger hunt sponsored by **Wells Fargo**.

W. Dale Clark (Main) Library, 215 S. 15th St.

- Meet and get your photo taken with Mouse from Laura Numeroff's beloved storybook *If You Give A Mouse a Cookie* and OPL's mascot Scamper.

- Take home your very own children's book for FREE -- while supplies last.
- Family members of all ages can hear live holiday music, enjoy entertainment from a balloon artist, color, sing songs and listen to fun stories.
- Stop by the **Wells Fargo** activity area for cookie decorating and Swiss Miss hot cocoa.

Joslyn Art Museum, 2200 Dodge St.

- Swing by ART WORKS: A Place for Curiosity, offering nine creative project stations, all with connections to works of art found in Joslyn's permanent collection. Don't forget to visit the studios to experiment with hands-on activities and create your own works of art!
- Get a free wizard wand and glasses from **Wells Fargo** and watch Amazing Arthur perform magic at 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. in the Abbott Lecture Hall.
- Explore Joslyn Art Museum's galleries including the current exhibition *Dirt Meridian: Photographs by Andrew Moore and David (Shannon) Goes to the Museum*. *Dirt Meridian* is free for youth 17 and under, \$5 for adults.

Sponsors

The Holiday Lights Festival is produced by Mayor Jean Stothert and the Downtown Omaha Inc. Foundation, and presented by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska, KMTV 3 and STAR 104.5.

For more information, visit www.holidaylightsfestival.org.