



**The Franklin Institute  
Science Museum**

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**CELEBRATE THE MAGIC OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON AT THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE!  
THE POLAR EXPRESS AND GIANT TINKERTOYS ON DISPLAY!**

**Philadelphia, PA — November 29, 2007** — As the holiday season quickly approaches, take some time to celebrate at The Franklin Institute, where festive activities are planned throughout the month of December. This year, a favorite holiday film, “**The Polar Express**” makes a stop at the Tuttleman IMAX Theater. This special 3D-version of the film starring Tom Hanks, begins its run on Friday, December 7 and continues through January 17, 2008. As an added attraction, a life-size size replica of the Polar Express train will be on view in the Bartol Atrium. Another seasonal favorite, the **Giant Tinker Toys** will be on display again this year from 9:30am – 4:30pm, December 26 through 31 in the Harcourt Center.

Want to learn how animated movies are made? Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am to 4:30pm, stop by “The Spiderwick Chronicles Experience” trailer just outside the museum, where you can learn about the process of the animation, or preview the new fantasy film from Nickelodeon, “The Spiderwick Chronicles,” which will be released in theaters next February.

Throughout the season, The Franklin Institute will serve as a drop off point for **Toys for Tots**. All visitors who bring an unused, unwrapped toy on December 1, 8 and 15 will receive \$2.00 off general museum admission.

Other holiday events include:

**December 1, 8, and 15:**

- ✧ **12pm – 3pm** – Create your own unique snowflakes! Write down your secret wish - add it to the museum’s **Holiday Wish Chain** and it just might come true (Franklin Gallery).
- ✧ **12pm & 2pm** – Learn how snowflakes are formed, why each one is distinct and the science behind snowy, wintry weather during a **Winter Weather Live Show** (Musser Theater).

- ★ **10am-3pm - Holiday Lights Tour** – Stroll through the museum wearing 3D glasses, and see how the sparkle of everyday lights creates the festive glow of the holiday season! Stop by the information booth in the Atrium to pick up your guide and glasses (museum-wide).

**Listen to the sounds of the season:**

- ★ **December 8 – 12pm** - choir performance by the **Waldorf School of Philadelphia** (Franklin Hall).
- ★ **December 15 - 12pm-3pm** - concert by the **Greater Philadelphia Suzuki Music Association**, a children's group of instrumental musicians (Franklin Hall).

The Franklin Institute is open 7 days a week 9:30am - 5:00pm. All holiday events are included in Sci-Pass admission (\$13.75 for adults, \$11.00 for seniors, children under 12 and military, IMAX is an additional \$5.00.)

Give the gift of a Franklin Institute membership! Purchase memberships for your friends and family so they too can enjoy the exploration and wonder of The Franklin Institute year-round. With all the new permanent and special exhibits coming in 2008, this gift keeps on giving!

Founded in Honor of America's first scientist, Benjamin Franklin, The Franklin Institute is one of America's oldest and premier centers of science education and development in the country. The newest exhibit, "***Identity: an exhibition of you,***" explores the physical, psychological and social elements that make you tick. Developed by The Franklin Institute, the exhibit is on view through April 20, 2008. ***Coming February '08 – STAR WARS!!!***