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**Kansas City Attractions and Members Offer Fall and Holiday Events and Experiences
for Tourists and Local Residents**

(Kansas City, Missouri) – The fall and holiday season is a great time for those planning a visit or staycation to visit Kansas City’s many attractions. Several members of the Greater Kansas City Attractions Association (GKCAA), a not-for-profit organization that provides benefits and services to more than 70 attraction and tourism-related businesses in both Kansas and Missouri, are opening special exhibits, scheduling seasonal events, celebrations and performances for visitors and locals during the fall and holiday seasons.

“As the weather cools off and the holidays approach, visitors should know that the next several months are a great time to visit Kansas City and experience everything it has to offer,” said Mike Vietti, director of marketing, communications and guest services for the National WWI Museum and Memorial who serves as the president of the association’s volunteer-led board of directors. “Our attractions offer a variety of opportunities that visitors and locals alike will enjoy during this special time of year.”

October

National Museum of Toys and Miniatures

Going Places: The Toy Collection of Jerry Smith (October 6, 2018 - Sunday, August 25, 2019)



On Christmas Day in 1923, a young Kansas boy named Jerry Smith received a single toy tractor under his family's tree. Smith would grow up to become a successful Kansas City automotive dealer and philanthropist, but he never forgot that humble toy tractor. As an adult, it inspired him to amass a world-class toy collection that included planes, trains, and automobiles. He displayed his collection to spread joy and to raise money for local charities. From cast iron trains to fanciful airplanes, *Going Places* explores the history of transportation toys and examines how one person with a generous heart and a fantastic toy collection made a lasting impact on his community. Included with museum admission. Information: www.toyandminiaturemuseum.org

Dreams of Flight Trolley Tours (Saturday, October 13, 2018 | 11:00 a.m.)



Experience all three installations of Randy Regier's *Dreams of Flight* series for Open Spaces, a special outdoor art exhibit with installations throughout the Kansas City area, through an imaginative artist-led tour, offered in partnership with KCAI Crossroads Gallery: Center for Contemporary Practice. Beginning at T/m, Regier will explore the objects of childhood play related to the Cold War. The narrative will continue as we travel by trolley to River Market Antiques, and conclude with a reception at KCAI Crossroads Gallery: Center for Contemporary Practice, before returning to T/m. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Call 816.235.8005 or email mercierk@toyandminiaturemuseum.org to RSVP.

Dreams of Flight Lecture (Friday, October 19, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.)

Artist Randy Regier will discuss his *Dreams of Flight* series within the broader context of his work. Themes include memory, nostalgia, and the intersection of childhood fantasies and adult anxieties. Ticket: \$10 and are available online: <https://tinyurl.com/yca5hrzz>

T/m members may attend for FREE but must RSVP in advance by calling 816.235.8005 or emailing mercierk@toyandminiaturemuseum.org. If you are interested in becoming a T/m member, visit the website. Annual memberships start at just \$25 for two people per visit. Seating for this event is limited. Light refreshments will be provided. Doors open at 5:30pm and close at 7:30pm. Presentation at 6:00pm. For more information, call 816.235.8005 or email mercierk@toyandminiaturemuseum.org.

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts



Kauffman Center Presents Chanticleer: Then and There, Here and Now 40th Anniversary Tour (October 24th at 7:00 p.m. in Helzberg Hall).

Visit the [Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts](#) website to purchase tickets.



Kauffman Center Presents Yoga at the Kauffman Center (October 27th at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and November 10th at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in Brandmeyer Great Hall). Visit the [Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts](#) website to purchase tickets.

Kansas City Zoo

Hoots & Howls (weekends through October 21)

Join us the first three weekends of October for some spooky, not scary, activities and entertainment. Hoots & Howls is packed with fun for all ages! From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., you can cruise around on a pedal tractor, navigate a hay bale maze, sing along with our interactive DJ and take a ride on the Scare-o-cel. Enjoy a hayride around the Zoo and create a wild craft in the lobby. Our animals are joining in the fun by smashing pumpkins at scheduled times throughout the day.

Boo at the Zoo (Saturday-Sunday October 27-28)

Children will trick-or-treat the Zoo while enjoying Halloween-themed activities and entertainment from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Skip, hop, crawl or waddle to trick or treat stations with the zoiest gooiest treats in town. Put on your favorite costume and join the Zoo animals for a trumpeting great day of not-so-spooky activities. Our animals will also be smashing pumpkins at scheduled times throughout the day!

For information and tickets: www.kansascityzoo.org

Carolyn’s Country Cousins Pumpkin Patch



Located in Liberty, MO, Carolyn's Country Cousins is a great destination for family-friendly activities that include a country carousel, pumpkin wagon rides, mini-railroad, petting farm, festival food including kettle corn and pumpkin donuts, plus “The Best Pumpkin Patch” in Missouri of 2018. The 60-acre attraction is open daily from September 15 - October 31 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Information and admission: carolyncountrycousins.com

- Superhero Weekend (October 19-20)
- Special Needs Day (October 22)
- Halloween Weekend (October 27-28)

Mesner Puppet Theater

Mesner Puppet Theater presents *Animal Amigos! Stories from the Tree of Life* (October 7-November 4)



This show will be presented at 10:00 a.m. weekdays, Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at Central Ticket Office 816-235-6222.

Local Kansas City resident offer: Mesner Puppet Theater season tickets on sale buy one get one half off through October 16.

November

Territorial Capital Museum



Annual Christmas Tree Exhibit (November 1, 2018 – January 1, 2019)
Over 160 trees will be decorated with antique, vintage and themed ornaments. Territorial Capital Museum is located at 640 Woodson in Lecompton, Ks. The museum is open Monday - Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm and 1 - 5 PM on Sunday. Information: lecomptonkansas.com

National WWI Museum and Memorial

Armistice Centennial Commemoration (November 2-11, 2018)



Join the National WWI Museum and Memorial for an array of activities commemorating the Armistice of the first global war in human history. Activities include: *Peace and Remembrance*, a massive and moving light installation featuring poppies on America's official WWI memorial (Nov. 2-11, each evening); free admission for veterans/active duty military and half-price general admission to the public (Nov. 9-11); free Research Stations to find your WWI connection (Nov. 9-11); a Craft Your Own Poppy session (Nov. 10, 10 a.m.); Armistice Day Ceremony featuring moving readings of poems and letters from soldiers, musical performances and more (Nov. 11, 9:30 a.m.); the Walk of Honor Brick Dedication Ceremony (Nov. 11, 2 p.m.) and much more. For a complete list of activities, visit theworldwar.org.

Lyric Opera

Lyric Opera of Kansas City presents Puccini's classic opera *Madama Butterfly* November 3-11 at The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets start at \$29 at kcopera.org or (816) 471-7344.

The College Basketball Experience

College Basketball Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony (Sunday, November 18)

Experience the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony at the Midland Theatre. The National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame will induct basketball greats into the official hall of fame for men's college basketball. Visit halloffameweekend.com for more information and ticket sales.

The Hall of Fame Classic (Monday, November 19 and Tuesday, November 20)

The Hall of Fame Classic, a two-day four-team tournament, takes place at Sprint Center. Teams include Missouri State, Nebraska, Texas Tech and USC. [Purchase tickets today.](#)

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts



Brian Wilson: Greatest Hits Live (November 13th at 7:30 p.m. in Muriel Kauffman Theatre) Visit the [Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts](#) website to purchase tickets.

Starlight Theatre

The Naked Magicians (November 16-17)

As the weather cools off, the stage heats up as we kick off our fourth season of Starlight Indoors with The Naked Magicians - November 16 -17. Good magicians don't need sleeves and great magicians don't need pants. This show proves just that. Please note, The Naked Magicians is for mature audiences, 18+ only. Tickets available at [kcstarlight.com](#) or by calling 816-363-7827.

Mt Gilead Church and School

Christmas in the Country (November 17, 2018)

Join us in the one-room schoolhouse from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for a visit from Santa, while Mrs. Claus serves cookies, and children make Christmas crafts. Enjoy the Christmas selfie station and hot cider and cookies. The Mt. Gilead Church and School is located at 15918 Plattsburg Road Kearney, MO. For information: 816-736-8500.

National Museum of Toys and Miniatures

Day After Thanksgiving Family Day (November 23, 2018)

Gather your family and friends for a post-Turkey Day visit to T/m. Enjoy reminiscing about childhood toys you once found under the Christmas tree and be mesmerized by the incredible detail in fine-scale miniature works of art. Then, create your tiny tinsel Christmas tree-complete with miniature ornaments-in a family-friendly craft workshop. Included with admission.

Information: www.toyandminiaturemuseum.org

December

The Mesner Puppet Theater



The Little Prince co-produced with Arvin Gottlieb Planetarium (December 4-29, 2018) Tickets at Union Station, 816-460-2020 or online box-office.unionstation.org

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Kauffman Center Presents George Winston (December 12 at 7:00 p.m. in Helzberg Hall)

Visit the [Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts](http://kauffmancenter.org) website to purchase tickets

Kansas City Zoo

Santa Dives (weekends November 24 – December 23)

What's red and white and swimming with the penguins at Helzberg Penguin Plaza? Santa! Get a one-of-a-kind photo of Santa as penguins torpedo around him. Watch the penguin bubbles trail the man in the red suit and hear the children giggle. Dives are at 2 p.m. on weekends November 24 through December 23. For information and tickets: kansascityzoo.org

Kansas City Ballet

The Nutcracker (November 30 – December 23, 2018)



The Kansas City Ballet celebrates the holidays at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Following its Kennedy Center premiere in Washington, D.C., the acclaimed holiday production returns to Kansas City for its 46th year. The classic, Victorian-era story by E.T.A. Hoffman featuring Clara, the Prince, and Dr. Drosselmeier is wrapped with exquisite costumes by Holly Hynes, grand sets by Alain Vaës and captivating choreography by Artistic Director Devon Carney. See your children's wonder ignite and feel the glimmer once more as your childhood dreams return and inspire

you to imagine. (Run time is approximately two hours and 15 minutes with one 20-minute intermission.) Tickets: www.kcballet.org

About the Greater Kansas City Attractions Association

The GKCAA is a not-for-profit member organization dedicated to enhancing the success of member attractions through the strategic initiatives of collective marketing, membership services, networking and educational programs, advocacy as a collective voice, and providing opportunities to connect with local businesses interested in supporting the Greater Kansas City area's tourism industry. For a complete list of members and to learn more, visit attractionskc.org or facebook.com/AttractionsKC.

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