



Media Alert  
For Immediate Release

Contact: Matt Reinartz  
matt.reinartz@ci.stpaul.mn.us  
(651)487-8294 office  
(651)248-9836 cell

## Como Activities November - December

*All Is Not Quiet At Como Park Zoo & Conservatory!*

### Fall Flower Show

**Now - November 30**

While many Minnesota gardens are already covered in snow, the Sunken Garden at the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory is in full bloom. The Fall Flower Show features a variety of Chrysanthemums. We are also featuring Yellow-Stemmed Swiss Chard for the first time! The show will also feature Calendula, Kale, and Ornamental Peppers.

### Ikebana Show

**November 10-16**

**Daily 10am-4pm**

Unique flower arrangements that utilize the flowers, foliage and berries of autumn will be created by artists from Ikebana International's Minneapolis St Paul Chapter.

### Artist, Photographer & Family Photo Mornings

**November 23 and December 7**

**8AM - 10AM**

**\$5 per person**

Whether you choose the lush greenery of the North Garden or the flowers in the Sunken Garden, this is the perfect opportunity to use the beautiful setting of the many gardens inside the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory as a backdrop for holiday family photos. Guests are welcome to bring in their own camera and find the perfect spot for their photo.

This is also a great opportunity for artists and photographer's to bring in their easels and tripods before hours.

### 'Drop and Shop' at Como

**November 28 and December 13**

This holiday season Como Park Zoo & Conservatory is offering parents a way to check things off their holiday to-do list while their little elves are busy having fun at Como. Como is offering an educational, fun-filled experience that will occupy the little ones, giving parents the opportunity to take care of their holiday shopping....or perhaps simply go on a date!

Como's "Drop & Shop" program will be available on Friday, November 28 (Black Friday) and Saturday, December 13th. During these 4.5 hour programs, kids will tackle a scavenger hunt through the Zoo and Conservatory, meet special animal visitors, and participate in games, crafts, and other wild zoo-themed fun.

Space is limited & pre-registration is required. The cost is \$35 per child. Family discounts are available. For more information and to register call 651-487-8272.

### **Holiday Flower Show**

**December 6 – January 4, 2015**

**Daily 10am – 4pm**

A visual sensation to behold featuring hundreds of poinsettias. This year the Sunken Garden will showcase a sizzling floral spectrum of traditional reds complimented with touches of soft pinks. Red Poinsettia cultivars Chianti, Freedom Fireworks, Prestige Maroon, and Cortez Burgundy will be featured with Poinsettia 'Premium Apricot' and Coleus Pink Ruffles.

### **Artist & Photographer Mornings**

**8am – 10pm**

**\$5 per person**

Whether you choose the lush greenery of the North Garden or the flowers in the Sunken Garden, this is the perfect opportunity to use the beautiful setting of the many gardens inside the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory as a backdrop for holiday family photos. Guests are welcome to bring in their own camera and find the perfect spot for their photo.

### **Holiday Tea & Behind-The-Scenes-Tour**

**December 11**

**Two Seatings: 11am & 2pm**

Leave the cool weather outside and delight in an afternoon garden tea service in the beautiful Marjorie McNeely Conservatory. Guests will dine on a scrumptious 3 course tea service and receive a behind-the-scenes tour of the Conservatory. \$35 per person before Thanksgiving or \$40 after Thanksgiving. Space is limited and reservations are required by calling 651-487-8250.

### **December 22 Our Winter Break Camps Begin**

Looking for something fun & educational for your kids to do over winter break? Or perhaps your kids are out of school, but you have to work? We have you covered! Winter Break Camps are for students in Kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and are full-day sessions.

<http://www.comozooconservatory.org/education/kids/camps/#/general>

Click [HERE](#) for a listing of camps and to register

### **Music Under Glass**

**Sundays beginning December 28 – March 1, 2015\***

**4:30pm – 6:30pm**

*\*Note: There will be no shows on January 25 and February 15.*

Free live music from some of the Twin Cities finest musicians perform in the Sunken Garden. The music is also piped in to the Palm Dome and North Garden for your listening and strolling enjoyment. Beer and wine will be available to purchase.

### **Noon Year's Eve**

**December 31 and January 1**

**11:00am-1:00pm**

A family event to ring in the "Zoo" year that is so fun, we're doing it twice! On December 31 and January 1 Como Park Zoo & Conservatory will be filled with dance, games, special animal enrichments, and a countdown to noon with hundreds of beach balls dropping from the ceiling.

### **Holiday Shopping in Garden Safari Gifts**

**10am – 4pm Daily**

Como's Garden Safari Gifts is open 365 days a year and combines the best of both the zoo and conservatory by featuring botanical soaps and lotions, distinctive jewelry, adorable stuffed animals, fun interactive children's gifts, live plants, bonsai, apparel items and more! Buy that perfect holiday gift for that someone special.

*Unless otherwise noted, all events are free admission and open to the public*

### **Como Park Zoo and Conservatory Background**

For over 100 years, Marjorie McNeely Conservatory and Como Zoo in Saint Paul, Minnesota has charmed, educated and entertained millions of children and adults while fostering an appreciation of the natural world, helping to make Saint Paul the Most Livable City in America. The Como Park Zoo and Conservatory is open 365 days; 10am-4pm from October 1-March 31 and 10am-6pm from April 1-September 30. Admission to both the Como Zoo and Marjorie McNeely Conservatory is always free and a voluntary donation is appreciated.

XXX