Downtown Missoula is Bustling with Holiday Happenings

Missoula-area businesses and non-profit organizations are gearing up for an action-packed celebratory 2018 holiday season with a robust schedule of holiday events and activities this season. The Downtown Missoula Partnership (DMP) serves as information headquarters for all things happening Downtown:

Free Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides Saturdays & Sundays in December through Dec 16. Every Saturday and Sunday through December 16, the Downtown Missoula Partnership offers free horse-drawn carriage rides in partnership with Paws Up Montana and sponsored by Lithia For Missoula. Services are offered from 11 am-4 pm and can be found at the Missoula Art Park (corner of East Pine & Pattee).

Festival of Trees Nov. 30-Dec. 9
The 10-day festival will be held at the First Interstate Bank (101 E. Front) and will feature over 30 beautifully-decorated holiday trees and wreaths designed by local artists, families and businesses. In partnership with Make-A-Wish Montana, the Festival of Trees highlights will be the daily Tour of Trees, four separate Teddy Bear Teas, a Merry Mimosa Brunch, and the Holiday Soiree & Auction on Sat., Dec. 8. Rates range from $2 for the tour to $35 for the Soiree.

Downtown Window-Decorating Contest
Nearly 20 Downtown businesses will be participating in the annual Downtown Window-Decorating Contest this year. Missoula residents and visitors are invited to view and vote for their favorite windows in five different categories. Online voting will be open from December 1-18 at missouladowntown.com.

Downtown Gift Cards on Sale
Downtown Gift Cards make great holiday gifts for family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. Redeemable at nearly 200 destinations, Missoula Downtown Gift Cards are available for sale at the DMP Office (218 E. Main), at the MSO Hub (140 N. Higgins) and online at missouladowntown.com. This year the Downtown Gift Card program is the only multi-merchant program available in Missoula.

These activities and events are supported by a variety of Missoula-area businesses including Blackfoot, First Interstate Bank, Frame of Mind, Liquid Planet, Lithia Ford, Jim Palmer Trucking, Pepsi-Cola, Providence Health & Services, Missoula Copy Center, Caras Nursery & Landscape, Stevens & Company, ATIC, Parkside Credit Union, Charter College, ATG: Cognizant, and many, many more.

A BIG THANK YOU to all who joined us to kick-off the holidays Downtown at Small Business Saturday on Nov 24 and the 16th annual Parade of Lights on Dec 1! These two incredible days brought thousands of people to the heart of our community and started the holidays off right!
You’re Invited!

Complimentary beer, wine and cider provided by Summit Beverage. Come have a holly jolly time with us at this can’t-miss celebration!

Thursday, December 6
5:00PM – 7:00PM
Holiday Inn Downtown Missoula

Downtown Holiday Window

The MDA will be holding a holiday window decorating contest! Voting is available online through noon on Tuesday, December 18. Prizes will be awarded on Thursday, December 20. To vote visit downtown-missoula.com.

2018 Holiday MADE Fair Returns to the Adams Center December 9

Shop all three levels of the Adams Center (balcony, arena floor, and upper gyms) and discover new artists and shop your favorites. The 12th annual Missoula Holiday MADE fair will include free entry, free parking, and plenty of room to shop.

The MADE fair is an artist & handcrafted market featuring local and regional artists. Our curated collection of artisans represents Montana’s best of the best Montana. The MADE Fair show was recently listed as one of the best holiday shows in the country!

MISSOULA HOLIDAY MADE FAIR
December 9, 2018 // 11am-6pm
Adams Center, University of Montana

Miss the crowds and enjoy additional discounts & offers during Happy Hours 4pm-6pm.
What’s Your Dream for Downtown Missoula?
Downtown Master Plan: Dover, Kohl & Partners Return to Missoula
January 14-18, 2019

The next intensive phase of work to update the Downtown Master Plan will take place January 14-18, 2019, when Dover, Kohl & Partners return to Missoula for an intensive planning charrette. This week of collaboration will feature a group of professional town designers working with Missoulians to generate ideas, pursue interests, and explore innovative thinking around what we want Downtown Missoula to look like 10 years from now.

As we establish a unified vision for America’s Great Neighborhood, engagement from the primary stakeholders of Downtown Missoula is vitally important, and the January events are expected to be the highlights of the entire process.

The Downtown Missoula Partnership will host a full-week of hands-on design workshops where all Missoulians can build the Downtown of their dreams. We recommend you mark your calendars today for these fun, creative, and inspiring sessions.

Monday, Jan. 14: Kickoff & Hands-On Sessions
The Doubletree Hotel | 5-7 pm and 7-9 pm
The Charrette Kickoff and Hands-On Design Sessions will open the five-day process with small group design sessions to focus on Downtown Missoula’s housing, retail, parking, transportation, and more. There will be two sessions Monday evening at the Doubletree Hotel (100 Madison), one from 5-7 pm and another from 7-9 pm.

January 15-17: Open Design Studio
The Public House | 10am-7pm
Dover, Kohl & Partners staff will set up shop at The Public House (130 E. Broadway) from 10 am-7 pm for three consecutive days. All Missoulians are invited to drop in any time to watch and work with the designers to create concepts, schematics, buildings and more. Watch them design the future Downtown Missoula.

January 16: MDA Awards Banquet
The Doubletree Hotel | 5-8 pm
DK&P’s Jason King will serve as the keynote speaker for the Missoula Downtown Association Awards Banquet, and the MDA will recognize several individuals for their service to the Downtown community, including the Dan Cederberg Downtowner of the Year Award.

January 18: Work-In-Progress Presentation
The Wilma, 131 S. Higgins | 4-6 pm
Spend Friday Night at The Wilma and see the progress DK&P has made shaping Downtown Missoula’s future. Jason King and his team will present an overview of the work that was accomplished during the week and map out next steps.

All MDA Members are asked to engage in 1-3 different activities during the week. Please give thought to what your dreams are for Downtown Missoula and invest some time in building the future of America’s Great Neighborhood.

For more information, visit https://www.missouladowntown.com/downtown-master-plan/ or contact Pam Udall via email (pam@missouladowntown.com).
SAVE THE DATE!

The Annual MDA Awards Dinner is Wednesday, January 16 from 5-8 pm at the DoubleTree Downtown (100 Madison St).

Mark your calendar and make your nominations for:

- Dan Cederberg
  Downtowner of the Year
- Downtown Business of the Year
- Downtown Employee of the Year
- Committee Member of the Year
- MDA Board Member of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year

To make nominations visit missouladowntown.com. Nomination Deadline is December 28.

Submit member Shout Outs to info@missouladowntown.com by the 18th of the month.

Shout Out

The Missoula Valley Winter Market is a market that specializes in extending the summer market season. Featuring over 40 vendors with everything from local produce (well into February) to quality art and crafts. Stop by, grab a pastry and a coffee, shop for the week’s groceries, or buy a holiday gift for that special someone. Every Saturday Nov 10- April 20 at the Missoula Senior Center.

The 25th Annual First Night Missoula is a community wide New Year’s Eve celebration of the arts, beginning at 12 pm and running until midnight, at nearly 30 venues in Downtown Missoula, at the University of Montana, at Southgate Mall, and other locations in the city. Music, dance, comedy, visual art, children’s programming, and much more. Over 50 distinct activities and events through the day. Admission buttons are $10 in advance, and available at 20 locations in Missoula and the Bitterroot. Call 406-541-0860 for more information.

BID Offering Winter Snow Removal Services

Winter is coming...did you know the BID offers winter snow removal for a small fee throughout the winter? The truck is equipped with a plow during the winter months, the BID maintenance team can plow almost any sidewalk, alley, or parking lot. Contact Daniel Tulik, BID Maintenance Manager, at (406) 370-7540 for a preliminary assessment of your plowing needs and a quote. Pricing starts at $45 per hour.