

# NEWS RELEASE

Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau



## Extend the Holiday Season in the Rockford Region with Hot Upcoming Events

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 17, 2009

ROCKFORD, IL — It's hard to imagine life after the holidays with busy shopping days still ahead of us, but calmer, wrapping paper-free days will soon be upon us. Why not extend your holiday season into January – minus the stress – with an assortment of events and performances in the nearby, value-packed Rockford Region?

### Stay Active with Rockford Sports

The Rockford Region is well-known as a summer sports destination for soccer, baseball and softball, but did you know Rockford also boasts a variety of sports offerings during the winter? See professional hockey action with the AHL hockey team the [Rockford IceHogs](#) November through March, with giveaways and special guest appearances at many of the games. Traditional "football" fans won't want to miss Rockford's professional soccer team the [Rockford Rampage](#) as they take on other National Indoor Soccer League teams November through March. Both teams battle their opponents at the [Rockford MetroCentre](#), Rockford's 10,000 seat downtown arena that hosts a variety of events and entertainment, including concerts, rodeos, motor sports, trade shows, comedy and family shows.

### *Upcoming HOT Event:*

Harlem Globetrotters 2010 World Tour

**When:** 7 p.m. Friday, January 8, 2010

**Location:** Rockford MetroCentre, 300 Elm St., Rockford, Ill.

**Cost:** \$18, \$25, \$37, \$80

**More information:** 815.968.5222, [www.metrocentre.com](http://www.metrocentre.com)

Now in their 84th consecutive season of touring the world, the Globetrotters' high-flying show features some of the most extraordinary athletes and entertainers on the planet, including the always hilarious Special K Daley; dribbling magician Scooter Christensen; ball-handling wizards Handles Franklin and Ant Atkinson; and Big Easy Lofton and Flight Time Lang, who are starring in the Emmy Award-winning CBS reality hit, "The Amazing Race."

### Be Swept Away by Rockford Performances

Rockford is enamored with the performance arts, and this love is reflected in the region's world-class performance arts venues and groups. The [Coronado Performing Arts Center](#) is an opulent theater built in 1927 as a vaudeville hall that hosts an incredible spectrum of performances, from an annual line-up of performances presented by the [Rockford Symphony Orchestra](#), the [Rockford Dance Company](#) and the [Rockford Coronado Concert Association](#), to a wide variety of musical and entertainment shows from comedians like Jerry Seinfeld to entertainers like famous illusionist David Copperfield. Other local performance arts organizations that contribute to the tangible artistic buzz in the region include [Mendelssohn Performing Arts Center](#), the oldest continuous community music organization in the United States, and [Artists' Ensemble Theatre](#), an Equity Theater formed by local actors that offers world-premiere and well-known plays September through May.

### *Upcoming HOT Events:*

Rockford Dance Company presents "Peter and the Wolf"

**When:** 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m. & 4:30 p.m. Saturday, January 16, 2010

**Location:** Sullivan Center, 118 N. Main St., Rockford, Ill.

**Cost:** \$12/adults, \$6/children

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**More information:** 815.963.3341, [www.rockforddancecompany.com](http://www.rockforddancecompany.com)

Witness the courage of young Peter as he plans his revenge on the wolf in this wintery classical story. This family adventure of love, grief, and bravery is presented by the Rockford Dance Company, which has been committed to the promotion of the art of dance through quality performances, education and outreach programming since its inception in 1973.

The Canadian Mist Bob & Tom Comedy All-Stars Tour

**When:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, January 22, 2010

**Location:** Coronado Performing Arts Center, 314 N. Main St., Rockford, Ill.

**Cost:** All seats are \$32.50 (reserved seating)

**More information:** 815.968.0595, <http://www.coronadopac.org>, [www.bobandtom.com](http://www.bobandtom.com)

Presented by The Bob & Tom Show and WXRX 104.9, this all-star comedy tour stars Greg Hahn, Greg Warren and Donnie Baker & the Pork Pistols, with emcee Kristi Lee of The Bob & Tom Show. Please note the show contains mature content. Comics are subject to change.

Broadway at the Coronado presents "The Drowsy Chaperone"

**When:** 2 p.m. Sunday, January 31, 2010

**Location:** Coronado Performing Arts Center, 314 N. Main St., Rockford, Ill.

**Cost:** \$31.50, \$41.50, \$51.50

**More information:** 815.968.0595, [www.coronadopac.org](http://www.coronadopac.org)

Welcome to "The Drowsy Chaperone," the new musical comedy with the most 2006 Tony Awards of any musical on Broadway! When a fan plays his favorite cast album, a 1928 hit called "The Drowsy Chaperone," the show bursts to life, and the audience is immersed in a glamorous tale of a celebrity bride filled with hilarious thrills and surprises.

### Take an Adventure in Art

Art can take some surprising forms, and it's definitely not in short supply in the Rockford Region. The [Rockford Art Museum](http://www.rockfordartmuseum.org) is Illinois' largest art museum outside of Chicago with over 1,200 works of art, from its permanent collection of 19th and 20th Century American art to dynamic, changing exhibits featuring regional and national artists. The local art scene's pulse is also racing with the thrill of creation and can be viewed throughout the area, from [Cholke Photography and Fine Art Gallery](http://www.cholke.com) to [J.R. Kortman Center for Design](http://www.jrkortman.com) to [Golan Liberman Contemporary Art](http://www.golanliberman.com).

### *Upcoming HOT Events:*

24<sup>th</sup> Annual Illinois Snow Sculpting Competition

**When:** 24 hours a day Wednesday through Saturday, January 20 - 23, 2010

**Location:** Sinnissippi Park, 1401 N. Second St., Rockford, Ill.

**More information:** 815.987.8800, [www.rockfordparkdistrict.org](http://www.rockfordparkdistrict.org)

Teams from around the state and local high school youths compete to create the "coolest" artwork you've ever seen using blocks of snow. See themes from whimsical and fanciful to political satire and the abstract. The sculptures will be available for public view 24 hours a day, with the evenings lit up for night viewing.

Rockford Art Museum presents 2010 Rockford Midwestern

**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays, January 23 - April 18, 2010

**Location:** Rockford Art Museum, 711 N. Main St., Rockford, Ill.

**Cost:** \$6/adults, \$3/students & seniors, free/museum members and children under 12. Contact museum for group fees.

Tuesdays are free to the public; group rates still apply.

**More information:** 815.968.2787, [www.rockfordartmuseum.org](http://www.rockfordartmuseum.org)

The 2010 Rockford Midwestern marks the 71st presentation of RAM's juried exhibition, which began in 1913 as an annual showcase of local artists. Now a biennial competition, the Midwestern is open to artists residing in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

*Rockford, IL, is located approximately 60 minutes west of Chicago's O'Hare International Airport off Interstate 90. For information on accommodations and things to do, visit [www.gorockford.com](http://www.gorockford.com). RACVB is a private, non-profit organization established in 1984 to champion efforts to promote the Rockford Region as an overnight visitor destination. The RACVB generates positive economic impact for our community through investments in tourism.*

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### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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