

*Bellevue*  
MAGIC SEASON

**Media contact:**

Patrick Bannon,

425.453.3113

[patrick@bellevuedowntown.org](mailto:patrick@bellevuedowntown.org)

(Photos available upon request)

## 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BELLEVUE MAGIC SEASON ARRIVES NOVEMBER 28

**BELLEVUE, WA (Nov. 18, 2008)** – The Eastside’s favorite holiday festivities and traditions return to Bellevue November 28 to January 11 with the enchanting Group Health Ice Arena, spectacular Snowflake Lane, dazzling Garden d’Lights, and captivating performances at The Theatre at Meydenbauer Center.

“Downtown Bellevue is the perfect place to create holiday magic and make memories,” said Leslie Lloyd, president of the Bellevue Downtown Association. “The events and displays transform downtown for six weeks, and it’s the only spot where you can ice-skate outdoors, celebrate with five-dozen drummers nightly in the “snow,” take in a concert or ballet, stroll among 500,000 lights, and still fit in your gift buying.”

*Stroll  
Skate!  
Celebrate!*

The Bellevue Magic Season also celebrates its 12th year as a presenting partnership between the Bellevue Downtown Association, the City of Bellevue, The Theatre at Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue Botanical Garden and Kemper Development Company, along with many other supporting community organizations and downtown businesses.

Additional event details, hours, and directions are available at [magicseason.com](http://magicseason.com).

### **Group Health Ice Arena presented by STAR 101.5 and KOMO 1000 Newsradio**

The Group Health Ice Arena presents the region’s only open-air holiday ice skating experience. The ice arena is larger this year with nearly 20-percent more skating surface, provides shelter for all-weather skating, offers stunning views of the park’s lighted waterfall, and keeps skaters and guests toasty warm and cheerful with a heated viewing area and available refreshments.

**Also new this year: “Free Skate Mondays,”** compliments of Bank of America – visit a participating Bank of America branch and pick up a pass to skate free on Mondays. For branch locations, visit [magicseason.com](http://magicseason.com).

- Extended skating season: November 28 – January 11
- Bellevue Downtown Park – NE 1<sup>st</sup> Street & 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE
- \$10 admission (includes skate rental)
- Advance Discount Admission Pass. Purchase 10 skating passes for \$75 (a \$25 savings).
- “Free Skate Mondays,” compliments of Bank of America

(more)

### **Snowflake Lane presented by The Bellevue Collection**

Experience the grandeur of Snowflake Lane along the sidewalks of Bellevue Way at The Bellevue Collection. Snow falls nightly as live toy soldiers and winter characters, music and a dazzling light show brighten the night and warm your heart. For more information call 425.454.8096 or visit [bellevuecollection.com](http://bellevuecollection.com).

- November 28 – December 24
- Bellevue Way and NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street
- Shows nightly at 7 p.m.
- Free

### **Celebration Lane**

And the show doesn't end on December 24. Ring in the New Year with evening performances of Celebration Lane at 7 p.m., December 26–December 31.

- December 26 – December 31
- Bellevue Way and NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street
- Shows nightly at 7 p.m.
- Free

### **Garden d'Lights at the Bellevue Botanical Garden supported by Classical KING FM 98.1**

More than 500,000 lights illuminate the Bellevue Botanical Garden in a breathtaking, nationally-recognized holiday display. Stroll through the gardens and enjoy music by Classical KING FM 98.1. New this year—see the four-foot angel fish in the visitor center aquarium and the alligator at play near the waterfall. For more information call 425.451.3755, or visit [bellevuebotanical.org](http://bellevuebotanical.org).

- November 29 – January 3
- Bellevue Botanical Garden – 12001 Main Street
- Open nightly, 5 – 10:00 p.m.
- Free (donations are encouraged to support the light display)
- Parking is \$5 at the Botanical Garden and free at Wilburton Hill Park

### **The Theatre at Meydenbauer Center presented by Classical KING FM 98.1**

The Theatre at Meydenbauer Center hosts a magical holiday series of musical and dramatic productions by regional and local performance groups, including the International Ballet Theatre, Ballet Bellevue, Bellevue Youth Theatre, Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra and Magical Strings. For complete information on holiday performances call 425.450.3810 or visit [meydenbauer.com](http://meydenbauer.com). The Theatre is located at NE 6<sup>th</sup> Street and 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE.

- November 29–30: Bellevue Opera presents *Hansel and Gretel*
- December 7: Bellevue Youth Symphony presents *Magic of Mistletoe*
- December 12–14 & 17–23: International Ballet Theatre presents *The Nutcracker*
- December 5: Bellevue Youth Theatre presents *A Christmas Carol*
- December 15: Magical Strings presents *A Yuletide Concert*
- December 28–31 & January 2–4: Ballet Bellevue presents *The Snow Man*

###