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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Nov. 23, 2016**

**Holiday fun for families at the National Hellenic Museum**

*Food, music, crafts, and fun at the Museum's family Christmas party*

**CHICAGO, IL** - Experience the warmth of a Greek family Christmas this season in Greektown at the National Hellenic Museum.

The Museum's family Christmas party on Dec. 10 from 1-5 p.m. is a great way to start off your exploration of the food, music, and traditions of Greece. The event is free with Museum admission.

Featuring a performance by the Dionysus Dance Troupe, the event includes making traditional Koulourakia cookies, photos with Santa Clause, painting, and crafts that include designing a Karavaki (Christmas boat), wreath, and model Acropolis.

Students in the Museum's Greek Language and Culture classes will sing and dance and docents will be offering tours of the second floor exhibition *Aegean: Creation of an Archipelago* and the third floor exhibition *Reaching for the American Dream: The Greek Story in America*.

"There are so many unique and wonderful traditions that we want to share with families," said Dimitra Georgouses, Education and Public Programs Manager. "This is a perfect way for families to explore Greek culture and share in the warmth of the Greek spirit."

After the Christmas party, view the Greektown Christmas tree lighting celebration, hosted by the Greektown Special Services Area #16, on the corner of Halsted and Van Buren Streets at 5 p.m.

Even more great family events this holiday season at NHM:

**SUNDAY TOUR AND CRAFT**

Every Sunday at 2 p.m.

Join us for a bilingual story time where children act out a Greek myth and participate in a craft.

\$5 per adult, children are free (Ages 2-12)

No RSVP is required

**WINTER FAMILY DAYS**

Dec. 27 and 29, 2016

Join us from 1 - 5 p.m. for winter family fun, including crafts, Greek dance lessons, exhibit tours, a hands-on cookie (Koulourakia) demonstration and refreshments.

Free with museum admission (Ages 4-15)

Pre-registration is required, [Register here](#)

**TRADITIONAL CUTTING OF THE VASILOPITA (NEW YEAR'S BREAD)**

January 7, 2017

Join us at 1:30 p.m. to experience the Greek tradition of Vasilopita. Find the hidden coin for loads of good luck and a surprise prize.

Free with museum admission

No RSVP is required

Photo 1:

Families enjoy painting and crafts at the National Hellenic Museum Christmas Party.



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*Located in Chicago's Greektown, the sleek 40,000-square-foot National Hellenic Museum at 333. S. Halsted St. is both contemporary and timeless, connecting all generations—past, present and future—to the rich heritage of Greek history, culture, art and the Greek American experience. The National Hellenic Museum, previously known as the Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center, has been fulfilling this mission since 1983.*

For more information, visit <http://www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org> or call 312-655-1234.

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