



BARTOW - PELL MANSION MUSEUM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact: Ellen Bruzelius  
718-885-1461, ebruzelius@bpmm.org

## Save Room for a Storybook Christmas!

*Music, Shopping, Storybook Christmas Trees, Artists and Designers  
are just beginning of the holiday festivities at Bartow-Pell*

Bronx, New York, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 – Don't fill up on Thanksgiving turkey—save some room for the holiday treats in store at Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum!

Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup> is the festive kick-off: Eight Storybook Christmas trees based on favorite children's stories will dazzle visitors from the moment the front doors swing open for the Holiday Luncheon. In addition to a delicious meal in a magical holiday mansion, Pamela Dalton, New York Times award-winning children's book illustrator, will sign books and demonstrate the art of *scherenschnitte*—or paper cutting. A post-prandial stroll through the mansion will delight as the Storybook Christmas Tree in each room reveals a favorite children's story—from Raggedy Andy to Curious George—interpreted by artists and designer from Manhattan, City Island, and Westchester.

Saturday brings Bartow-Pell's annual Holiday Family Day chock-full of events for all ages. Children will delight in a shadow puppet show, *A Year with the Bartow Family*, by French artist Caroline Borderies, a visit and a photo with Santa, and a puppet-making workshop with Caroline. The grown-ups will enjoy shopping and camaraderie amidst the mansion's holiday finery.

That evening, it's time to raise a tune and a cocktail. At the grand Holiday Evening Celebration, guests will enjoy the mansion in full holiday splendor with carols, cocktails, delicious food, and friends. They'll have an opportunity to bid on a wide range of fabulous gifts *and* support the mansion. The silent and live auction items range from a tour of the Little Red Lighthouse to a basket of Eloise goodies for a special little girl; from dinner for ten at the mansion catered by Scarborough Fare to a Charles Fazzino limited-edition, 3-D artwork of NYC. There's something for all ages, tastes, and budgets!

There's more to come—including music with the Metropolitones and the Bronx Art Ensemble, candlelit tours of the holiday mansion—but kick the season off with a bit of 19<sup>th</sup>-century magic and help support Bartow-Pell programs for the coming year.

## HOLIDAY 2012 EVENTS

### Holiday Luncheon

Friday, November 30, 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m.

Booksigning and demo by paper artist Pamela Dalton, New York Times award-winning children's book illustrator. Call 718.885.1461 for details

### Annual Holiday Family Day

Saturday, December 1, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Holiday spirit abounds during this fun-filled day. Children will delight in a shadow puppet show, *A Year with the Bartow Family*, by French artist Caroline Borderies. Professional photographs with Santa (additional fee), holiday shopping, caroling, and more. Puppet shows at 10:15 and 12:15; puppet making with Caroline at 11:15. Other holiday crafts and photos with Santa on-going. Space is limited, registration required. Cost \$20 children one year and up; member children \$15 (adults and children under one year free)

### Holiday Evening Celebration

Saturday, December 1, 7–10 p.m.

Support the museum while enjoying cocktails and holiday fare, caroling, and more! Call 718.885.1461 for details

### First Friday! with the Metropolitones

Friday, December 7, 5:30–8:30 p.m.

Experience the magic of the mansion decked out for the holidays and delight in the festive, fun sound of the a cappella Metropolitones. Do a little holiday shopping and enjoy refreshments. The free Bronx Seaside Trolley makes a continuous loop from the #6 Pelham Bay Park subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration requested. Cost \$10 adults; \$8 seniors & students; members free

### Bronx Arts Ensemble Holiday Concert

Saturday, December 15, 1 and 3 p.m.

The Bronx Arts Ensemble and Singers present a wonderful holiday concert with music for St. Nicholas. Concert is free, but space is limited and tickets are required. Call Bronx Arts Ensemble at 718.601.7399 for tickets. The museum will not be open for tours on Saturday.

### Holiday Candlelight Tours and Victorian Carolers

Saturday, December 15, 6–8 p.m.

Experience the mansion by candlelight with costumed docents highlighting 19th-century holiday traditions. Victorian carolers add to the festive atmosphere while you enjoy light holiday fare and wassail in the Orangerie. Christmas trees throughout the house evoke beloved characters in children's books. Reservations required. Cost \$12 adults, \$8 seniors & students

### Bronx Arts Ensemble Holiday Concert

Sunday, December 16, 1 and 3 p.m.

The Bronx Arts Ensemble and Singers present a wonderful holiday concert with music for St. Nicholas. Concert is free, but space is limited and tickets are required. Call Bronx Arts Ensemble at 718.601.7399 for tickets. The museum will not be open for tours on Sunday.

### THE TREES

*Merry Christmas, Curious George* Storybook by H.A. Rey; Tree design by Bartow-Pell docents **Linda Sacewicz and Christine Williams**

*Eloise at Christmastime* Storybook by Kay Thompson, tree decorator; City Island artist **Anoosh Donahue**

*Paddington and the Christmas Surprise* Storybook by Michael Bond; Tree design by interior designer **Jennifer Mehditash**

*How the Grinch Stole Christmas* Storybook by Dr. Seuss; Tree design by New York artist **Mary Rumser**

*The Velveteen Rabbit* Storybook by Margery Williams; Tree design by interior designer **Tamara Matthews Stephenson**

*Babar and Father Christmas* Storybook by Jean de Brunhoff; Tree design by City Island artists **Mary Colby and Marguerite Chadwick-Juner**

*Christmas Eve Blizzard* Storybook by Andrea Vlakhis; Tree design by artist and Wave Hill Family Art project manager **Ilse Murdock**

*Raggedy Andy Stories* Storybook by Johnny Gruelle; Tree design by interior designer **Bryant Keller**

###

### About Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum

A National Historic Landmark located in New York City's largest park, **Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum**, an 1840s Greek Revival mansion, is the last of the country estates in the Pelham Bay area. BPMM is located at 895 Shore Road, Pelham Bay Park, Bronx, New York. The mansion and carriage house are open to the public for guided tours on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. The gardens and grounds are open daily from 8:30 a.m. to dusk. For more information about Bartow-Pell, visit [www.bpmm.org](http://www.bpmm.org).