TRAVER Minus

2023 WINTER 2024 VINTER FESTIVALS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Vesperman Farms Now–Oct 29 @ 8149 Stage Rd, Lancaster, WI

A Year with Frog & Toad Sept 29—Oct 8 @ Grand Opera House

> Dubuque Latinx Fiesta Sept 30 @ Smokestack

Galena Oktoberfest Sept 30 @ Depot Park (Galena, IL)

Dark Chambers Haunted Attraction Oct 6–31 @ 1341 Frontage Rd, Hazel Green, WI

Shullsburg Cheesefest Oct 6–7 @ Water St, Shullsburg, WI

41st Annual Galena Country Fair Oct 7—8 @ Grant Park (Galena IL)

Dock Dogs World Championships 2023 Oct 11-15 @ Five Flags Arena

> Millwork Night Market Oct 12 @ 7th—9th and Jackson St

> Drinking Habits 2
> Oct 13–29 @ Bell Tower Theater

Jeeps on the Mountain Oct 13–14 @ Sundown Mountain Resort

Twenty Dirty Hands
Oct 13–15 @ Various Locations
in the Tri-States

iLuminate Oct 19 @ Five Flags Arena

The Tappening
Oct 21 @ Five Flags Arena

Haunting on Lincoln Ave Oct 21 @ Mathias Ham Historic

The Music of Billy Joel & Elton John with Michael Cavanaugh Oct 21 @ University of Dubuque Heritage Center

JDIFF Halloween "Boo" Parade Oct 21 @ Main St Parade Route

Galena's Halloween Parade & Festival Oct 28 @ Main St, Galena, IL

Mad Scientist Party
Oct 29 @ National Mississippi River
Museum & Aquarium

Steely Dane Nov 3 @ Grand Opera House

45th Annual National Farm Toy Show Nov 3—5 @ Dyersville, IA

Dubuque Winter Farmers Market Sat: Nov 4—April 27 @ Kennedy Mall

Blippi: The Wonderful World Tour Nov 9 @ Five Flags Arena

The Struts
Nov 11 @ Diamond Jo Casino
Mississippi Moon Bar

Vienna Boys Choir Nov 17 @ University of Dubuque Heritage Center

39th Annual Galena Nouveau Wine Weekend Nov 17 @ Galena, IL

A Christmas Carol Nov 24—Dec 3 @ Grand Opera House

Reflections in the Park Nov 24—Jan 2 @ Louis Murphy Park

> Christmas on the Square Nov 25 @ Cable Car Square

A Doublewide, Texas Christmas

Dec 1–17 @ Bell Tower Theater

A Merry Millwork Market
Dec 1–2 @ Dubuque Millwork District

DSO Holiday Concerts
Dec 2-3 @ Five Flags Theater

Million Dollar Quartet Christmas
Dec 8 @ Five Flags Arena

The Dubuque City Youth Ballet:
The Nuteracker
Dec 9-17 @ Grand Opera House

Night of the Luminaria & Living Windows Dec 9 @ Main Street, Galena, IL

Toys For Tots Kids' Christmas Party
Dec 10 @ Five Flags Arena

Sinatra and Friends New Year's Eve Dec 31 @ Grand Opera House

Special Olympics Iowa Winter Games Jan 8–9 @ Various Locations in Dubuque

Harlem Globetrotters
Jan 9 @ Five Flags Arena

DSO: Ultimate Rock Hits Jan 12–13 @ Diamond Jo Casino Mississippi Moon Bar

IceFest

Jan 13-14 @ National Mississippi River
Museum & Aquarium

Winter Iowa Games
Jan 26–28 @ Various Locations

An Evening with Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives
Jan 27 @ Univeristy of Dubuque
Heritage Center

Baggage Feb 9–25 @ Bell Tower Theater

Almost Maine Feb 23—March 3 @ Grand Opera House

> Dubuque on Ice Brewfest Feb 24 @ Grand River Center

365 Impact Awards Feb 27 @ Diamond Jo Cassino Mississippi Moon Bar

Galena Whiskey Weekend March 9 @ Turner Hall (Galena, IL)

Dyersville St. Patrick's Day Parade March 16 @ Dyersville, IA

BestFest 2024
March 21 @ Grand River Center

Community Easter Egg Hunt March 30 @ Allison Henderson Park

"Hank & My Honky Tonk Heroes— 100 Years of Hank" April 5 @ University of Dubuque Heritage Center

The Heartland Ballet: Cinderella April 6-14 @ Grand Opera House

Ken Ludwig's Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery April 12–28 @ Bell Tower Theater

Julien Dubuque International Film Festival April 24–28 @ Downtown Dubuque

> Mac and Cheese Fest May 2 @ Grand River Center

Vintage Torque Fest May 3–4 @ Dubuque County Fairgrounds





Vesperman Farms

Now—Oct 29 @ 8149 Stage Rd, Lancaster, WI One of the biggest and most challenging corn mazes in the Midwest is just the beginning of a big day! You gotta see the pumpkin trebuchet throw 'em a quarter mile! Visit the pumpkin patch, play games, meet farm animals, watch the air cannon, the 100' zip line, the snack barn with everything from BBQ pork to caramel apples, apple cider doughnuts, and ice cream. Open seven days a week, vespermanfarms.com.

A Year with Frog & Toad

Sept 29—Oct 8 @ Grand Opera House
A hit on Broadway, A Year with Frog and Toad is based on Arnold Lobel's well-loved books, and featuring a hummable score by Robert and Willie Reale, this whimsical show follows two great friends through four fun-filled seasons.

Dubuque Latinx Fiesta
Sept 30 @ Smokestack
Celebrating and honoring Hispanic Heritage Month
by bringing together the Dubuque community
through food, live music, dancing, resources, and
vendors, Held outdoors, 2–8 PM.

Galena Oktoberfest
Sept 30 @ Depot Park (Galena, IL)
Hosted by the Galena Lions Club. The 16th annual event features a ceremonial tapping of the keg, non-stop live music, wiener dog races, polka lessons and dancing, bean bag tournament, beer stein endurance contest, a free bounce house and pumpkin decorating for the kids and lots of food and

beer. Free admission! Noon-10 PM. galenalions.org.

Dark Chambers Haunted Attraction

October 6–7, 13–14, 19–21, 26–29 & 31

@ 1341 Frontage Rd, Hazel Green, WI

The Tri-States' most exciting haunted attraction experience. With all the scares you love, dark turns and terrifying sights that will get your heart pounding. Grab your friends and anyone else you think will help you make it out and come test your mortality inside the Chambers. Light Fright, Full Fright, and Fast Pass options available dark chambers haunt com

Shullsburg Cheesefest
Oct 6–7 @ Water St, Shullsburg, WI
The free, family-friendly festival is held on the city's historic Water Street with entertainment and events for two days in 2023. Copeland Porchfest with live music and food trucks on Friday. Then Saturday starts with the fireman's breakfast and onto food and craft vendors, live music, beer, wine and cheese pairings, cheese making, food and cheese, curd eating contest, mac and cheese tasting, cheese and more cheese! Test your cheese IQ, enjoy hayrides, children's activities, a scarecrow contest, and a raffle. 7 AM–4 PM.

41st Annual Galena Country Fair
Oct 7—8 @ Grant Park (Galena IL)
More than 100 hand-selected vendors offering
original, handmade arts, crafts and fine arts.
Delight your taste buds with fair favorites including
caramel apples, homemade French fries, funnel
cakes, fudge, baked potatoes, and ice cream plus
farmers' market goodies and country bake shop
treats. Plus live bands, Irish dancing, and more.
Children's games, a silent auction, raffle, and
more. 10 AM—5 PM. galenacountryfair.com.

Dock Dogs World Championships 2023
Oct 11–15 @ Five Flags Arena
The amazing flying pups return to Dubuque for another weekend full of fun competition that's free to watch. Bring the kids and check out these amazing pooches doing their thing.

Millwork Night Market

Oct 12 @ 7th—9th and Jackson St
Millwork Night Market has brought high-quality
local food producers, artists, musicians, and
brewers to the Millwork District for six years!
They're celebrating the independent evening
farmers' market with live music. Smoke free and
pet free. BYO reusable grocery bags and lawn
chairs. MillworkNightMarket.com.

Drinking Habits 2
Oct 13–29 @ Bell Tower Theater
The Sisters of Perpetual Sewing return when they
discover that the local orphanage is in peril of
closing and resolve to act. Everyone pitches in to
mount a play to raise money and hilarious hijinks
ensue. Anything that can go wrong does.

Jeeps on the Mountain
Oct 13—14 @ Sundown Mountain Resort
Enjoy live music, food trucks, cash bar, Jeep Show,
primitive camping, off-road the mountain trails on
designated trails, and more. sundownmtn.com.

Twenty Dirty Hands
Oct 13–15 @ Various Locations in the Tri-States
A free self-guided pottery tour highlighting the
works of 24 local potters and regional guest
artists at 7 studios, now in its 22nd season. 10
AM–6 PM (4 PM Sun). twentydirtyhands.com.

iLuminate
Oct 19 @ Five Flags Arena
Named "Best New Act in America" by *America's*Got Talent, "Best Date Show" by the Best of Vegas

Awards, and "Best New Production" at the Best of Las Vegas Awards, each scene in iLuminate takes the audience on a dazzling journey where an exhilarating blend of music, dance, illusion, technology and comedy.

The Tappening
Oct 21 @ Five Flags Arena

This Saturday afternoon event will bring local breweries together with one common interest: the finest crafted brews in the Tri-State area. Come see for yourself—the variety of craft samples will satisfy your drinking pleasure. Plus a Tri-State Bans Tournament! Noon—4 PM.

guest Meekah as they discover what makes different cities unique and special. Will there be monster trucks, excavators, and garbage trucks galore? You bet! So get ready to shake those wiggles out and OJ Twist your way through this brand-new musical party!

The Struts

Nov 11 @ Diamond Jo Casino Mississippi Moon Bar This high energy British rock band has amassed a giant following off hits like "Should Have Been Me" and toured with the biggest acts in music from the Stones to the Foo Fighters and Guns N' Roses. This is their second visit to the Moon Bar. The Dubuque City Youth Ballet: The Nutcracker Dec 9–17 @ Grand Opera House

An Annual Dubuque Christmas Tradition! Clara and her enchanted Nutcracker battle the dreadful Mouse King in a nightmare that becomes a beautiful dream in this classic ballet featuring the music of Tchaikovsk and performed by the Dubuque City Youth Ballet. New design elements for 2023 inspired by Dubuque. thegrandoperahouse.com.

Night of the Luminaria & Living Windows Dec 9 @ Main Street, Galena, IL More than 5,000 candlelit luminaries line the streets, steps, and sidewalks, and store windows Almost Maine
Feb 23—March 3 @ Grand Opera House
Sweet, poignant, and witty... Almost, Maine is
a beautifully structured play, with nifty surprise

endings (most but not all of them happy).

Dubuque on Ice Brewfest
Feb 24 @ Grand River Center
Tri-State beer lovers, mark your calendars!
Dubuque on Ice Brewfest will feature beer from
30+ breweries, plus wine, spirits, specialty
cheeses, sausage and chocolates, and live music.
1–4 PM. dubuquebrewfest.com.

365 Impact Awards Feb 27 @ Diamond Jo Casino Mississippi Moon Bar

The 365 Impact Awards, sponsored by Premier Bank and the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, return to the Mississippi Moon Bar at the Diamond Jo Casino. The 365ink Impact Award is for those who choose to make an effort to impact the world around them 365 days a year. It's meant for those who believe in our community and are willing to do something to make it better for everyone. The event is FREE (must be 21). 7 PM. dubuque365.com.

Galena Whiskey Weekend
March 9 @ Turner Hall (Galena, IL)
Sip your way through winter with the extensive collection of bourbons and whiskeys.
Cheers to over 200+ whiskey offerings. galenawhiskeyweekend.com.

Dyersville St. Patrick's Day Parade
March 16 @ Dyersville, IA
Ancient Order of Hibernians—Dubuque County
#1 presents Dyersville's Annual St. Patrick's Day
Parade and Mass. A church celebration at 10:30
AM at St. Francis Xavier Basilica is followed by the
huge parade which starts at 1 PM downtown.

BestFest 2024

March 21 @ Grand River Center

A benefit to support Hospice of Dubuque is just as it sounds, a celebration of the best Dubuque has to offer, as voted on by you, the people of Dubuque. Winners will gather and give away samples of their best products. Voting happens by ballot in the Dubuque Advertiser as the event nears. It always sells out in advance, so get your tickets early, 5–7:30 PM

Community Easter Egg Hunt
March 30 @ Allison Henderson Park
Join hundreds of Dubuque kids for a morning of
family fun as thousands of Easter eggs fill the field
at the park awaiting the little hunters to do their
thing. 10 AM.

"Hank & My Honky Tonk Heroes
— 100 Years of Hank"

April 5 @ University of Dubuque Heritage Center
There is only one Hank Williams and only one
actor who can bring him to life, Jason Petty. Petty
previously was the only actor to portray Hank
Williams in New York City's hit off Broadway

musical Lost Highway, where he won an Obie and

multiple nominations for his performance.

The Heartland Ballet: Cinderella
April 6-14 @ Grand Opera House
Dubuque City Youth Ballet's pre-professional
company. Heartland Ballet, brings the popular
fairy tale to life. Prokofiev's Cinderella is notable
for its jubilant music, lush scenery, romantic
story, and comic stepsisters.

Ken Ludwig's Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery April 12–28 @ Bell Tower Theater Holmes and Watson are on the case in this fastpaced comedy mystery! The world's greatest detective must solve the case of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" before a family curse dooms its

Julien Dubuque International Film Festival April 24–28 @ Downtown Dubuque Independent films, including documentaries, features, and shorts, will be screened in venues throughout downtown Dubuque, as well as special panels and evening events. Join directors, producers, actors, and filmmakers as they showcase their films and are available for Q&As. inlienfilmfest.com

Mac and Cheese Fest
May 2 @ Grand River Center
Look for more of the same decadent cheesy
goodness you've come to expect from this foodcoma generating event. More than 20 area
chefs bringing their A-game to the competition,
plus live music, drinks and more. 5–8 PM.

macandcheesefestdbq.com.

girls. vintagetorquefest.com.

Vintage Torque Fest
May 3—4 @ Dubuque County Fairgrounds
A weekend of hot rods, motorcycles, music and
more. Celebrating a range of hot rod culture,
Vintage Torque Fest also features a swap meet, a
model car contest, hot laps and races, hot rod-

themed art and vendors, and a contest for pinup

2023 WINTER 2024 WINTER FESTIVALS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Haunting on Lincoln Ave
Oct 21 @ Mathias Ham Historic
Historic activities included with the tour will be
family-friendly, between 11 AM and 4 PM! Spooky,
fun activities include crafts, games, fortunetelling, and a witch's cave! Apple cider and snacks
are also available! And special spooky evening
tours at 6 & 7:30 PM

The Music of Billy Joel & Elton John with Michael Cavanaugh

Oct 21 @ University of Dubuque Heritage Center Grammy and Tony-nominated vocalist and pianist Michael Cavanaugh is a charismatic performer and musician famous for his piano/lead vocals in the Broadway musical Movin' Out. Handpicked by Billy Joel to star. Billboard called him "The New Voice of the American Rock and Roll Songbook,"

JDIFF Halloween "Boo" Parade
Oct 21 @ Main St Parade Route
Ghosts and goblins of all ages will converge once
again for perhaps the most popular parade of the
year in Dubuque. The parade follows the usual
parade route, starting at Jackson Park and ending
at Washington Park. Scores of groups come out in
full costumed madness for a super-fun hour in the
streets of Dubuque. Prizes for best float, walking
group and marching band. 7 PM. julienfilmfest.com.

Galena's Halloween Parade & Festival
Oct 28 @ Main St, Galena, IL
The legendary parade literally lights up Galena's

The legendary parade literally lights up Galena's historic Main Street for the 43rd year in one of the Midwest's largest Halloween celebrations, featuring spectacular floats, local marching bands, hot air balloons breathing fire, costumed participants and plenty of sweet treats. \$5 shuttle from Walmart after 3 PM. 6–8:30 PM.

Mad Scientist Party
Oct 29 @ National Mississippi River Museum

Join River Museum for their annual family Halloween event! Everyone is welcome to come in costume (not just kids!) Trick-or-treating and other activities—games, science experiments, music, and all of the regular daily programming will be available throughout the day. Discount admission can be purchase online. 9 AM-5 PM. rivermuseum.org/events.

Steely Dane

Nov 3 @ Grand Opera House
Steely Dane is dedicated to not only faithfully reproducing the Steely Dan and Donald Fagen songbook but to bringing an energetic liveshow experience to the crowd featuring 14 of the Midwest's best jazz and rock musicians.

45th Annual National Farm Toy Show Nov 3–5 @ Dversville. IA

Filling Beckman High School, The National Farm Toy Museum, and the Commercial Club Park, highlights include a Collectors Dinner on Saturday at Royal Lanes, a sanctioned Micro-Mini Pull at Commercial Club Park in South Building on Saturday at 11 AM and Sunday at 9 AM plus the National Farm Toy Show Auction at 10 AM Saturday at Beckman Auditorium (1325 9th St. SE.). The granddaddy of farm toy shows draws about 6,000 people each year. toyfarmer.com.

Dubuque Winter Farmers Market
Sat: Nov 4—April 27 @ Kennedy Mall
An all-volunteer driven market, focusing on
supporting our regional food system, eating
from our food shed year-round and providing
annual funding to farmers through our grant
program. Homemade and baked goods, plus meat,
cheese, eggs and, yes, vegetables! 9 AM—Noon.
wintermarketdba.com.

Blippi: The Wonderful World Tour Nov 9 @ Five Flags Arena Dance, sing, and learn with Blippi and special Vienna Boys Choir Nov 17 @ University of Dubuque Heritage

Dubuque Arts Council presents the rich 500 year history of the Vienna Boys Choir, which has been associated with many of the world's greatest composers like Mozart. Today, there are 100 choristers between the ages of 10 and 14 from 31 nations, divided into four touring groups.

39th Annual Galena Nouveau Wine Weekend Nov 17 @ Galena. IL

Celebrate the new vintage with wine-inspired lunches, dinners, and tastings in Galena, IL. The official release of the Le Beaujolais Nouveau wine is delivered by Galena Cellars Vineyard & Winery delivers their Nouveau wine via horse-drawn wagon. Galena comes alive with a multitude of offerings: vineyard tours, wine dinners, wine tasting, lodging, shopping, and spa specials. nouveauweekend.com.

A Christmas Carol

hillcrest-fs.org.

Nov 24—Dec 3 @ Grand Opera House
This thrilling adaptation by Patrick Barlow uses
only five actors and nothing more than some
simple props, fresh physicality, and the power
of imagination to bring some of Dickens' most
beloved characters to life and convey this
timeless story of redemption.

Reflections in the Park

Nov 24—Jan 2 @ Louis Murphy Park

Hillcrest Family Services' annual lights festival
celebrates their 2ªh anniversary. Visitors will
see many new displays and have the option to
participate in the featured "Memory Lane," an
opportunity to remember your loved one(s) in a
special way at Reflections in the Park. Admission
is \$12 per vehicle at the gate, Santa Claus will
visit on Mondays 5—8 PM in December. 5–10 PM.

Christmas on the Square
Nov 25 @ Cable Car Square
Hundreds of luminaries will line Bluff and 4th
Streets lighting the way as families gather at the
foot of the famed Fenelon Place Elevator waiting
for the Jolly ol' Elf himself along with the Missus
to ride the last cable car trip of the year! This is an
amazing event for kids of all ages. 5–8 PM.

A Doublewide, Texas Christmas
Dec 1–17 @ Bell Tower Theater
Somewhere in the Texas heartland, lies the brand
new town of Doublewide–Population, 10. It's
Christmas time, and it's beginning to look a lot
like trouble.

A Merry Millwork Market

Dec 1–2 @ Dubuque Millwork District

A unique holiday shopping experience featuring
the best of local crafts, sips and bites benefiting
nonprofits of the Dubuque Millwork Collective.

DSO Holiday Concerts

Dec 2—3 @ Five Flags Theater

The DSO is joined by vocalist Jeff Liebow, the

Dubuque Chorale and members of the Heartland

Ballet in an enchanting collection of holiday
favorites for two shows! A one hour kidfriendly matinee is also offered on Saturday.

dubuquesymphony.org.

Dec 8 @ Five Flags Arena
Rock 'n' roll newcomers, and soon to be legends,
Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and
Elvis Presley come together again to celebrate
the holidays. Inspired by the true story of their
December 1956 homecoming at Sun Records
including nostalgic holiday hits including "Run
Rudolph Run," "Jingle Bell Rock," "I'll Be Home

Million Dollar Quartet Christmas

For Christmas "

come alive. Plus, store windows come alive with holiday-inspired animation. 4-7 PM. visitgalena.org

Toys For Tots Kids' Christmas Party

Dec 10 @ Five Flags Arena
Date is tentative. One gigantic and completely
FREE Christmas bash hosted by Toys For Tots,
The Dubuque Police Department, and 365ink
and sponsored by Theisen's, The Community
Foundation of Greater Dubuque, and Paramount
Ambulance. Hundreds of local kids enjoy music,
dancing, inflatable rides, treats, plus photos with
Santa as well as Frozen and Star Wars characters.
Noon—3 PM.

Sinatra and Friends New Year's Eve
Dec 31 @ Grand Opera House
Spend New Year's Eve with Bryan Anthony's
Sinatra and Friends. Featuring Hunter Fuerste's
American Vintage Orchestra and the music of
Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Nat King Cole,
Bobby Darin, and Old Blue Eyes himself.

Special Olympics Iowa Winter Games
Jan 8–9 @ Various Locations in Dubuque
More than 200 athletes with intellectual disabilities
from across the state compete in Alpine and
Nordic skiing, figure skating, snowshoeing,
speed skating, and more. The Grand River Center,
Sundown Ski Area, Albrecht Acres, and Dubuque
Ice Center will host the competitions and activities.

Harlem Globetrotters

Jan 9 @ Five Flags Arena
Get ready for a slam-dunk extravaganza as the world-famous Harlem Globetrotters make their triumphant return! This is your chance to witness the record-breaking stars of basketball live as they bring an unforgettable blend of dribbling, spinning, and dunking to the court, taking on their fierce rivals, the Washington Generals.

DSO: Ultimate Rock Hits Jan 12—13 @ Diamond Jo Casino Mississippi Moon Bar

The DSO joins with local rock bands to present an amazing symphonic rock experience! Members from local bands will join the DSO for a rocking good time. dubuquesymphony.org.

IceFest Jan 13–14 @ National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium

The National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium will present special winter-related programs daily throughout IceFest including historic ice harvesting on the river, winter crafts, snow sculptures, and more. Featured activities include professional snow sculpting, outdoor winter games, live animal programs, winter safety demonstrations, and more. rivermuseum.org/events.

Winter Iowa Games

Jan 26–28 @ Various Locations
The Winter Iowa Games is held annually late
January and early February, mainly in Dubuque,
offering over 20 sports and 4,000 athletes.

An Evening with Marty Stuart
& His Fabulous Superlatives
Jan 27 @ University of Dubuque Heritage Center
Country music hall of famer, five-time Grammy
Award winner, and AMA Lifetime Achievement
honoree Marty Stuart has released more than 20
major label albums and scored platinum sales, hit
singles, and just about every honor the industry
could bestow along the way.

Baggage

Feb 9—25 @ Bell Tower Theater
Two demanding, single strangers get their luggage mixed up at the airport. After a disastrous first meeting, they decide to force a friendship to help each other heal their past heartbreaks. These two are too difficult for everyone else to date, but are they perfect for each other?