

**E-Release**  
**CONCORD MUSEUM**  
Cambridge Turnpike at Lexington Road  
Concord, MA 01742  
(978) 369-9763  
[www.concordmuseum.org](http://www.concordmuseum.org)

**For immediate release**  
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**Images available upon request (978) 369-9763**

***Family Trees: A Celebration of Children's Literature***  
**~ Fanciful trees decorated with inspiration from children's books ~**  
**at the Concord Museum in historic Concord, Massachusetts**

Concord, MA/ A love of books and reading is a lifelong treasure passed from adult to child, from generation to generation. The 14<sup>th</sup> annual *Family Trees: A Celebration of Children's Literature* at the Concord Museum in historic Concord, Massachusetts is sure to bring out the kid in everyone! Giving Concord's renowned literary tradition a creative twist, from December 4, 2009 through January 3, 2010 the Museum's galleries are filled with fanciful trees of all shapes and sizes, decorated with original ornaments inspired by acclaimed children's storybooks and contemporary picture book favorites.

Serving as inspiration for this year's trees are books that are classics and sure-to-become classics. Selections for this year include: *Fancy Nancy: Explorer Extraordinaire*, by Jane O'Connor, illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser; *If You Give a Cat a Cupcake*, by Laura Numeroff, illustrated by Felicia Bond; *Richard Scarry's Cars and Trucks and Things That Go*, *The Imaginary Garden*, by Andrew Larsen, illustrated by Irene Luxbacher; *The Snow Day*, by Komako Sakai; *Town Mouse, Country Mouse*, by Jan Brett; *Flotsam*, by David Weisner; and many other favorites. The exhibition's focus on children's literature makes *Family Trees* unique among the many holiday events in Greater Boston. Each tree serves as a canvas for the artistic creations of a dedicated team of volunteer decorators. Inspired by the storyline, the illustrations, the characters or setting of a particular book, the decorators let their imaginations take flight, much to the delight of visitors of all ages from all over New England.

Proceeds from *Family Trees*, organized by the Museum's Guild of Volunteers, benefit the Concord Museum's educational mission serving an audience of preschoolers, school-age children, college students, families, adults and seniors in over 600 school and public programs yearly.

Hours are Monday – Saturday 9:00 – 5:00, Sunday 12:00 – 5:00. The Museum will be closed all day on Christmas Day and at 1:00 on Christmas Eve. The Museum will be open on New Year's Day, January 1 from 9:00 – 5:00. **Museum Admission during this benefit event is \$15 adults, \$10 seniors, \$6 children (4-18).** Family Trees admission includes entrance to all the Museum galleries and the special exhibition, *A Dedication to Craft: North Bennet Street School @ 125*. As part of the celebration of *Family Trees*, a host of family programs delight and inspire, and the Concord Museum Shop is well-stocked with books, treasures and trinkets for holiday shopping.

#### **ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS:**

##### **Meet Classic Picture Book Characters!**

Characters on parade at 1:30 and 2:30 each weekend day; included free with *Family Trees* Admission.

Olivia • Saturday and Sunday, December 5 & 6

Nate the Great • Saturday and Sunday, December 12 & 13

Frog and Toad • Saturday and Sunday, December 19 & 20

Max • Saturday and Sunday, December 26 & 27

Madeline • Saturday and Sunday, January 2 & 3

Please note that these are life-size costumed characters and may be scary for some young children.

##### **Saturday, December 5 • Morning with Santa**

Enjoy a delightful conversation and photograph with Santa, a visit to *Family Trees* with a special treasure hunt, and a whole roomful of engaging seasonal activities. 10:00-12:00; \$25 member child; accompanying member adults free; \$25 non-member child; accompanying nonmember adults \$10; by reservation only. (978) 369-9763.

##### **Friday, December 11 • Family Trees Fête**

Join members and friends of the Concord Museum for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres to celebrate the 14th year of *Family Trees: A Celebration of Children's Literature*. 7:00; \$150 Benefactor; \$100 Friend, by reservation. (978) 369-9763.

The Concord Museum is easily accessible from Route 495 or Route 128 and Route 2 and is located at the intersection of Lexington Road and Cambridge Turnpike, ¼ mile east of Concord Center. The Museum's entrance is on Cambridge Turnpike; parking is free. The Museum is wheelchair accessible.

For further information contact the Concord Museum at (978) 369-9609 (Taped information); (978) 369-9763 (Reservations); E-mail: [cm1@concordmuseum.org](mailto:cm1@concordmuseum.org);

Web site: [www.concordmuseum.org](http://www.concordmuseum.org)

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