

Christmas Carnival Has Something for the Entire Family

The 1968 Christmas Carnival at Cobo Hall officially was opened at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 11 at special ceremonies.

Participating in the opening program were Walker L. Cislter, chairman of the board of the Detroit Edison Co., and John M. May, general superintendent of the Detroit Department of Parks and Recreation.

The thousands of lights covering trees and displays in the annual holiday show were set ablaze by Joel Schaff, 9, of Royal Oak, the 1968 United Foundation poster boy.

This is the fifth year the City of Detroit has sponsored the Christmas Carnival in co-

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operation with business and industry. Admission is free. Gifts of candy and comic books will be presented to young visitors.

The Carnival will be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week in Halls A and B with these exceptions: Dec. 24 and 25, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. It will also be closed all day Christmas.

More than 300,000 persons are expected to come from all parts of Michigan, neighboring states and Canada to see this collection of displays and children's activities built around the theme of Christmas.

New this year are miniature telephone booths from which youngsters can make direct telephone calls to Santa's workshop. Santa's elves will talk to the chil-

dren and find out what they want for Christmas. Santa, himself, will also listen to the children's wishes in his castle. Many favorite displays

from last year have been returned, including the Nativity scene with its live animals in a setting of sand dunes and palm trees. The children will enjoy the

many "climb-on" toys like the snowman slide, stagecoach, train and real fire engine. Parents can take a break

at the nearby refreshment area. Clowns and puppet performances and comic organ recitals will be given daily. Visitors should consult their programs for times.

One of the spectacular displays of the Christmas Carnival will be the arrangement in the center of the hall which was designed by the Department of Parks and Recreation. It features gaily-lit 35-foot Christmas trees, three fountains, each with three sprays of colored water reaching 20 feet, and four winter scenes with ani-

Some 165 trees, 1,000 strings of lights and a ton and a half of artificial snow have been used to create a fairland setting that all ages will enjoy.

The Carnival will present many picture possibilities to amateur photographers. Carnival officials ask that photographers come equipped with battery-powered lights for movie cameras or flash units for still cameras. While some displays may be photographed with available light, many require artificial lighting.

Wizard of Oz Opens at Institute of Arts

A colorful Christmas package of entertainment will open Dec. 26 in the Detroit Institute of Arts auditorium when a cast of 22 brings "The Wizard of Oz" to life for a run of 10 performances.

"The Wizard of Oz" will be performed twice daily at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Dec. 26 through Dec. 30.

More than 60 original costumes have been especially designed for the holiday spectacular, as well as lavish sets to delight young spectators and their parents. "The L. Frank Baum story is famous

as a 1939 technicolor film, but we believe our 'living stage' interpretation will give 'The Wizard' terrific vitality and appeal," promised Dr. Audrey M. Grossman, Jr., curator of the museum's Theatre Arts Department, who is producing the show.

All seats are reserved and tickets are currently on sale at the museum's ticket office.

J.L. Hudson ticket services and Grinnell's. Call 823-2730 for information.

Players Set Open House The Nankin Mills Players will hold its Annual Gala Open House Thursday, Dec. 15, from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Nankin Mills School. All those interested in community theatre and anxious to develop their talent are invited. Entertainment will include a one act comedy skit and monologue featuring members of the Players.

Observer
AMUSEMENTS
MOVIES—DRAMA—RESTAURANTS
Page 13C (P-12B, RFGWC-11B) December 14, 1968

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