

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **GLENDALE GLITTERS CELEBRATES THE SEASON WITH SPIRIT OF GIVING WEEKEND DEC. 21-22**

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** –Downtown Glendale will be aglow with 1.5 million lights as well as ‘the spirit of giving’ as we celebrate the generosity of spirit that the season brings Dec. 21-22, from 6-10 p.m. both evenings.

The holidays are a time of generosity, so what would be more fitting than a whole weekend celebrating those giving back to the community? It’ll do your heart good to get into the spirit of giving by learning about and paying tribute to those selfless organizations who make our community a better place to live.

The city of Glendale is honoring and celebrating many non-profit organizations and companies that give back to the Glendale community and Valleywide, including Sanderson Ford, Big Brothers Big Sisters, World Wildlife Zoo, Boys and Girls Club of Metropolitan Phoenix, Habitat for Humanity, American Red Cross and Southwest Airlines, among others.

One significant highlight of the event will be a special contest sponsored by Southwest Airlines and KOOL-FM. SWA will be giving away up to 5 round-trip airline tickets for a family to fly “Home for the Holidays!” One deserving family will be able to fly home to spend the holidays with friends and family that they otherwise would not be able to spend time with.

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**NEWS**  
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[www.glendaleaz.com](http://www.glendaleaz.com)

## **Spirit of Giving Weekend**

### **Add 1/1/1**

To enter the “Home for the Holidays” contest, visit [www.koolradio.com](http://www.koolradio.com).

Glendale’s Spirit of Giving event will also have St. Mary's/Westside Food Bank on hand, collecting canned food items to benefit to the less fortunate during this holiday season. The city’s goal is to raise more than 10,000 lbs. of food. Take this opportunity when you come out to the event to give a little something back – bring one or 100 cans of food to donate! Look for donation bins on the north side of Murphy Park, or for those who would like drive-through with a donation, bins will also be located along Glendale Avenue between 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 58<sup>th</sup> Drive.

Another highlight will be a special booth by the Bead Museum, featuring the jewelry of the African Hearts Community Organization. Made from magazine strips, these brilliantly colored necklaces make a unique and heart-warming Christmas gift, and the proceeds go to a worthy cause. The designers are young boys who live in Uganda, and many have escaped from abusive homes to join the African Hearts Community Organization. The purchase of these necklaces helps to build a bigger home to support more boys, sends the boys to school, feeds them, and clothes them. The necklaces are also available in The Bead Museum Store every day.

The Spirit of Giving weekend in downtown Glendale offers free admission and free parking, and will also feature holiday arts and crafts, delicious food and beverages, horse-drawn carriages rides, inflatable rides and visits with Santa Claus. Bring your camera, or have Santa’s helper snap one for a small fee. Many of the downtown merchants will offer extended hours to help visitors get their holiday shopping done.

But what holiday celebration would be complete without some music and dancing? The entertainment lineup on the Banner Children’s Hospital Stage will feature the following local community groups:

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**Spirit of Giving Weekend**  
**Add 2/2/2**

Friday Dec. 21  
6:00 Leap of Faith Dance  
7:00 Marilyn's Academy of Dance  
8:00 Spotlight Youth Theatre  
9:00 Arizona Broadway Theatre

Saturday Dec. 22  
6:00 TBD  
7:00 Cutting Edge Dance  
8:00 Prestige Dance Academy  
9:00 The Dance Shoppe

The Spirit of Giving weekend is sponsored by The Arizona Republic, Bass Ale, Sanderson Ford, Starbucks, KTVK Channel 3, 7-UP, Southwest Airlines, Arizona Broadway Theatre, KOOL-FM, KMLE Country 108, 101.5 JAMZ and Banner Children's Hospital.

For more information on Glendale Glitters' Spirit of Giving weekend, call the Special Event Hotline at 623-930-2299 or visit [www.glendaleaz.com/events](http://www.glendaleaz.com/events).

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