

# outbursts

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spotlight on hospitality

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## Holidays at the hotels



*Festive scenes and evergreens say more than 'happy holidays!'*

*Fashions for Evergreens at The Inn at Virginia Tech*

By Keith Pierce

From the whimsical and outlandish to the elegant and traditional, Fashions for Evergreens, the annual competitive display of the most eye-catching Christmas trees in the region, is just one way to celebrate the holidays at **The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center** and **The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center**.

### THE INN AT VIRGINIA TECH AND SKELTON CONFERENCE CENTER

#### Fashions for Evergreens

*Trees on display through Jan. 1*

A must-see display of 17 professionally designed trees presents captivating decorating concepts and ideas, and anyone who stops by for a look can vote for a favorite.



*Tree designed by the New River Valley Chapter of Project Linus is one of many trees on display at The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center.*

#### Family nights at Preston's

*Fridays and Saturdays through Dec. 19 from 5 to 9 p.m.*

Enjoy a casual family dinner with a traditional holiday menu at Preston's. Cost is \$14.95

#### Herma's Holiday Readers

*Saturday, Dec. 5, 2 to 3:30 p.m. and Dec. 12, 10 to 11:30 a.m.*

Enjoy a book reading by a Virginia Tech athlete, coach, or dignitary. With the goal of promoting reading among schoolchildren in Virginia, coach Frank Beamer founded Herma's Readers as a tribute to his mother, Herma Beamer, an educator for over 30 years. **Reservations required.**

#### Holiday carolers

*Fridays through Dec. 18, 6 to 8 p.m.*

Cozy up with a complimentary mug of hot chocolate and enjoy entertainment at the inn featuring the Blacksburg Master Chorale's Ad Hocet, (Dec. 4 & 18) and the Blacksburg High School Madrigals (Dec. 11) ringing in the season with Christmas carols and other holiday favorites.

#### A visit from Santa

*Friday, Dec. 11. Performance at 5 p.m.*

A singing and storytelling Santa has turned off the seat-belt sign to allow children to experience the magic of the season in comfort. Sitting on the floor or moving around the room, kids get to know Santa at their own pace. Cameras allowed. **Reservations required.**



*Rockin' around the front porch at The Hotel Roanoke*

#### Champagne Sunday brunch with Santa

*Sundays through Dec. 20, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.*

Stories, photos, and belly laughs are on the menu as Santa hosts a bountiful brunch buffet each Sunday. Brunch patrons will share their Christmas wishes and enjoy a complimentary photo with Santa. **Cost is \$20.50 for adults, \$10.95 for children ages 6 through 12, complimentary for children 5 and under.**

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## Christmas Eve at Preston's

Thursday, Dec. 24, 5 to 9 p.m.

Preston's Restaurant is accepting reservations for a four-course plated holiday dinner that often books up fast. **Cost is \$36.**

## Christmas Day brunch at Preston's

Friday, Dec. 25, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A meal at The Inn is always special ... but the holiday season holds a special charm. Come enjoy the holiday decorations, the sounds of the season, and our genuine wishes for a joyous holiday. **Cost is \$24.95.**

## New Year's evening at Preston's

Thursday, Dec. 31, 5 to 9 p.m.

Close out 2015 "Inn" style with live entertainment, a four-course dinner, and a Champagne toast to celebrate. **Cost is \$48.**

## THE HOTEL ROANOKE & CONFERENCE CENTER

### Fashions for Evergreens

Now in its sixth year raising money for United Way of Roanoke Valley, Fashions for Evergreens marks the holidays with a tree competition featuring more than 34 professionally designed trees. The event has raised more than \$20,000.

### Holiday luncheon buffets

The Regency Room is serving a holiday buffet, Mondays through Saturdays, throughout December. **Cost is \$19.50 for adults, \$12 for children ages 6 through 12, complimentary for children 5 and under.**

### Grand buffet Sunday brunch

The Hotel Roanoke's award-winning brunch features added holiday flair with a rotating menu of seasonal breakfast and lunch favorites, a carving station, and an omelet station. **Cost is \$28.50 for adults, \$14 for children ages 6 through 12,**



Part of a larger display at The Inn at Virginia Tech, this unique treetop, presented by "Designs by Duncan," takes the name 'Fashions for Evergreens' literally.

### Learn more now:

- [www.innatvirginiatech.com/holidays\\_at\\_the\\_inn](http://www.innatvirginiatech.com/holidays_at_the_inn)
- [www.hotelroanoke.com/holidays2015.html](http://www.hotelroanoke.com/holidays2015.html)

complimentary for children 5 and under. For reservations, call 540-853-8280.

### Holiday tea dance

Sunday, Dec. 27, 3 to 9 p.m.

The annual event includes dinner in the Regency Room plus ballroom dancing. **Cost is \$30 per person and includes tax and gratuity. Reservations are available by email or by calling 540-985-5900.**

### Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Festive dinner buffets in the Regency Room are \$42 for adults, \$19.50 for children ages 4 to 12, and complimentary for children 3 and under. For reservations and seating times, call 540-985-5900.

### The annual Charity Ball for the Preceptor Omicron Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi

Thursday, Dec. 31, 7 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Benefiting local charities – including the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, and programs that support pediatric AIDS

patients and wheelchairs for children – this international women's friendship network event is open to the public at **\$185 per couple**. Ticket price includes a buffet dinner for two, seating in either ballroom, live music, dancing, Champagne toast, and a balloon drop at midnight. **Room rate with breakfast is \$125 to \$145. Reservations are required by calling 540-342-5089 or by emailing tickets@newyearsevegala.org.**

### New Year's Eve Dogwood Ball

The New Year's Eve Dogwood Ball in the Regency Room offers a five-course meal prepared by executive chef Stephen DeMarco. The dance includes party favors, hats, horns, and a Champagne toast at midnight. Space is limited. Seating times are 6 and 9 p.m. **Cost is \$79 per person, plus tax and gratuity.**



Festive trees deck the halls at The Hotel Roanoke

www.outreach.vt.edu

For information on The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center or Preston's Restaurant, call: **540-231-8000 or 877-200-3360** or visit: <http://www.innatvirginiatech.com>

For information on The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center, call: **540-985-5900** or visit: <http://www.hotelroanoke.com>

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