

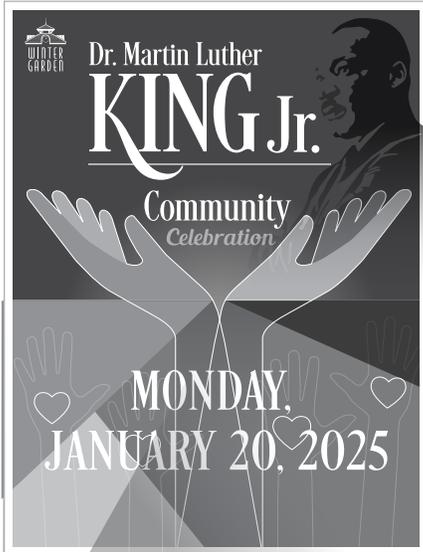


# NEWS YOU CAN USE

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JANUARY 2025

## Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration – January 20



Join us at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration to commemorate the life and legacy of the civil rights legend. Hosted by the City of Winter Garden, the annual celebration includes a parade through historic downtown as well as live music performances, family friendly activities, and more.

### PARADE

The remembrance kicks off with a parade through historic downtown at 11:00 am. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and secure a good viewing spot along West Plant Street to enjoy the procession of community floats and groups.

To participate in the parade, preregistration is required and must be submitted no later than Tuesday, January 14, 2025 (space is limited). All entries are eligible to win the Parade Spirit Award.

Parade application is available at [cwgdn.com/SpecialEvents](http://cwgdn.com/SpecialEvents) or call 407.656.4155.

### CELEBRATION

Immediately following the parade, the celebration continues at the Downtown Pavilion with live music featuring Selwyn Birchwood and Sugar Vibe. Fun activities for kids and families, as well as refreshments available for purchase will add to the festivities.

No personal coolers are permitted. This is a rain or shine event.

Monday, January 20

Parade | 11:00 am, Historic Downtown

Live Entertainment & Festivities | 11:30 am – 4:00 pm

Downtown Pavilion, 104 S. Lakeview Avenue

Free to Attend

## LOW INCOME SENIORS CAN NOW SAVE UP TO 90% ON UTILITY BILLS

The City of Winter Garden has revamped its long-standing Utility Bill Assistance for Low Income Seniors Program, lowering the residency and income requirements to increase its reach and provide greater savings.

Changes to the program include reducing the resident requirement to 12 continuous months, updating the income eligibility threshold to mirror federal poverty income guidelines, and providing a reduction of up to 90% of base charges on City utility bills.

To enroll in the program, candidates must complete an application and provide required documentation no later than 5:00 pm on May 1, 2025, as well as meet eligibility requirements. Qualified candidates will receive the cost savings in their May 2025 through April 2026 utility bills. Only applicants that do NOT qualify will be notified. Residents must apply annually for this program.

### Program Eligibility Requirements:

- 65 years of age, or
- 62 years of age and receiving Social Security benefits, and

- CITY resident continuously for the past 12 months, PRIOR to your application date, and
- Utility bill must be in applicant's name and billed directly to applicant, and
- Gross household income for ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD MUST NOT EXCEED 60% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines. View Income Guideline Chart. \*

\*These figures are based on the 2024 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Guideline published in the Federal Register on January 17, 2024.

### Submit copies of the following with application:

- 2025 Social Security Benefit Statement, or
- 2024 Federal Income Tax Return, and
- ALL other proof of income for entire household

Starting January 2, the application is available to complete and return at the Winter Garden City Hall Reception Desk, 300 W. Plant Street, Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, or by contacting Utility Billing Customer Service, 407.656.4100.

APPLICATION & PROOF OF INCOME DEADLINE:  
May 1, 2025, at 5:00 pm

Persons in family/ household	Max Annual Household Income
1	\$24,096
2	\$32,704
3	\$41,312
4	\$49,920
5	\$58,528
6	\$67,136
7	\$75,744
8	\$84,352
Max Income Values 60% above 2024 Federal Poverty Register	



## SAVE THE DATE:

### WINTER GARDEN MUSIC FESTIVAL

Get ready for this outdoor 11-hour, multi-stage concert event.

Saturday, February 22

11:00 am – 10:00 pm

Historic Downtown | Free to Attend

## FIRE RESCUE OFFERS FREE CITIZEN CPR CLASS

Interested in learning how to take a hands-on approach towards saving lives? The City of Winter Garden Fire Rescue Department is offering a free, 90-minute Hands Only CPR Citizen Training Course to the community.

The program will cover:

- Hands only Adult and Child CPR
- Proper AED use
- Adult and Child Choking

Upon completion, participants will earn a certificate acknowledging their successful demonstration and learned concepts detailed in the program. Preregistration is required, and space is limited to 12 participants. To register, visit <https://enroll.wgplay.com> and click on "Recreation Classes."

Saturday | January 18

9:30 – 11:00 am or 11:30 am – 1:00 pm (select one session)

Free | Winter Garden Fire Rescue Department Headquarters,  
1 E. Cypress Street

## HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES AND SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES

### New Year's Day – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1:

- All City Government Offices will be closed on Wednesday, January 1.
- There will be NO Solid Waste Collection Services (trash, yard waste, bulk items) on Wednesday, January 1. Services will resume on your next scheduled collection day.

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – MONDAY, JANUARY 20:

- All City Government Offices will be closed on Monday, January 20.
- There will be Regular Solid Waste Collection Services on Monday, January 20.

## Water Plant Tours – Register Now *Tap Water: Where Does it Come From?*

Learn more about how tap water gets from the source to your faucet by taking a tour of the City's water plant. Several tours will be offered on both Friday, February 7, and Saturday, February 8.

Tour Dates: Friday, February 7 and Saturday, February 8

Multiple Tour Times

Space is limited, so advance registration is required.

The deadline to register is Friday, January 31, 2025.

To register, send email to [dcorbus@cwgdn.com](mailto:dcorbus@cwgdn.com) or call 407-877-5193.



## Drop Savers Poster Contest Open to Winter Garden Students K-12

The City of Winter Garden cordially invites students to participate in our annual Drop Savers Water Conservation Poster Contest.

Students in grades K - 12 are encouraged to create a poster depicting a water conservation idea in slogan form, drawing form, or both. This contest allows students to promote water awareness and the importance of water conservation in their daily routines.

The contest is open to Winter Garden public school, private school, and homeschool students. The deadline to enter is Friday, February 28, 2025.

For complete contest details and entry form, visit [cwgdn.com/365/Educational-Resources](http://cwgdn.com/365/Educational-Resources) or call 407.877.5193.

# WINTER FUN with PARKS & RECREATION

Yoga, Tennis, 50+ Activities and Trips, Art Classes, Pickleball, Kickball, Esports Video Game Club, Super Soccer Stars, Amazing Athletes Preschool Activities, Little Medical School, Cardio Drumming, Zumba, and more! For details about programs, classes, athletic leagues, and more, visit the "Parks & Recreation" page at [cwgd.com](http://cwgd.com) or call 407.656.4155. **Register at <https://enroll.wgplay.com>.**

All programs are held at Jessie Brock Community Center, 310 N. Dillard Street, unless noted otherwise.

## ESPORTS VIDEO GAME CLUB

Look no further, ESports Club Orlando has made it to Winter Garden. Upon joining the program, children 6 - 14 years old will learn leadership, sportsmanship, teamwork, and the opportunity to interact with other peers their age, all while engaging in video game play. Children will be coached by trained Rocket League and Fortnite Coaches.

6 - 14 years old

Saturdays 10:00 – 11:00 am | January 4 – March 15  
(no programming January 18)

Mondays | Rocket League Team, 5:30 – 6:30 pm  
January 6 – March 17

(no programming January 20)

Wednesdays | Fortnite Team, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

January 8 – March 19 (no programming January 22)

\$150 City Resident / \$160 Nonresident,  
per 10-week session

Optional Purchase | \$45 Esports Jersey

## AMAZING ATHLETES SPORTS DISCOVERY

Explore, learn, develop, and play with Amazing Athletes Sport Discovery! For ages 2 – 4, this four-week mini season of Basketball is designed to empower kids to discover their inner athlete & their love of the sport. Together, we will explore the sport with concentrated play & practice, followed by a finale game. Your Amazing Athlete will have the opportunity to develop skills with practice, apply what they've learned with confidence, have fun with gameplay, and discover a sport they love! This program is an indoor program but may move outdoors if weather permits.

2 – 4 years old | Basketball

Thursdays | January 9 – 30

5:30 – 6:20 pm

\$56 City Resident / \$60 Nonresident

## KARATE ZOO

In Karate Zoo, we teach the fundamentals of martial arts to children ages 3 – 6 years old in a high-energy progression-based program. Students learn & practice the traditions & skills of the sport and receive colored belts and stripes for their achievement. Each skill introduced is designed for progression with beginner, intermediate, and advanced modifications allowing each student to progress at their own pace in a mixed ability group setting. Inspired by the traditions & practices of martial arts, Karate Zoo is designed to benefit a child's physical, social, & emotional development while building confidence & teaching practical life lessons. Hi-yah!

3 – 6 years old | 5:00 – 5:50 pm

Mondays | January 6 – March 3

(no programming January 20)

\$191 City Resident / \$201 Nonresident, per 8-week session  
(belt included in fee)

Optional purchases | \$30 Karate Zoo Jersey / \$40 Karate Gi

## SUPER SOCCER STARS

Super Soccer Stars is a soccer development program for children 18 months – 4 years old. All classes teach soccer skills in a fun, noncompetitive, and educational

environment. Through our age-specific curriculum, we use soccer to nurture and build self-confidence and teamwork. This activity is an outdoor activity but may move indoors in the event of inclement weather.

Tuesdays | January 21 – March 25

Saturdays | January 25 – March 29

18 months – 3 years old | Tuesdays 5:00 – 5:40 pm,

Saturdays 9:00 – 9:40 am

3 – 4 years old | Tuesdays 5:50 – 6:30 pm,

Saturdays 9:50 – 10:30 am

\$150 City Resident / \$160 Nonresident,

per 10-week session

Optional purchase at start of program | \$30 Super

Soccer Stars Jersey

## BALLET BASICS FOR ADULTS

A basic level traditional ballet class for teens and adults with no previous experience or those looking to rediscover ballet after a long break. Class concentrates on proper body mechanics and barre work.

Teens & Adults | January 8 – February 5

Wednesdays | 10:30 – 11:30 am

\$80 City Resident / \$85 Nonresident, per 5-week session

## CREATIVE MOVEMENT

This unique program introduces basic dance ballet technique and movement through dance, games, and song. Class focus is on gross motor skills, left/right, body awareness, ballet positions, and beginner ballet technique and language. Advance registration required.

2 – 4 years old

Wednesdays | January 8 – February 5

9:30 – 10:15 am

Saturdays | January 11 – February 8

10:15 – 11:00 am

\$70 City Resident / \$75 Nonresident, per 5-week session

## LITTLE DOCTOR SCHOOL

Section 2: Basic first aid, prescribing medications & exploring key organs. These future doctors will learn about prescriptions, explore the brain and spine, and learn about vital bodily functions through hands-on activities and role-play. Students will build a first aid kit and create models of the brain and spine.

6 – 10 years old

Course Section 2 | January 6 – February 17

(no class January 20)

Mondays | 6:30 – 7:30 pm

\$259, per 6-week course section

## LITTLE VETERINARIAN SCHOOL

Section 2: Cat/Veterinarian Students will role-play the key responsibilities of a veterinarian and perform a whiskers-to-tail exam on their newly "adopted" plush cat. These future veterinarians will learn about animal body language, maintaining a healthy environment such as proper litterbox placement, create a cat toy, and design a vet clinic.

# City Government Serving You

## MAYOR

**John Rees**, District 5 – Citywide  
407.656.7372 | [jrees@cwgd.com](mailto:jrees@cwgd.com)

## COMMISSIONERS

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## CITY MANAGER

**Jon C. Williams**  
407.656.4111 ext. 2267  
[jwilliams@cwgd.com](mailto:jwilliams@cwgd.com)

## CITY OF WINTER GARDEN

300 W. Plant Street  
Winter Garden, FL 34787  
407-656-4111

[www.cwgd.com](http://www.cwgd.com)

[www.downtownwg.com](http://www.downtownwg.com)

  @OfficialDowntownWinterGarden

6 – 10 years old

Course Section 2 | January 7 – February 18  
(no class January 21)

Tuesdays | 6:00 – 7:00 pm

\$259, per six-week course

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY WINTER CAMPS

Arts and crafts, activities, sports, and much more! A qualified, well-trained Winter Garden Parks & Recreation staff will provide a safe and fun break for your child. Camp is open to all children in kindergarten through 8th grade. Campers must bring a packed lunch, snacks, and a water bottle to camp every day.

Camp Dates:

Winter Break | January 2, 3

Student Holiday | January 6

President's Day | February 17

7:00 am – 6:00 pm

Grades | Kindergarten through 8th grade  
\$26 City Resident / \$32 Nonresident, per day  
Jessie Brock Community Center,  
310 N. Dillard Street

Advance registration required at

<https://enroll.wgplay.com>.

Questions, 407.656.4155



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JANUARY 2025



**Winter Garden Heritage Museum**  
1 N. Main Street | wghf.org | 407.656.3244  
Tuesday – Saturday | 11:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Free Admission



**SOBO Art Gallery**  
127 S. Boyd Street | wgart.org | 407.347.7996  
Tuesday – Friday, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm | Free Admission

## EXHIBITION

### **FROM HOUSE CALLS TO HOSPITALS: CARING FOR WEST ORANGE COUNTY**

Enjoy this interesting and informative exhibit of how convenient hospital care was brought to our region in 1952 with the opening of the West Orange Memorial Hospital in Winter Garden. This exhibit traces the evolution of healthcare from the days when doctors drove horse-drawn wagons to their patients' homes, to today's state-of-the-art medical facilities.

January 2 – March 31 | Free Admission

## EXHIBITION

### **Carnival of Color**

An exhibit that celebrates the vibrant and dynamic spectrum of hues.

Now – January 31

### **The Young Creatives Showcase**

A showcase of artwork by high school and college-age artists in the Studio Gallery.

January 7 – February 28

Opening Reception | January 7, 5:00 - 8:00 pm  
Public Invited

## CALL TO ARTISTS

wgart.org/artists/call-to-artists

Visit the "Call to Artists" website page regularly for themes of upcoming exhibitions and submit online the FIRST through the EIGHTH of the month prior to an exhibition.

## WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

Details and registration, wgart.org/adults.

### **Technique Tuesdays at Two**

Sponsored by Duke Energy

Schedule and details, wgart.org/Tuesdays.

A different instructor and technique is featured every week. Pick up new tips and techniques while enjoying the Open Artist Studio Space.

Tuesdays | 2:00 - 4:00 pm | Studio Room  
Open to all. Free to members & first-time visitors.

## Artist Night Studio: Life Drawing

Model is available every session.

Wednesdays | 6:30 – 9:00 pm

18 years and older only

\$10 member / \$15 nonmember

## ART FOR KIDS

Details and registration, wgart.org/kids.

### **Wednesday Art Clubs**

#### **Preschool Art Group (NEW)**

Young artists ages 3-5 are invited (with an adult) to Storytime followed by a Fun Craft!

Wednesdays | 1:00 – 1:45 pm

\$10 per adult/child team

### **Young Artists Club**

2nd grade through Middle School

4:00 – 5:00 pm

\$15 each session, includes all materials



**Central Florida Railroad Museum**  
101 S. Boyd Street | cfrhs.org | 407.656.0559  
Tuesday – Saturday | 11:00 am – 3:00 pm | Free Admission

## SPECIAL EVENT

### **ARCHIVES DAY AT THE MUSEUM**

The public is invited to view items from the Museum's library and archives and take tours of the library.

Saturday, January 18 | 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Free Admission

## EXHIBITION

### **IT'S ABOUT TIME: HOW THE RAILROADS CREATED OUR TIME ZONES**

The United States once had more than 140 time zones, usually set by the position of the sun. To operate safely over long distances, the railroads proposed a standardized timekeeping for the country. Learn how we came to live and work by the system the railroads created.

Now – February 1 | Free Admission



## Reflections of Time III Exhibit at City Hall



This exhibition highlights African American artists from Winter Garden and the surrounding areas and demonstrates how their works serve as a testament in preserving time. Curated by Patrick Noze, Crealdé School of Art, this exhibit displays artwork of a variety of disciplines. Located on the first floor of City Hall, visit the Art in Public Places Gallery to see this impactful exhibit.

January 6 – February 28

Art in Public Places Gallery in City Hall, 300 W. Plant Street

Monday – Friday, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm | Free