

# Sciencenter keeps families busy during holiday break

AMY GAULKE Published 11:11 a.m. ET Dec. 19, 2017

## *“Children of Hangzhou” exhibit among the highlights*



*(Photo: Photo by Gary Hodges)*

Keep your family and house guests entertained during the holidays with a trip to the Sciencenter! December is full of activities for the whole family.

Explore contemporary life in China in our traveling exhibit “Children of Hangzhou: Connecting with China.” On display through Jan. 6, it uses the stories, interests and daily life of four teens who live in the city of Hangzhou to help visitors learn about the life and culture of children in China. Discover what a typical day of school is like, learn to cook a traditional Chinese meal, join in a performance while studying Chinese opera, learn martial arts moves from a Tai Chi master, and more.

Experience science in action at one of our family-friendly, interactive Showtime! presentations at 2 p.m. Saturdays. Test out new hands-on chemistry activities and encounter chemical reactions this month with the Sciencenter’s educators and volunteers.

It’s winter outside — but inside at the Sciencenter, you can take a trip to the ocean at our saltwater Tidepool Touch Tank. Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the sea while getting an up-close and hands-on introduction to some amazing creatures. Meet hermit crabs, horseshoe crabs, channeled whelks, sea stars, sea urchins and more. Gain a new appreciation for ocean life as you encounter animals that are directly connected to us through our local watershed. (Visit our website for upcoming hands-on hours.)

Gather your littlest scientists and join us every Tuesday through Friday for Science Together. Engage with your toddlers and preschoolers as you explore science processes such as making predictions, using tools, and problem-solving through hands-on activities. Discover what happens when baking soda and vinegar mix, explore flubber using different tools, and more!. The program is at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and at 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays.

And be sure to spread the word about Museums for All, a national program available at the Sciencenter that offers \$1 admission to anyone living in the same household who presents an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card at the admissions desk.

Are you still hunting for that perfect holiday gift? The Sciencenter store holiday sale runs through Dec. 31. Store purchases are 10 percent off for everyone and 20 percent off for Sciencenter members. Choose from dozens of brainy games and science kits, cool engineering toys for the makers on your list, unique graphic puzzles, and more. Museum admission is not required to shop. Also, Sciencenter Memberships make perfect gifts too and last all year long.

Learn more online at [www.sciencenter.org](http://www.sciencenter.org) (<http://www.sciencenter.org/>), by calling 607-272-0600, or by visiting our front desk. The Sciencenter will close at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24, and is closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Regular hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and 12 to 5 p.m. Sundays. General admission is \$8 for ages 2 to 64, \$7 for seniors (ages 65 and up), and free to members and children under 2. The Sciencenter is a proud member of Ithaca’s Discovery Trail.

*Gaulke is the public and media relations manager for the Sciencenter.*

[Hangar Theatre to debut new adaptation of 'A Christmas Carol'](http://www.ithacajournal.com/story/entertainment/2017/12/05/hangar-theatre-christmas-carol-ithaca/108346430/)

(<http://www.ithacajournal.com/story/entertainment/2017/12/05/hangar-theatre-christmas-carol-ithaca/108346430/>)

[Cherry Arts stages 'Snow Queen' in new Artspace](http://www.ithacajournal.com/story/entertainment/2017/12/05/cherry-arts-snow-queen-ithaca/108346896/)

(<http://www.ithacajournal.com/story/entertainment/2017/12/05/cherry-arts-snow-queen-ithaca/108346896/>)

Read or Share this story: <http://ithacajr.nl/2D4u5ar>

**\$UPER SAVINGS EVENT**

**METROMATTRESS**  
**SHOP NOW >**