I'm pleased to present 2013's list of large scale, holiday-themed events. Many of the events listed here have become annual favorites, but there are also a number of new events. I invite you to visit any of these venues during the holidays. You'll be welcomed by enthusiastic participants in the hobby. Enjoy!

Please note: schedules can change. If you're planning to drive any distance to visit one of these displays, it's best to call ahead to verify hours of operation.

**Arizona**

**Arizona Big Train Operators Christmas Home Train Tour**

Venue: Various homes in the Phoenix area  
Contact person: Ginny Morris, 480-248-9130 or 610-256-1121, putterm@cox.net  
Dates: Dec. 6-8, 13-15, 2013  

**Tucson Botanical Gardens**

Venue: Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N. Alvernon Way, Tucson AZ 85712, 520-326-9686  
Dates: Ongoing (closed Nov. 28, Dec. 24-25, Jan. 1)  
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Admission charge: Yes  
Type: Permanent, indoors  
Website: www.tucsonbotanical.org

**Tucson Children's Museum**

Venue: The Tucson Children's Museum, 200 S 6th Ave., Tucson AZ 85701, 520-792-9985  
Dates: Ongoing (closed Nov. 28, Dec. 25)  
Hours: Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; weekends, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Admission charge: Yes  
Type: Permanent, indoors  
Website: www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

**Arkansas**

**Gardenland Express at the Northwest Arkansas Botanical Center**

Venue: Botanical Garden of the Ozarks, 4703 N. Crossover Rd., Fayetteville AR 72764, 479-750-2620  
Contact person: Carl Holt, carlholt@sbcglobal.net, 479-575-5112  
Dates: Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 7-8, 14-15, 2013  
Hours: Sat., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sun., 1 pm. to 4 p.m.  
Admission charge: Yes  
Type: Temporary, indoors
The Northwest Botanical Center has had an indoor holiday display for a number of years, hosted and set up by the Northwest Arkansas Garden Railway Society.

Website: www.nwagrs.org

Garvan Gardens Holiday Lights Display
Venue: Garvan Woodland Gardens, 550 Arkridge Road, Hot Springs AR 71913, 501-262-9300
Contact person: Chester Morphew, Holiday Lights Supervisor, 501-701-3779, cmorphew@me.com
Dates: Nov. 23-Dec. 31, 2013
Hours: 5 to 9 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes (for parking)
Type: Temporary, outdoors
Website: www.garvangardens.org

California
Fairplex Garden Railroad Holiday Open House and Public Run
Venue: LA County Fairgrounds, 1101 W. McKinley Ave., Pomona CA 91768
Contact person: Rick Bremer, 714-990-1394, rcbfr@gmail.com
Dates: Dec. 8, 2013
Hours: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Admission charge: No (enter at Gate 1, off McKinley Ave.)
Type: Permanent, outdoors
Website: www.fgr.org

Florida
Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children Train Display
Venue: Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, 92 W. Miller St., Orlando FL 32806
Dates: Ongoing
Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily
Admission charge: Yes (for parking)
Type: Permanent, indoors

Christmas Open House
Venue: H&R Trains, 6901 Hwy 19 N., Pinellas Park FL 33781
Contact person: Don or Alice Morris, 727-526-4682, hrtrains@hrtrains.com
Dates: Dec. 7-8, 2013

The Northwest Botanical Center has had an indoor holiday display for a number of years, hosted and set up by the Northwest Arkansas Garden Railway Society.

Website: www.hrtrains.com

Christmas Trains
Venue: H&R Trains, 6901 Hwy 19 N., Pinellas Park FL 33781
Contact person: Don or Alice Morris, 727-526-4682, hrtrains@hrtrains.com
Dates: November 29-December 31, 2013; closed on Dec. 24, 25
Hours: Daily hours
Admission charge: No
Type: Permanent, outdoors
Website: www.hrtrains.com

Gulfcoast Garden Railroaders Seasonal Display
Venue: Florida Aquarium, 701 Channelside Dr., Tampa FL 33602, 813-273-4000, www.flaquarium.org
Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Admission charge: No
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.myggr.org

A Lionel Christmas
Venue: West Florida Railroad Museum, 5003 Henry St., Milton FL 32572
Contact person: Ed Dice, 850-293-3532 or edwarddice@aol.com; George Wilson, george@bw.att.net
Dates: Dec. 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 2013
Hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; evening hours on Dec. 14, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Admission charge: No, donations accepted
Type: Permanent, outdoors
Website: www.wfrm.org

Illinois
Brookfield Zoo’s Holiday Magic
Venue: Brookfield Zoo, 8400 31st St., Brookfield IL 60513, 708-688-8000
Dates: Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 26-31, 2013
Hours: 4 to 9 p.m.
Admission charge: Free with zoo admission
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.czs.org/CZS/magic-1

The Enchanted Railroad
Venue: The Morton Arboretum, 4100 Rt. 53, Lisle IL 60532, 630-968-0074
Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily; late hours from 4:30 to 9 p.m., with last entry to railroad at 8:30 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, outdoors
Website: www.mortonarb.org

Gateway Garden Railroad Club holiday modular display
Venue: Oliver C. Joseph Chrysler Dodge, 3795 W. State Route 15, Belleville IL 62226, 612-233-8140
Contact information: Tom Wood, tomw@everwear.com
Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sat., 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Dec. 14, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Admission charge: No
Type: Temporary, indoors

Large Scale Trains GTE Show
Venue: Gateway Center, One Gateway Center Dr., Collinsville IL 62234
Dates: Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2013
Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, outdoors
Website: www.greattrainexpo.com

Wonderland Express
Venue: The Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Rd., Glencoe IL 60022, 847-835-5440
Hours: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Web site: www.chicagobotanic.org/wonderland

Iowa
Toyland Holiday Display
Venue: Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, 909 Robert D. Ray Dr., Des Moines IA 50309, 515-323-6290
Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.dmbotanicalgarden.com

Garden Railway Display at the Victorian Stroll
Venue: Town Square, 1st Iowa State Bank Heritage Hall, 19 Benton Avenue East,
Garden of Lights—Colors of the Season
Venue: Brookside Gardens, 1500 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton MD 20902, 301-962-1400
Dates: Nov. 29, 2013-Jan. 5, 2014
Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily; closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1; special evening hours Sun.-Thurs., 5:30 to 9 p.m., Fri.-Sat., 5:30 to 10 p.m.
Admission charge: No during the day; yes during evenings
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.brooksidegardens.org or www.wmngrs.org

Kansas
Illuminations
Venue: Wichita Botanical Gardens, 701 North Amidon, Wichita KS 67203-3199
Contact person: Robert Marin, 316-721-3566, robmarin@att.net
Dates: Nov. 29-Dec. 31, 2013
Hours: 5:30 to 8 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Permanent, outdoors
Website: www.wichitabotanical.org

Kentucky
Cranberry and Linville River Railroad
Venue: 557 Mustang Dr., Walton KY 41094
Contact person: Dan Stenger, 859-816-5856, dstenger@yahoo.com
Dates: Dec. 6, 13, 20, 2013
Hours: 7 to 9 p.m.
Admission charge: No
Type: Temporary, outdoors
Website: www.greatfallsmodelrrclub.org

Maine
ExTRAINaganz
Venue: Great Falls Model Railroad Club, 144 Mill St., Auburn ME 04210
Contact person: Paul Lodge, 207-966-3641, paullodge@gwi.net
Dates: Nov. 23-25, 29-30, 2013
Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.greatfallsmodelrrclub.org

Maine Garden Railway Society Holiday Display
Contact person: Carl Churchill, 207-929-3655, sophy04093@yahoo.com
Dates: Nov. 9-Dec. 31, 2013
Hours: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Admission charge: No
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: http://mgrsmembers.blogspot.com

Maryland
Garden of Lights—Colors of the Season
Venue: Brookside Gardens, 1500 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton MD 20902, 301-962-1400
Dates: Nov. 29, 2013-Jan. 5, 2014
Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily; closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1; special evening hours Sun.-Thurs., 5:30 to 9 p.m., Fri.-Sat., 5:30 to 10 p.m.
Admission charge: No during the day; yes during evenings
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.brooksidegardens.org or www.wmngrs.org

Mason-Dixon Large Scale Railway Society Display
Venue: Bel Air Town Center; 564 Baltimore Pike; Bel Air MD 21014
Contact person: Joe Sova 410-838-3918, jsova@comcast.net or Manny Pospisil, 410-939-2443
Dates: Nov. 29, 2013-Jan. 11, 2014
Hours: Thurs.-Fri., 4 to 8 p.m.; Sat., noon to 8 p.m.; Sun., noon to 4 p.m.
Admission charge: No, donations accepted
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.mdlsrs.com

Missouri
Gardenland Express Holiday Flower and Train Show
Venue: Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd, St. Louis MO 63110, 314-577-5100, pr@mobot.org
Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.mobot.org

New Jersey
Camden City Garden Club Train Festival
Venue: Camden Children's Garden, 3 Riverside Dr., Camden NJ 08103, 856-365-8733
Dates: Nov. 9-10, 2013
Hours: 1 to 4 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary and permanent, outdoors
Website: www.camdenchildrensgarden.org

South Jersey Garden Railway Society display, “Stronger Than the Storm”
Venue: Ocean City Music Pier, Moorlyn Terrace, Ocean City NJ 08226, 609-525-9300
Contact person: Anita Brown, nanb1@comcast.net, or Cass Oncay, kathryn. Oncay@comcast.net

New York
Holiday Train Show at the Botanic Gardens
Dates: Nov. 16, 2013-Jan. 12, 2014
Hours: Weekdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; weekends, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; closed Nov. 28 and Dec. 25.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Permanent, outdoors
Website: www.nybg.org

Long Island Garden Railway Society Holiday Display
Venue: The Cradle of Aviation Museum, Charles Lindberg Blvd., Garden City NY 11530, 516-572-4111
Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.cradleofaviation.org

WNYGRS Winter Gardens Railroad
Venue: Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens, 655 S. Park Ave., Buffalo NY 14218, 716-827-1584
Contact person: Gary Tebo, grtebo@gmail.com
Dates: Nov. 29, 2013-Jan. 5, 2014
Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.wnygrs.com or www.wnygrs.org

The Great Falls Model Railroad Club in Maine hosts ExTRAINaganz in late November. The event has multiple operating displays and a children's play area.
Ohio
Christmas at EnterTrainment Junction
Venue: EnterTrainment Junction, 7379 Squire Ct., West Chester OH 45069, 513-898-8000
Contact person: Michelle Oeters, moeters@entertrainmentjunction.com
Hours: Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sun., noon to 6 p.m.; some dates have special hours
Admission charge: No for holiday displays; yes for general admission
Type: Permanent, indoors
Website: www.entertrainmentjunction.com

Ohio
Holiday Junction featuring Duke Energy Holiday Trains
Venue: Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal, 1301 Western Ave., Cincinnati OH 45203, 513-287-7000
Dates: Nov. 8, 2013-Jan. 5, 2014
Hours: Mon.-Thur., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, outdoors
Website: www.entertrainmentjunction.com

Ohio
Fairytale Model Garden Railway “Merry & Bright”
Venue: Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, 1777 E. Broad Street, Columbus OH 43203, 615-715-8000
Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Permanent, outdoors
Website: www.fpconservatory.org

Ohio
Oregon
Rogue Valley Railroad Show
Venue: Medford Armory, 1701 South Pacific Hwy., Medford OR 97501
Contact person: Bill Meyer, 541-773-5889, gravattmeyer@gmail.com
Dates: Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2013
Hours: Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.fpconservatory.org

Pennsylvania
Christmas Display
Dates: Nov. 29-30, Dec. 2-7, 2013
Hours: Call for hours
Admission charge: No
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.esbenshades.com

Pennsylvania
Garden Railroad Display
Venue: Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, One Schenley Park, Pittsburgh PA 15213, 412-622-6914
Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Permanent, outdoors
Website: www.phipps.conservatory.org

Pennsylvania
Morris Arboretum Holiday Garden Railway
Venue: Morris Arboretum, 100 E. Northwestern Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19118
Contact person: Marie Ingegneri, 215-247-5777, ext. 181
Tennessee
Crossville Model Railroad Club Display
Venue: Crossville Outlet Center, I-40 exit 320, 361 Sweeney Dr., Crossville TN 38555
Hours: Tues.-Fri., noon to 5 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Admission charge: No, accepting donations for food bank
Type: Permanent, indoors
Website: crossvillemodelrrclub.org

Tennessee
Tennessee Crossville Model Railroad Club Display
Venue: Crossville Outlet Center, I-40 exit 320, 361 Sweeney Dr., Crossville TN 38555
Hours: Tues.-Fri., noon to 5 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Admission charge: Donations accepted
Type: Permanent, indoors
Website: crossvillemodelrrclub.org

Texas
Bluebonnet & Keystone Railroad
Venue: 3710 Poplar Ct., Carrollton TX 75007
Contact person: Cindy Roerig, 972-754-7479, clroerig@gmail.com
Hours: 7 to 10 p.m., weather permitting
Admission fee: No, accepting donations for food bank
Type: Permanent, outdoors
Website: www.carrolltontrains.com

Texas
24th Annual Holiday Train Show to Benefit the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum
Venue: Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station VA 22039, 703-425-9225
Dates: Dec. 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 28, 2013, weather permitting
Hours: 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Admission fee: Yes
Type: Permanent, outdoors
Website: www.fairfaxstation.org or www.wvmgrs.org

Virginia
Tidewater Big Train Operators Holiday Train Display
Venue: Avalon Church of Christ, 844 Woodstock Rd., Virginia Beach VA 23464
Contact person: Sherry Caldwell, 757-390-2155, slovea@cox.net
Dates: Dec. 6-13, 2013
Hours: Mon.-Fri., 6-8:30 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Sun. 1 to 8:30 p.m.
Admission charge: No
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.tbto.org

Virginia
24th Annual Holiday Train Show to Benefit the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum
Venue: Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station VA 22039, 703-425-9225
Dates: Dec. 7-8, 2013
Hours: Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun., noon to 4 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors and outdoors
Website: www.fairfax-station.org or www.wvmgrs.org

Washington
Christmas in Big Valley
Venue: 26730 Big Valley Rd. NE, Poulsbo WA 98370
Contact person: Ron Comin, 360-394-2245
Dates: Dec. 7-31, 2013
Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Christmas Eve; closed Christmas Day
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.christmasinbigvalley.com

Washington DC
National Christmas Tree
Venue: Presidents Park, near the corner of 15th and E Streets (in front of the Washington Monument)
Hours: 10 a.m.-10 p.m.
Admission charge: No
Type: Temporary, outdoors
Website: www.washingtontable.org

Wisconsin
Gas Lamp Express Garden Railroad Display
Venue: Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, 534 S. Layton Ave., Milwaukee WI 53215, 414-649-9800
Dates: Jan. 18-March 30, 2014
Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: http://county.milwaukee.gov/MitchellParkConserva10116.htm

Wisconsin
Garden of Lights
Venue: Green Bay Botanical Garden Inc., 2600 Larson Rd., Green Bay WI 54303, 920-490-9457
Dates: Fri.-Sun., Nov. 29-Dec. 30, 2013
Hours: 5 to 8 p.m.; select evenings until 9 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.gbgbg.org

Garden of Lights
Venue: Green Bay Botanical Garden Inc., 2600 Larson Rd., Green Bay WI 54303, 920-490-9457
Dates: Fri.-Sun., Nov. 29-Dec. 30, 2013
Hours: 5 to 8 p.m.; select evenings until 9 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.gbgbg.org

The RBG Train show is the highlight of the festivities at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Ontario. Visitors can also enjoy music, Santa Claus, and light displays.
Holiday Light Show
Venue: Rotary Botanical Gardens, 455 Palmer Drive, Janesville WI 53545, 608-752-3885
Hours: 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Permanent, indoors
Website: http://rotarybotanicalgardens.org

Shady Lane Greenhouse Display
Venue: Shady Lane Greenhouse, W172 N7388 Shady Lane, Menomonee Falls WI 53051, info@shadylanegreenhouse.com
Contact person: Karl Hornung, 262-251-1660, kfhornung@gmail.com
Dates: Ongoing
Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Admission charge: No
Type: Permanent, outdoors and indoors
Website: www.shadylanegreenhouse.com

Wisconsin-Illinois Trains Visit with Santa
Venue: Wisconsin-Illinois Trains S83W18787 Saturn Dr., Muskego WI 53150, 262-679-1483
Contact person: Matt Drennan, info@wi-trains.com
Date: Dec. 14, 2013
Hours: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Admission charge: No
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.wi-trains.com

Canada
DeWinton Station Garden Railway
Venue: #1 Valleyview Acres, 242 Ave. & 48 St. W, De Winton AB T0L 0X0 (five km. southwest of Calgary—see map on website)
Contact person: Barrie L. Roberts, info@dewintonstation.com, 403-680-7061
Dates: Call to arrange a viewing
Hours: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Admission charge: Donations accepted
Type: Permanent, outdoors and indoors
Website: www.dewintonstation.com

Aldred’s G-Scale Railway Display
Venue: Christkindl Market, Kitchener City Hall, Kitchener ON N2G 4G7
Dates: Dec. 5-8, 2013
Hours: Thurs.-Fri., 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Admission charge: Donations accepted
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.christkindl.ca

Holiday Traditions featuring the RBG Train Show
Venue: Royal Botanical Gardens, 680 Plains Road West, Burlington ON L7T 4H4
Contact: Andreas Kyprianou, 905-527-1158 ext. 537, akyprianou@rbg.ca
Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission charge: No for members, yes for non-members
Type: Temporary, indoors
Website: www.rbg.ca

Once Upon A Christmas
Venue: Heritage Park Historical Village, 1900 Heritage Dr. SW, Calgary AB T2V 2X3, 403-268-8500
Dates: Nov. 23-Dec. 22, 2013
Hours: Sat. and Sun., 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Admission charge: Yes
Type: Temporary, outdoors
Website: www.heritagepark.ca

Germany
The Bumblebee Valley Railroad
Venue: Stefan M. Kuehnlein, Eichenstraße 11, 95503 Hummeltal, stefan@bernina-express.de
Dates: April 30-Nov. 1, 2014
Hours: Railroad is open daily; best time to visit is Wednesday from 2 to 10 p.m.
Admission charge: No, donations accepted
Type: Permanent, outdoors
Website: www.bumblebee-valley.de or www.bernina-express.de

Andi Engi RhB LGB Gartenbahn (Andi Engi’s LGB Garden Railway)
Contact person: Andi Engi, info@aengi.com
Dates: Once per week for the public on Wednesdays; email for more information
Hours: 3:30-5:00 p.m.
Admission charge: No
Type: Permanent, indoors
Website: www.gardenrailway.ch

The LGB Model Railroad Club of Chicago sets up an indoor display at the Brookfield Zoo in Illinois. This year’s theme will be “Santa Rides the Rails.”