

The Jewish Week

New York

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A Very Jewish Christmas Day



Photo by Michael Datikash

by Tamar Snyder

With an album titled "I Love Herring" and new songs including "Latke Man," "The Funky Gold Menorah" and "You Say Hanukah (I say Chhhanukah)," the Mama Doni Band, above, seemed a perfect fit for a holiday concert. And the group's performance at The Jewish Museum on Dec. 25 delighted the large multi-generational crowd consisting of babies to bobbies. The free live performance was part of the annual Family Celebration Day, sponsored by The Jewish Week, where six New York City-based Jewish museums hosted special family and educational activities. The Jewish Museum, located on Fifth Avenue at 92nd Street, attracted more than 2,166 visitors. Children under 17 were invited, at no cost, to spend the day exploring their Jewish heritage, from taking part in a

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Hanukkah Lamp Gallery Hunt to designing a theatrical scene inspired by the exhibition "Chagall and the Artists of the Russian Jewish Theater, 1919-1949." Magicians from the Society of Young Magicians strolled throughout the museum, delighting visitors with their coin and card tricks and illusions. Meanwhile, The Jewish Children's Museum in Williamsburg hosted an olive-making workshop and visitors to the Yeshiva University Museum on West 16th Street were able to cast or emboss "medieval" jewelry. Clarinetist Greg Wall and his band Klezmerfest performed at The Museum at Eldridge Street Synagogue and visitors to the Children's Galleries For Jewish Culture had the opportunity to build temple models out of wood and craft clay dreidels. At The Jewish Museum, Dec. 25 is one of the museum's busiest days of the year. "We have created a great tradition, being open on December 25th since 1993," says Anne Scher, director of communications at The Jewish Museum.

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 Sunday, January 11

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
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