



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**The Junior League of Austin Presents: A Christmas Affair 2018 *Joyeux Noël***

**Austin, TX** – (October 30, 2018) – This Fall, The Junior League of Austin proudly presents the 43rd annual A Christmas Affair at Palmer Events Center, November 14-18. The theme for this year’s A Christmas Affair is “Joyeux Noël.” This year’s four-day holiday market is a vintage celebration of the season with a French flair.

Every A Christmas Affair ticket purchased helps The Junior League of Austin carry forth its mission of developing the potential of women and improving the Austin community, by providing essential funding and volunteer hours to programs such as Coats for Kids, FIT - Food in Tummies, and KICS - Kids in Cool Shoes, along with more than 30 local community non-profits.

This year’s A Christmas Affair features more than 200 merchants from across the country and The Junior League of Austin expects more than 25,000 shoppers to attend. There is a force of 1,300 League volunteers working behind the scenes to help staff the event, ensuring that no detail is overlooked and every piece of tinsel is in its place.

The four-day holiday market and special fundraising events open to the public:

**A Christmas Affair Market; Tickets \$15**

Thursday, November 15, noon to 9:00 p.m.

Friday, November 16, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 17, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, November 18, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tickets include a shuttle ride to and from Barton Creek Mall. Thursday through Saturday, guests may purchase lunch in the Bistro Noël tearoom, located on the upper level of Palmer Events Center for \$17 plus tax per guest.

### **Special Events**

Wednesday, November 14, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., *Exposition Universelle*, A Christmas Affair Preview Gala. Experience the 1900 Parisian World Fair as you shop and enjoy hors d'oeuvres inspired by French culinary delights. Each \$150 ticket includes the first look at this year's merchants before the market opens to the public, dinner, and drink tickets.

Thursday, November 15, 9:00 a.m. to Noon, *Bonjour Ma Chérie*, ladies brunch. A delicious brunch buffet and three hours of private shopping, prior to the market opening to the public. Tickets for this event are \$70 per guest.

Thursday, November 15, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., *Rosé in Saint Tropez*, signature Girls Night Out. An evening of French Riviera fun and DJ Diesel to dance the night away. Delicious treats include champagne and rosé cotton candy and French food truck cuisine. Your \$65 per guest ticket includes all-day access to market shopping.

Friday, November 16, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Casino Night, *Moonlight in Monte Carlo*. Casino night magic includes sketch artist Vogue Vignette, wine toss, hand-rolled cigars (to be enjoyed in the cigar lounge), photo booth, and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$50 per guest and includes all-day access to market shopping.

Saturday, November 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Sunrise Sip and Shop, *Sips Along the Seine* party. Enjoy an hour and a half of private shopping before the market opens to the public while sipping a French cocktail. Tickets are \$35 per guest.

We are also pleased to kick-off The Junior League of Austin's Coats for Kids coat drive with *Cirque de Demain* on Saturday, Nov. 17 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per guest and features circus games and special performances. Don't forget to bring a new or gently used coat to donate. As a thank you, you will be entered to win a door prize and your ticket will include all day access to market shopping.

### **Family Events**

Come cozy and casual all weekend long to enjoy a variety of holiday-inspired activities with Santa. On Friday, November 16, join Santa and his animal friends while you decorate donuts and enjoy live music. On Saturday, November 17, decorate a gingerbread house and play Christmas bingo all while listening to our Christmas DJ, who will be "spinning" favorite Christmas carols. Elsa, Ana, and Spiderman will make surprise appearances. Sunday, November 18, will feature some of Austin's premier

ballerinas and hometown baseball heroes, while guests decorate gingerbread houses and play Christmas bingo to the tunes of our Christmas DJ. Breakfast buffet provided for all party attendees. Breakfasts with Santa will take place Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., and lunch will take place Sunday afternoon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the upper level. Ticket prices are \$30 for Friday and \$35 for Saturday and Sunday. Santa will be available for pictures with guests as well as during the times listed below.

### **Photos with Santa**

Friday, November 16, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 17, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 18, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Tickets for all events and Market Day shopping passes are now on sale at [www.achristmasaffair.org](http://www.achristmasaffair.org)

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### A Christmas Affair

For more than 40 years, A Christmas Affair has kicked off the holiday season in Austin. What began as thirty booths in the Driskill Hotel has grown into the largest League event of its kind in the nation. More than 25,000 patrons attend annually. Thanks to a variety of events, from the Preview Party Gala to Breakfast with Santa, and more than 200 merchants from across the country, this four-day shopping extravaganza allows Austin to share with us in the spirit of giving. As The Junior League of Austin's largest fundraiser, A Christmas Affair funds our mission and programs and allows us to continue our work of elevating women and serving our community.

### The Junior League of Austin

The Junior League of Austin is an organization of more than 2,500 women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. On an annual basis, The Junior League of Austin contributes hundreds of thousands of dollars to the Austin community and its members volunteer approximately 160,000 hours with local nonprofits. For more information about The Junior League of Austin, call 512-467-8982 or visit [www.jlaustin.org](http://www.jlaustin.org).

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