

November 2023 - Newsletter Contents

Festive Marketplace - Friday, December 8
Upper School Gingerbread House
Festival of Lights Concert - Sunday, December 10
Upper School Holiday Skate - Friday, December 15
White Lights on the Avenue
Pick up your Grad Frames at Festive
Message from the President



Festive Marketplace - Friday. December 8

For more than a decade, the UCC Community has come together to welcome the holiday season at Festive Marketplace. This year Festive takes place Friday December 8 with an array of spirited activities for the entire UCC community. The event runs from 8:30am-5pm in the Hewitt Athletic Centre at the Upper School. Dozens of local businesses will be set up in the gym for in-person shopping, not to mention baked goods straight from the ovens of UCC families, our own UCC candy cones, student musical performances, a snowball grab, fundraising offerings from student clubs, a potential photo opp with our beloved mascot Ice, food bank collection, a past-parent breakfast and lots of festive spirit.

Bring friends and family members to shop, eat and socialize. You can even volunteer for an hour or two. Coming to Festive is a great way to give back to our school community.



There are over 50 vendors at Festive Marketplace this year. Everything from jewelry, clothing, meditation bears, florals, art and more will be available for purchase. Below is a list of businesses you'll find at the Hewitt Athletic Centre.



Of course, another cherished part of Festive is the online auction. You can access it <u>here</u>, or through the QR code below:



Bidding is now open and can be done from your computer or mobile device. We encourage you to use "MAXIMUM BID AMOUNT." You'll then receive updates when you're outbid.

The online auction offers over 200 items. Highlights include courtside Raptors seats, a 600 Level Suite for a Leafs game, a weekend in the country near Blue Mountain, a Toronto International Film Festival Premiere & After party, a signed Mitch Marner Leafs jersey and much, much more.



100% of the proceeds support initiatives that benefit UCC students. The online auction closes December 10th at 9pm.

Upper School Gingerbread House

For the first time, Upper School students have their own gingerbread house!



The cookie replica shows the school adorned in holiday décor, along with gingerbread men playing football on the field. Never Walk Alone is inscribed on the turf.

This showstopper will be on display at the Upper School and one lucky student will take it home for the holidays.

Festival of Lights Concert - Sunday, December 10

Bring the whole family to Laidlaw Hall Sunday, December 10th to hear the Festival of Carols. The annual concert showcases choirs and bands from both the Prep and Upper School. The theme of the event is hope and joy, and will include a number of sing-a-long carols. It begins promptly at 4pm!



Upper School Holiday Skate - Friday, December 15

The Parent's Organization is hosting a son and parent skate the afternoon of Friday, December 15th from 4:30pm-6:30pm. The holiday skate is for Upper School boys only. If you're not much of a skater, you can stay warm by the fire in the upstairs lounge at Wilder Arena. Sip hot chocolate, socialize and watch the skating below.

Helmets are mandatory for all skaters.

Donations to the Food Bank are welcomed.

If you're planning to attend, please sign up here.

White Lights on the Avenue



The night-time drive down the Avenue just got a lot brighter thanks to a joint effort between The Parents' Organization and the College.

The white LED string lights wrap around many trees along the drive from the Clocktower down the Avenue. The Prep Parents' Association and the College continued the lighting around the bend to the Prep. The additional lighting looks festive and also makes the campus safer to walk around at night.

Pick up your Grad Frames at Festive!

Thank you to all parents who purchased frames in the PO's recent campaign. The frames will be available for pick up at the PO Table at Festive Marketplace. If you missed buying in this sale, we will be opening it up again in the New Year. The money raised from this campaign, as well as from the sale of puffers, pajama pants and Yeti coffee mugs support initiatives for all of our students. We are so grateful for your support!

Message from the President

Thank you to everyone in the UCC community for a remarkable first few months of the school year! This year, we have been especially grateful for the connections with each other. While our seasonal celebrations may be specific to each family, we recognize how fortunate we are together as a community.

Friday we celebrate an important annual tradition at our school. The goal of Festive is to bring us together and enhance our children's experience at UCC.

The entire Festive team is to be congratulated for their incredible work this year. Special thank you to Michelle Way and Carla Mowbray, committee co-chairs, Dimitra Kappos and Ann Tebo who co-chaired the online auction and Dalia Zia, who headed up vendors. It is shaping up to be an amazing day on campus celebrating our entire school community. And the online auction maneuvering certainly adds to the fun!

We hope you can join us in person December 8th. It is a wonderful opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones.

On behalf of the Parents' Organization, we wish you a continued peaceful and joy-filled holiday season.

Happy holidays,

Ann Katrusiak PO President

Useful Quick Links

Bluenet Resource Board
School calendar
UCC Family Handbook

UCCPO.CA

Username: UCCPO

Password: Blue&white1829

Photo credits: Vivian Silverson and Thomas Winslow