



We are SLI.
A not-for-profit supporting the efforts of individuals
living with intellectual/developmental
disabilities by promoting:

Success • Learning • Inclusion

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 11/17/2021

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2021 SLI FESTIVAL OF TREES

Festival of Trees is kicking off its 2021 community event on November 22nd. We are excited to provide a public viewing of the volunteer designed trees and wreaths plus silent auction items. The public wasn't able to view these in person at our 2020 event due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the 2021 event will not be fully back to normal, we believe this year's event will be a great bridge to a return to Stormont Vail Event Center in 2022.

When: November 22nd to December 4th, 10 am – 6:00 pm (closed on Thanksgiving)

Where: Fairlawn Plaza Mall, 21st & Fairlawn

How to Participate/Learn More: www.slifestivaloftrees.com

SLI has provided this holiday tradition to the Topeka community for 44 years. All proceeds cover the unfunded needs of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) whom SLI serves. Since its inception in 1977, SLI has raised more than 3.3 million dollars. The SLI Festival of Trees was originally proposed by SLI volunteer Maggie Beers in response to a projected revenue shortfall of \$15,000.

The SLI Leadership Team made the difficult decision to not hold the event at the Stormont Vail Event Center because of concerns of possible restrictions. Typically, the three-day event at Stormont Vail Events Center attracts more than 5,000 visitors each year.

The 2021 Festival of Trees includes the following activities:

- FREE public viewing of the trees, wreaths, and silent auction items at Fairlawn Plaza from 11/22 to 12/4
- Preorder baked goods from the Sweet Shoppe from 11/1 to 12/3
- Bid on trees, wreaths, and silent auction items starting 11/22. Auction ends 12/4.
- Donate to the Giving Tree online & have the gift matched by an anonymous donor up to \$10,000

About SLI: SLI is a non-profit organization that supports the efforts of over 135 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to achieve independence and actively participate in the community. Crucial supports and services include community living program, independent living program, community integration (day services), retirement program, and employment skill development. SLI has served the community since 1971 and is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2021. For more information visit www.slitopeka.org.



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