Performances, Workshops & More!

The Great Race Gallery Hunt - Meets in the lobby!
In celebration of the Year of the Rat, follow the riddles (and cheese!) scattered high and low throughout the gallery to find some of your favorite fictional furry friends!

2:00 pm, 3:30 pm & 4:30 pm

The Mane Event: A Lion Dance Performance - Bloomberg Gallery
Kick off the Festival with a vibrant southern lion dance by the United East Athletic Association lion dance troupe. Afterwards, sneak a peek inside the lion costume!

2:30 pm

New Year Nibbles - Lobby
Sample sweet and savory holiday treats while you learn how each one brings flavor and fortune to the New Year.

2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Whirling, Twirling Ribbons: Ribbon Dance Workshop* - Classroom
Watch an elegant ribbon dance by dancer and choreographer Mei-Yin Ng, then craft a simple ribbon of your own and learn how to make it twirl through the air! Audience participation encouraged!

3:00 pm & 3:30 pm

Legends Storytime - Under the Lion Costume!
Why are cats and rats sworn enemies? Join a MOCA educator for the tale of the Great Zodiac Race to find out. Stick around for a spooky retelling of the Legend of Nian, another New Year’s classic.

3:00 pm & 4:00 pm

Sounds of the New Year* - Classroom
Delight in the classical sounds of the pipa 琵琶 and erhu 二胡 performed by the acclaimed musicians behind GONG MUSIC. This talented duo will play a mix of old favorites and modern twists.

4 pm

Drop-In Arts & Crafts - in the CPC

Lucky Lions
Shoo away bad luck by creating your very own lion mask from cardstock, metallic foil paper, pom poms, and more. Move its eyes and mouth just like a lion dancer!

2 pm - 5 pm

Marvelous Music Makers
Turn ordinary household items into festive rattle drums that you can use to scare away the legendary Nian monster. Put them to good use during story time.

Mouse Puppet Pals
Make a finger puppet in honor of this year’s zodiac animal and decorate it for the holiday! Your new mouse friend can’t wait to help you ring in the new year!

*Performance tickets for Whirling, Twirling Ribbons and Sounds of the New Year are free with family festival ticket purchases, but quantities are limited. Visitors who purchase Family Festival tickets online, in advance get first access to performance tickets until tickets run out. Performance tickets are distributed upon entry to the Festival. Entry to performances is not guaranteed, even with advance online purchase of Festival tickets. Visitors who purchase Family Festival tickets on the day of the festival will be put on the waitlist for performances.