

Impact of Joy: Santa Monica Ice rink returns for season

By Samantha Stahl, The Argonaut Staff Writer Nov 14, 2024 Updated Dec 12, 2024



Ice at Santa Monica is a popular wintertime destination.
(Joel Marasigan /Submitted)

For many Westside Angelenos, Ice at Santa Monica on the corner of Fifth Street and Arizona Avenue has been a long-standing pillar of holiday magic. The festive ice returned to Downtown Santa Monica on Nov. 8, bringing back a wintertime tradition in sunny Los Angeles.

Andrew Thomas, CEO of Downtown Santa Monica, Inc., shares his love for the holiday season through the production of the ice rink.

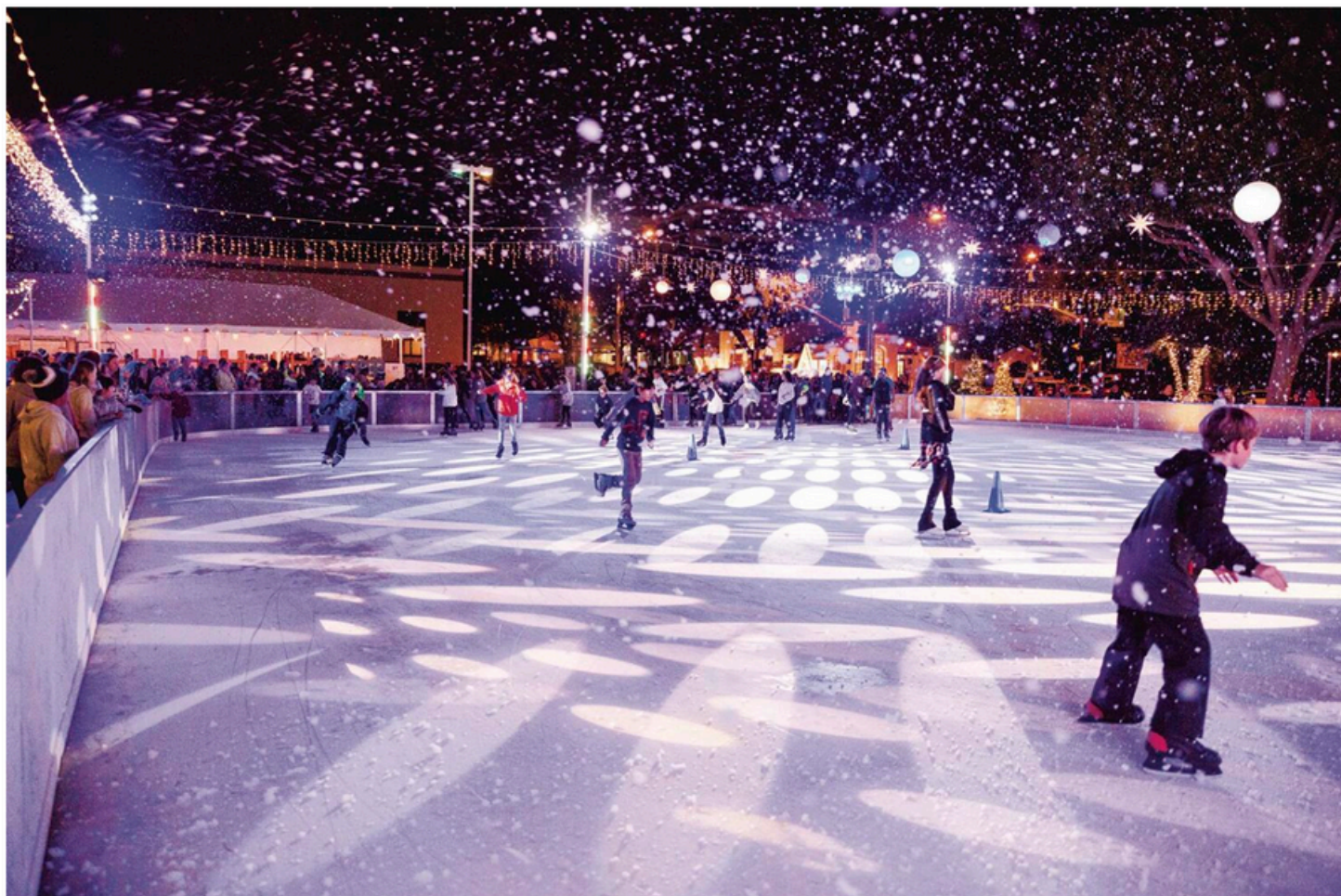
“I am overjoyed to be able to bring a beloved community benefit that so many people have grown up with to the city,” Thomas said. “My first time ever ice skating was here. My kids learned how to skate on this rink. It holds a lot of memories for a lot of folks.”

The Nov. 8 grand opening included an array of celebratory events and activities, with skaters gliding around the rink for free at certain times, alongside performances by both professional skaters and DJs.

The season runs until Jan. 20, 2025, with festive and family-friendly programming running throughout. Aside from the opening celebration, Ice at Santa Monica will also be hosting a Taylor Swift Night on the singer's birthday (Dec. 13) and a New Year's party on Dec. 31. On select Wednesdays from Nov. 13 through Jan. 15, "Wednesdays on Ice" will feature theme nights and DJs playing a variety of fun anthems. Classical music will be the focus on "Classical Sundays," running from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with melodies presented by KUSC.

In addition, the title sponsor for the rink is Disney+, ensuring that favorite movie magic will be a part of the skating experience.

"There's going to be lots of Disney around the rink," he said. "We're looking forward to cool collaborations with them and other great events and activations throughout the season."



Young skaters celebrate Taylor Swift's birthday on the ice.

(Joel Marasigan /Submitted)



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