

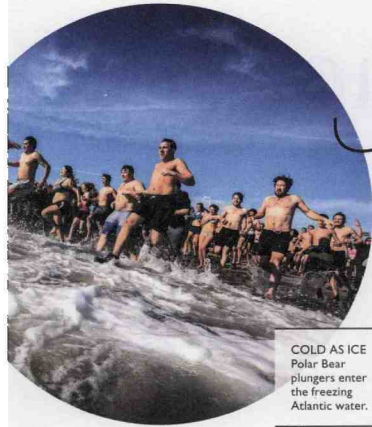


NOW IN NYC  
 agenda

# JANUARY/ FEBRUARY

By Charlotte DeFazio

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>



**COLD AS ICE**  
 Polar Bear plungers enter the freezing Atlantic water.

## NEW YEAR'S DAY

While some New Yorkers stay in bed nursing hangovers, others will kick off 2016 by attending annual events like the Polar Bear Club ocean plunge in Coney Island (free) or the 42nd New Year's Day Poetry Marathon at St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery (from \$20). [polarbearclub.org](http://polarbearclub.org); [poetryproject.org](http://poetryproject.org)

### 1/6 Three Kings Day Parade

El Museo del Barrio, East Harlem's Latino cultural institution, celebrates the Three Kings Day tradition with a parade featuring live camels, colorful puppets, floats and dancing. Free. [elmuseo.org](http://elmuseo.org)

### 1/7-1/14 Squash Tournament of Champions

The annual J.P. Morgan world-class sporting event returns to Grand Central's Vanderbilt Hall, where 112 athletes will compete in the four-walled glass court. Among competitors is Long Island's Amanda Sobhy, the highest-ranking American ever in the Professional

Squash Association's international rankings. Standing-room, free; reserved seating from \$8. [GrandCentralTerminal.tocsquash.com](http://GrandCentralTerminal.tocsquash.com)

### 1/13-1/17 Winter Jazzfest

This funky jam session, which began in 2005 as a one-night show, has grown into a five-day festival that features more than 100 acts highlighting the NYC jazz scene. Artist lineup includes the Bumper Jacksons, Nublu Orchestra and Ibrahim Maalouf. Five-day tickets from \$145. Locations vary. [winterjazzfest.com](http://winterjazzfest.com)

### 1/13-1/26 New York Jewish Film Festival

This film showcase, celebrating its 25th year

and presented by the Jewish Museum and the Film Society of Lincoln Center, features depictions of Jewish life in world cinema. Ticket prices and locations vary. [nyjff.org](http://nyjff.org)

### 1/14 Noises Off on Broadway

Andrea Martin stars in writer Michael Frayn's classic farce—the first Broadway rendition since 2002—about a director and his troupe of mediocre actors. Tickets from \$67. [AmericanAirlinesTheatre.roundabouttheatre.org](http://AmericanAirlinesTheatre.roundabouttheatre.org)

### 1/17 globalFEST

The nonprofit organization brings an incredible international

music festival to NYC featuring Mexican cabaret, Parisian electro-beats, American blues and more. Tickets from \$40. [WebsterHall.globalfest.org](http://WebsterHall.globalfest.org)

### 1/17 National Retail Foundation Gala

This exquisite night raises funds for the National Retail Federation, which works to shape retail's future through building industry awareness, fostering career growth and more. Tickets

from \$1,000. [Pier60.ChelseaPiers.nrf.com](http://Pier60.ChelseaPiers.nrf.com)

### 1/21 Audubon Winter Gala

The National Audubon Society celebrates recipients of the prestigious Audubon Medal and the Lufkin Prize for Environmental Leadership, with proceeds supporting the society's mission to conserve and restore natural ecosystems for the benefit of humanity. Tickets from \$1,250. [Cipriani.42ndSt.audubon.org](http://Cipriani.42ndSt.audubon.org)

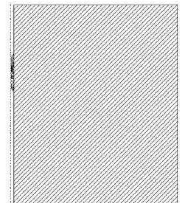
## JANET JACKSON AT BARCLAYS CENTER

The iconic singer will perform songs from her first studio album in seven years, *Unbreakable*, featuring collaborations with J. Cole and Missy Elliott, when this world tour hits Brooklyn. Tickets from \$35; platinum tickets from \$250. [barclayscenter.com](http://barclayscenter.com)



ALL FOR YOU Janet Jackson's eleventh studio album, *Unbreakable*, is the first to be released on her Rhythm Nation Records label.

JACKSON PHOTO BY ALEXANDER TAMARGO VIA GETTY IMAGES; POLAR BEAR PLUNGE PHOTO BY GEM OZELIANDIGULU AGENCY VIA GETTY IMAGES





1/22-1/31

**Winter Antiques Show**

Considered the most prestigious antique show in America, the Winter Antiques Show features exquisite items showcased by 73 exhibitors and is an annual benefit for East Side House Settlement, a community resource in the South Bronx celebrating its 125th anniversary. Tickets from \$25; opening night tickets from \$300. *Park Avenue Armory, winterantiquesshow.com*

1/24

**Family Benefit at NYPL**

Held in the historic Astor Hall, this fun-filled benefit for children and parents, themed Adventures in Space, will support the purchasing of children's books and the development of children's services and programs in the library's 88 branches. Tickets from \$100. *Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, nysl.org*

2/1

**New York Public Library Gala**

The NYPL celebrates the Library for the Performing Arts' 50th anniversary as one of the world's most extensive collections of circulating, reference and rare archival items in the performing arts. Theatrical producer and director Hal Prince will serve as honorary chair. Tickets from \$1,500. *Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, nysl.org*

2/6

**HRC Greater New York Gala**

This annual event supports the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest civil rights organization, which works to provide funding toward achieving equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. Tickets from \$475. *Waldorf Astoria, hrc.org*

2/10

**amfAR's New York Gala**

The celebrity-studded gala, chaired by designer Kenneth Cole, is the signature fundraiser for the American Foundation for AIDS Research and the kickoff to New York Fashion Week. To date, amfAR has raised over \$15 million since its first benefit event in 1998. Tickets from \$2,000. *Cipriani Wall Street, amfar.org*

2/11-2/18

**New York City Fashion Week**

Thousands flock to NYC for exclusive runway shows featuring top designers' fall/winter collections—but for those unable to get a seat, each show will stream live online. *newyorkfashionweeklive.com*

2/23

**NYC Ballet Annual Luncheon**

This yearly event gives a close look into the ballet world with an onstage program featuring guest artists like choreographers Justin Peck and

Christopher Wheeldon, a Champagne reception hosted by Champagne house Ruinart and lunch in the promenade. Tickets from \$350. *David H. Koch Theater, Lincoln Center, nycballet.com*

2/26-3/20

**NY Children's Film Festival**

Over 25,000 people are expected to attend the New York International Children's Film Festival to watch 100 of the best new children's films from around the world representing more than 30 countries and 15 languages. Festival jury members include Geena Davis, Matthew Modine and Susan Sarandon. Free. *Locations vary, nyicff.org*

2/27

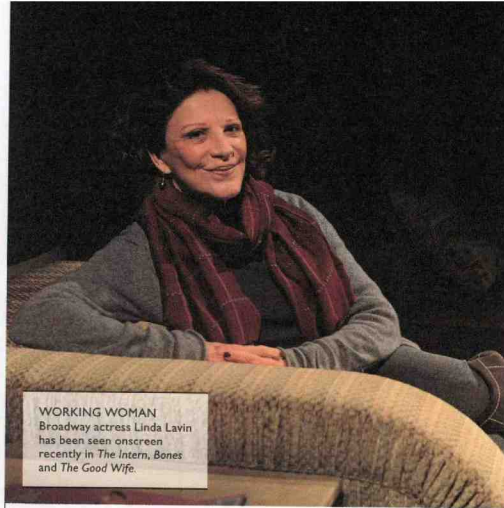
**Big Night Out**

The Big Brothers Big Sisters of NYC youth-mentoring agency hosts this annual black-tie casino night with gourmet catering, a poker tournament, a silent auction and more. Tickets from \$150. *Pier 60, Chelsea Piers, bignyc.org*

2/28

**Climb to the Top**

Get your cardio done in philanthropic style by climbing 66 flights of stairs to the Top of the Rock Observation Deck to support the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (and, of course, to see the incredible skyline view). Registration from \$45. *Rockefeller Center, nationalmsociety.org*



**WORKING WOMAN**  
 Broadway actress Linda Lavin has been seen onscreen recently in *The Intern*, *Bones* and *The Good Wife*.

**MOTHER'S WAY** From Mama Rose in *Gypsy* to her celebrated turn as Rita in the 2012 Broadway play *The Lyons*, Tony- and two-time Golden Globe-winning actress **Linda Lavin** is back on Broadway starring as the central character, Anna, in the NYC premiere of Tony-winning writer Richard Greenberg's new play, ***Our Mother's Brief Affair***. We caught up with Lavin to chat about returning to the Great White Way, family and keeping secrets. —Frank DiLella

**Does returning to Broadway feel like coming home?**

It does feel like I'm home, though I've never done a Richard Greenberg play. I love working on new material with the writer in the room, and he's a beautiful writer. The process of learning lines is grueling—and it never gets easier—so it's wonderful when the writing makes so much sense. It's poetic, funny, deeply moving and rich, and his understanding of how people in families talk to each other is spot-on.

**You've played many mothers throughout your career. Is there any of your own mother in Anna?**

Her sense of humor reminds me very much of the women in my family, though Anna has

dementia, and, thankfully, none of my relatives have had that. I call on what's there—it's in the writing, in the creation. And I call on myself and my memory. I pull from being a woman who wants to be recognized and heard and respected and loved.

**Drama unfolds when your character reveals a big secret. Are you good at keeping secrets?**

I am good at keeping secrets! If you were to say to me right now, here's something I need to share with you and it's got to be between you and me, I would be really good at it. Because the fact is that I don't remember very much of anything [laughs]. So it's safe with me. *Tickets from \$60, Samuel J. Friedman Theatre, manhattantheatreclub.com*