

Holiday Happenings

Amusement Parks Promote Holiday Attractions

(NAPSA)—If you think theme parks hibernate during the holiday season, here's some news that may wake you up. More and more, the landscapes of parks are changing to welcome families during the holiday season. Whether planning some seasonal fun for the kids or adding a touch of holiday spice to the weekend, families can gain access to a free and diverse list of activities at amusement parks and attractions through the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA) Web site, www.TicketForFun.com.

A sampling of this year's activities include Crealy's Winter Wonderland at Crealy Adventure Park, Exeter, Devon, United Kingdom; Hip Hop Christmas at Gold Reef City Theme Park, Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa; The Grand Christmas Tradition at Liseberg, Gothenburg, Sweden; Noon Year's Eve at Lowry Park Zoo, Tampa, Florida, U.S.A.; and Lights Before Christmas 20th Anniversary at The Toledo Zoo, Toledo, Ohio, U.S.A.

Parents should take advantage of this opportune time to instill the values of theme park safety in their children. A portion of www.TicketForFun.com is devoted to safety tips for those parents interested in joining the industry as "partners in safety." Notable guidelines posted on the Web site include:

- Observing all posted rules and following verbal instructions given by ride operators, lifeguards or any other park official.
- Obeying listed age, height, weight and health restrictions.
- Keeping hands, arms, legs and feet inside the ride at all times



Picture courtesy of Carowinds, Charlotte, N.C.

Winter Fun—Amusement parks around the world are starting to look a lot like Christmas.

and remaining in the ride until it comes to a complete stop and you are instructed to exit the ride.

- Always using the safety equipment provided, and not attempting to wriggle free of these restraints.

- Making sure the ride can be enjoyed safely and that children understand safe and appropriate ride behavior.

- For water park visitors, making sure non-swimmers and weak swimmers have a life vest, and bringing your own life vest if you are unsure of availability and fit.

"If parents are uncertain if the park has rides suitable for their young ones or teenagers, they can always phone the facility or visit the park's Web site in advance," said J. Clark Robinson, IAAPA president and CEO. "Every park strives for each visitor to have a safe, memorable and fun journey, and they are happy to answer questions that will improve a family's vacation value."

TicketForFun.com is the official consumer Web site of IAAPA, the amusement industry's premier trade association.