BLUEPRINT NEWS

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Where Love Blooms: Volunteer Park Conservatory

Looking for a little romance this winter? Step inside the Volunteer Park Conservatory, where it feels like spring no matter the season.

Tucked into the heart of Capitol Hill, this stunning 1912 glass landmark was part of the Olmsted vision to fill Seattle with beautiful green spaces. More than a greenhouse, it's a dreamy escape where nature, light, and history come together.

Inside, five distinct plant houses transport you around the world. Wander beneath lush tropical palms, admire delicate orchids, or explore sculptural desert cacti and succulents. Even in the gray days of February, sunlight pours through the historic glass, casting a soft, golden glow that feels almost magical.

Perched above the city, the Conservatory offers sweeping views of Volunteer Park, with glimpses of downtown Seattle, Puget Sound, and even the Olympic Mountains on clear days. Nearby paths, the reservoir, and the iconic water tower invite slow strolls and quiet moments.

Whether you're planning a romantic date, a thoughtful afternoon walk, or simply craving warmth and beauty, the Volunteer Park Conservatory is a timeless Seattle treasure where love truly blooms year-round.

Why the Winter Sun Feels So Bright Around the Puget Sound

Puget Sound winters are famous for gray skies and moody clouds, so when the sun finally shows up, it makes an entrance. After days of rain wash the air clean, the light feels extra crisp and sharp. Add the sun's low winter angle, and suddenly everything sparkles.

When those clouds break open, sunlight bounces off the water, rooftops, and even wet streets, turning the whole region into a giant reflector. After weeks of dim, cozy gloom, that burst of brightness can feel almost blinding.

That's why sunglasses aren't just a summer thing around here. In true Pacific Northwest style, we savor those rare winter sunbreaks because they are bright, beautiful, and absolutely worth the wait.

Upcoming Events for Late February & Early March

Washington Huskies vs. Oregon State | FEBRUARY 26 TH

February 26

Washington Huskies vs. Oregon State

Alaska Airlines Arena at Hec Edmundson Pavilion
Seattle, WA
Conference play heats up as the Huskies host a key late-season matchup.

February 27

Seattle U Redhawks vs. Grand Canyon

Climate Pledge Arena
Seattle, WA
An exciting conference showdown as Seattle U defends home court.

February 28

Peking Acrobats

Federal Way Performing Arts Center Federal Way, WA
An electrifying performance featuring gravity-defying stunts and traditional Chinese artistry.

February 28

9th Annual Winter Beef Festival

Location Varies
A family-friendly celebration with local vendors, hearty comfort food, and winter festivities.

March 1

Hot Chocolate Run

Location Varies
A festive community run with chocolate -themed treats waiting at the finish line.

Hot Chocolate Run | MARCH 1 ST

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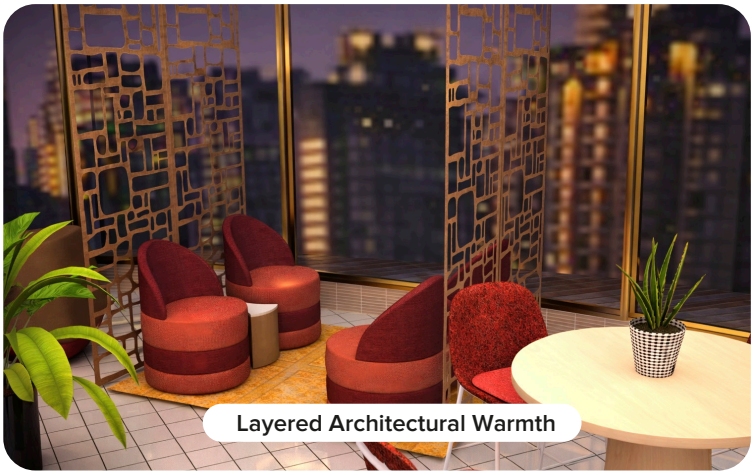
Hospitality-Driven Workplace



Layered Architectural Warmth

The Year of the Fire Horse

The Year of the Fire Horse brings powerful, bold, and transformative energy. Known for movement, independence, and forward momentum, the Horse, combined with the fire element, intensifies action, passion, and rapid change. It is a year that encourages self-expression, freedom, and decisive progress.

Unlike 2025's inward-focused Wood Snake year, the Fire Horse turns energy outward. Relationships may strengthen or shift entirely, creating space for deeper, more meaningful connections. Networking and collaboration have become especially important.

While the year moves fast, balance remains essential. Rest, reflection, and reconnection will help sustain momentum. At its core, the Year of the Fire Horse inspires enthusiasm, heart-led action, and the courage to move forward with purpose.

Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year marks the arrival of spring and the start of a new year on the lunisolar calendar, which follows a 60-year cycle defined by heavenly stems, earthly branches, and the twelve zodiac animals.

It is the most important holiday in China and is widely celebrated in Korea, Vietnam, and other regions with strong Chinese communities. At its core, the holiday centers on family reunion, as loved ones gather to reconnect and celebrate together.

Traditions emphasize renewal and good fortune. Homes are cleaned, debts are settled, and celebrations focus on joy and optimism. Festivities last 15 days, beginning with the reunion dinner featuring symbolic foods like whole fish for abundance, and ending with the Lantern Festival, when families eat tangyuan and children carry lanterns.

The giving of hong bao, red envelopes filled with money, symbolizes blessings and prosperity. Rooted in centuries of tradition, Lunar New Year remains a meaningful time of renewal, gratitude, and connection.

Community-Centered Gathering

Bold Social Commons