

VCA Holiday Decorating Committee Report

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Design Award Win for The Village

On November 9, the winners of 18 Niagara Biennial Design Awards were announced at a Regional Council meeting. Our Village neighbourhood won an Award of Excellence for our annual Lumiere display last December 23, in the Urban Design-Urban Interventions category. Our entry was described as an “elegantly simple gesture of paper luminaries, which brought the community and visitors together for the one-night event”.

To view a YouTube video of the award winners (including 5 others in Niagara on the Lake) click the following

link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u7WeanDnSP0&feature=emb_logo

Part of our entry included a short video showing our volunteers during the Lumiere assembly and set-up, and excellent drone footage of the Village lights after dark. You might recognize some of your neighbours! See our video here: <https://onedrive.live.com/?authkey=%21ALoYWV7Yj9YjKjY&v=photos&id=D269C4B33767D18D%2115356&cid=D269C4B33767D18D> This film is also posted on the VCA website in the Events section.

As with all our Holiday Decorating, the Lumiere display is a team effort, with about 20 volunteers setting aside time during this busy season to create a special event for the neighbourhood. They all deserve our thanks and congratulations.

This Year's Holiday Decorations:

Over the next few weeks, you will notice the decorating teams installing tree lights and lamppost garlands throughout the Village. With the help of a donation last spring, we are expanding coverage this year, extending lights along Macdonell to the community mailbox, and adding the small park on Brock Street from Kirby to Murray to our Lumiere display.

Key Dates to Remember:

The trees and lampposts will initially be lit on Sunday, November 29, and will be on every evening from dusk to midnight until mid-January. The one-night Lumiere display will be Wednesday, December 23 at dusk (weather permitting). If wet weather forces a postponement or cancellation, we will advise via the VCA newsletter.

Because of COVID, this year there will not be a lighting event in Dietsch Park on Nov. 29, or a social gathering afterward, but we encourage everyone to responsibly enjoy the lights and Lumieres throughout the season.

We also ask that you take special care walking through the parks and along paths, particularly if there is snow. We use over 100 extension cords running along the

ground to connect the trees to power outlets, and these are hard to see at night or with snow or leaf cover.

Everyone can Help:

We need eyes on the ground (and on the trees) to keep our display looking its best from November through January. As sometimes happens, light strings fail or connections come undone. If you notice any lights out, just email ycadecorteam@gmail.com, to describe the problem and its location. Finally, donations to our operating costs are always welcome. Contact the VCA executive.