

Family: Discover the effect of the poles at Easton Nurture Nature Center

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Learn about how influential the Earth's poles, and snow- and ice-covered areas are in the new Science on a Sphere show 'Frozen Earth: The Cold's Far-Reaching Influence' at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Nurture Nature Center in Easton. (NURTURE NATURE CENTER/CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Imagine an 80-degree day in January in New York City.

That's similar to what is happening in a recent heat wave at the North Pole.

Learn about how influential the Earth's poles and snow- and ice-covered areas are in the new Science on a Sphere show at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Nurture Nature Center in Easton.

"Frozen Earth: The Cold's Far-Reaching Influence" looks at the poles' effects on the atmosphere, climate, weather and the balance of life on Earth. Learn how these regions are changing and what that means for the future. The show is free.

The Science on a Sphere program is the centerpiece of Nurture Nature Center. One of a hundred in the world, the sphere shows high-resolution video about scientific topics. It's like a reverse planetarium that creates a 360-degree image of natural phenomena like earthquakes, solar flares and the Gulf Stream. Every Saturday, you can see a demonstration on the globe.

The science education center opened in 2011 to examine the reasons behind flooding after Easton suffered its third major flood in a 22-month period.

The center is on the second and third floors of 518 Northampton St. It is open 6-9 p.m. Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays. Info: 610-253-4432, www.nurturenaturecenter.org.

Classical music for kids

Families have two opportunities to expose little ones to classical music this weekend. The Allentown Symphony Orchestra presents its Family Classical Concert "Peter and the Wolf" at 2 p.m. Saturday and Bach Choir presents its Family Concert "The Nightingale" at 3 p.m. Sunday.

The **Allentown Symphony Orchestra**, conducted by Diane Wittry, plays Prokofiev's classic piece that introduces children to instruments through a tale of a brave boy and a wolf. The concert is at Miller Symphony Hall in Allentown.

The music is accompanied by humorous narration by Michael Boudewyns of Really Inventive Stuff. Boudewyns also will lead children in making sound effects for a performance of Haydn's "Toy Symphony."

An instrument petting zoo will precede the show at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25, adults; free, students. 610-432-6715, www.millersymphonyhall.org.

The **Bach Choir** and Bach Festival Orchestra join **Mock Turtle Marionette Theatre** for a world premiere performance of Hans Christian Andersen's "The Nightingale" at Zoellner Arts Center in Bethlehem.

The story of an emperor whose life is saved by the song of a little bird will be told with large puppets, as the choir and orchestra perform. Featured will be virtuoso recorder player Tricia Van Oers as the voice of the nightingale. Three ghosts will appear in William Bolcom's "Graceful Ghost Rag," played by Greg Funfgeld on harpsichord and Elizabeth Field on violin.

Among other pieces, the choir will sing "Lachrimosa" from Mozart's Requiem as the emperor is dying and end with the uplifting Bach Cantata 34.

Tickets: \$17, adults; \$7, students. Info: 610-866-4382, Bach.org.