

## PIX FROM MY WEEKEND



**Photographer:** Yoshiki Nakamura, Seattle

**Photo taken:** Dec. 11, Garden d'Lights display at Bellevue Botanical Garden

**Photographer's description:** "I used a very narrow depth of field to create a color explosion in the background lights. The birdlike object is a mystery that I did not notice when I was taking the image."

**Expert says:** "Playing with the depth of field in a picture is a fantastic way to create mood or abstraction. By setting the aperture on a camera so that the lens

is forced to focus on a small area in a scene, the rest of the photo appears blurry. Here, patterns of colored lights become more intense, and the sleek silhouette of a winter tree and bird take on their own bold presence in the night."

— Jessica Oyanagi,  
Seattle Times photo-production specialist

Please send us your photo from a recent weekend in the Northwest. Submit online at [seattletimes.com/weekendphotos](http://seattletimes.com/weekendphotos). We'll judge the year's best next December (and award a prize). See more photos at [seattletimes.com/traveloutdoors](http://seattletimes.com/traveloutdoors).

## FREE AND EASY

Here are some fun, free events not far from home:

Celebrating New Year's Eve doesn't have to mean spending a lot of money. Winterfest continues at Seattle Center with lots to enjoy for free.

- An all-ages rock 'n' roll dance with music by The Machine starts at 8 p.m. tonight at the Center House, where a winter train and village display will also be open.

- Stay around for the free fireworks from the Space Needle at midnight.

- Walk the indoor labyrinth, an ancient walking path pattern used for contemplation, 4 p.m. today at Lake Washington United Methodist Church in Kirkland. See [www.lwumc.com/ministries/labyrinth](http://www.lwumc.com/ministries/labyrinth).

- There's still time to ride the Westlake carousel, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. today, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday; Westlake Park, 401 Pine St. (A suggested \$2 donation benefits Treehouse.)

- An elaborate gingerbread-themed display continues through Sunday at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel

not after you  
on New Year's  
among your

munity bike ride,  
op, Saturday after-  
gford Playfield.  
he Cascade Bicycle  
or a 25-35-mile,  
irely paced ride  
a stop for Swedish  
cakes. Details on  
e 6.

**ACTICE NEW DANCE**  
**ES:** Take a Scandi-  
an folk-dancing  
on, and dance to  
music tomorrow at  
Cedar Valley  
age in Lynnwood.  
ails on Page 6.

**MENTALLY FIT:** Fit-  
is about the mind  
ody. Get started on  
next decade by  
eginner's medita-  
day at the East  
, 6500 Roosevelt  
s on Page 7.

**G NEW:** Take a car-  
round Lake Wash-  
day to learn about  
in the waters and  
them. Binoculars  
available to bor-  
Page 6.

