



A royal fan faire

This weekend, head to a land far, far away (that's really just uptown) at the Medieval Festival.

HEAR YE, HEAR ye! The 32nd annual Medieval Festival returns to Fort Tryon Park Sunday 18, and with it comes a merry band of fools and entertainment. So tighten those corsets, polish that armor, and point thy trusty steed (that's the A train) toward the tip-top of Manhattan for a raucously good time.

Music and minstrels

After the opening royal procession kicks things off at 11:30am, dance a little jig to the sounds of Europe's greatest olden hits by Salomone Duo. The Majesta Chanters treat lords and ladies to a Gregorian chant whilst harpist Kathleen Finnegan offers a slice of serenity throughout



the day, and the pipe band known as the Clan Gordon Highlanders of Locust Valley, New York, brings the revelry to a close at 5:30pm.

Bards' tales

Hark! Gather 'round Mistress Tale Weaver for her enrapturing stories before letting Joey the Jester fumble his way into your heart. For more serious oeuvres, march thee down to Riverside Market where Pulse Ensemble Theatre presents the mime show *Prisoner Dreams of Freedom* and Christine de Pizan's 15th-century story about building a society full of noble

women in *The Book of the City of Ladies*.

Combat tournaments

Valiant knights duke it out on horseback in jousting matches and armored combat at Sir Stan Michels Tournament Field to the cheers of bloodthirsty masses. Afterward, seek out the encampments at South Lawn Village to learn about the medieval way of life.

Unicorn forum

Apprentices can sidle up to artisans demonstrating stone carving, glass-bead making and pottery skills throughout the day. Tribal Dance Long Island charms the pants off a snake with its belly-dancing routine, and Celtic music pub band Three Pints Shy gets your feet tapping and hands clapping around the square.

Meat and mead

Feast on juicy turkey legs and pork shanks, then quench thy thirst with a swig of wine by Maggie Mead and local brews from Dyckman Beer Co. If you've no taste for meat, never fear: There are plenty of veggie dishes, baked goods and other totally not medievaesque snacks to eat. ■ **Dorkys Ramos**
→ The Medieval Festival is at Fort Tryon Park Sun 18 11:30am-6pm (whidc.org). Free.

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