



Cleveland, Ohio

- Cleveland rolls out the red carpet as the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony returns to Cleveland April 14, 2012. [The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum](#) holds a weeklong series of events that showcase this internationally followed event. Activities include a free concert open to the public, a gospel tribute concert, lecture series, the introduction of the new Grateful Dead museum exhibit, the unveiling of the newly-redesigned museum exhibit space and the opening of the new Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Library & Archives. The star-studded events, which were last held in the city in 2009, drew tens of thousands of visitors and generated more than \$13.3 million in economic impact.
- [The Cleveland Museum of Art](#), one of the country's only major art museums offering free admission to its permanent collection, is presenting **Rembrandt in America** February – May 2012. The exhibition, only being shown in two other cities throughout the U.S., showcases the life and art of this Dutch artist. The exhibition will take place as the museum continues progress on a massive makeover that will nearly double the size of the museum (due for completion Dec. 2013).
- The west bank of the Cuyahoga River is home to the new [Greater Cleveland Aquarium](#), a 70,000-square-foot facility housing fish and marine life from around the world. More than 42 tanks will be integrated into an historic building, as well as a seatube that allows visitors to experience life under the sea in a clear, 145' walk-through tunnel.
- Cleveland hits the jackpot with the addition of a new high-profile, downtown casino. Located on Public Square, the first phase of the 96,000-square-foot [Cleveland Horseshoe Casino](#) will open this spring to the tune of approximately \$350 million. Expect approximately 2,100 slot machines, 65 table games and a 25-table World Series of Poker room in the casino.
- In 2012, the historic [West Side Market](#) celebrates its centennial. As one of the largest public markets of its kind, this historic landmark encompasses Cleveland's rich cultural diversity with 180 privately-owned booths serving fresh meats, cheeses, breads, pastries, produce and ethnic items like pierogi, falafel and tamales. Once a place where immigrants purchased their native ingredients West Side Market is now a foodie's paradise. The centennial celebration kicks off with the International Public Markets Conference in September.
- Visitors will enjoy a brand new location for the [Cleveland Museum of Contemporary Art](#) (MOCA) in the fall of 2012, as the museum opens its \$26.3 million home in the Uptown District of University Circle. The new 34,000-square-foot, four-story building will provide MOCA with street presence for the first time in its 40-year history, and will enable it to present a diversity of innovative exhibitions and programs, while appealing to both current and new audiences.

Pictured from left to right: East Fourth Street Entertainment District, photo © Jeff Greenberg; The Greenhouse Tavern, photo © Scott Meivogel; Rembrandt Self Portrait, photo © Cleveland Museum of Art; and The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, photo © Scott Meivogel.

- Cleveland's burgeoning culinary scene continues to garner national epicurean attention with eateries including the first green-certified restaurant in Ohio, [The Greenhouse Tavern](#), whose chef is among *Food and Wine's* best. Chef Sawyer also has premiered a new Japanese noodle house called [Noodlecat](#). Additional high profile eateries include the new uber-trendy "urban picnic" featured at [Pura Vida](#) created by local favorite Chef Brandt Evans; and a third location for Matt Fish's hugely successful [Melt Bar & Grilled](#) where diners can enjoy just about every kind of grilled cheese imaginable.
- With eight stunningly-restored vaudeville-style theaters that host more than 1,000 Broadway shows, dance, comedy, musical concerts and special events annually, [PlayhouseSquare](#) is the country's largest performing arts center outside of NYC. [The KeyBank Broadway Series](#) boasts one of the largest subscription bases in the country. 2012 marks the first complete year that Cleveland's oldest theater company, [Cleveland Play House](#), will call the newly remodeled Allen Theater home.
- The [Cleveland International Film Festival](#), being held March 22 – April 1, is an annual film festival that has grown to attract more than 78,000 people. Created in 1977, the 11-day festival screens nearly 200 new independent feature and short films from local filmmakers as well as those from throughout the US and dozens of foreign countries. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has named Cleveland's festival a qualifying festival in the category of Short Films.
- Families can experience an amazing, interactive community arts event called [Parade the Circle](#) June 9. Professional and amateur artists work up to six weeks before Parade the Circle to create unique costumes and human-powered floats for the festivities, which draw more than 20,000 attendees. Main stage performances and hands-on activities provided by more than 20 cultural institutions accompany the parade in Circle Village.

Positively Cleveland Media Contact:

- Lexi Hotchkiss, Communications Manager, Positively Cleveland, (216) 875-6628, lhotchkiss@positivelycleveland.com.

Image library and HD B-roll [access](#) available. Follow us on Twitter [@positivelycleve](#). Become a fan on Facebook at www.facebook.com/#!/positivelyclevelandfans.

Ohio Tourism Media Contacts:

Tamara K. Brown, Public Relations Manager
Ohio Tourism Division
614.466.8591
Tamara.Brown@development.ohio.gov

Leslie Holbrook, Account Director
Fahlgren Mortine Public Relations
614.383.1635
Leslie.Holbrook@fahlgren.com

Explore the Ohio Tourism Division's [Online Press Room](#) at <http://consumer.discoverohio.com/pressroom>, follow us on Twitter [@DiscoverOhio](#) or find the Ohio Tourism Division on Facebook at www.facebook.com/discoverohio.

