



NOLITA NEWCOMER

The team behind Thai hotspot Wayla recently celebrated the highly anticipated opening of their new Japanese-Italian restaurant, Kimika, in Nolita. Chef Christine Lau and Rivers and Hills Hospitality Group build their modern fusion menu around seasonal produce, like porchetta with miso mustard, fresh pasta adorned with Japanese ingredients, and eggplant katsu served over a banana leaf in lieu of eggplant parmesan. For weekend brunch, begin with a pastry bento box featuring seaweed focaccia and a croissant with hojicha milk jam before diving into tsukemen carbonara and matcha mochi French toast. **40 Kenmare Street, kimikany.com**



ONCE UPON A TIME...

In its inaugural year of 2019, LuminoCity Festival transformed Randall's Island into an enchanted fairytale forest, bringing the 2,000-year-old Chinese lantern tradition into the modern day in the most colorful and beguiling of ways. The fantasy-filled experience is back for 2020 with a new story, spanning 16 illuminated acres awash with spellbinding art and light, plus dino rides for the kids, a medley of food trucks, and a larger-than-life light sculpture tree. The festival will run through January 10 with a limited number of tickets for each time slot to regulate crowd sizes. Tickets are \$38 for general admission and \$68 for VIP. **Randall's Island, luminocityfestival.com**



A LOWELL CHRISTMAS

For stays from December 14-31, Upper East Side favorite the Lowell is featuring a festive holiday package that includes holiday stockings for all adults and children and customized holiday décor, including an in-suite holiday tree for one-bedroom suites and up. There will be milk and cookies for children to place out for Santa Claus and carrots for his reindeer, along with a welcome letter from Santa to each child letting them know he will find them at the Lowell this year. Families can enjoy in-suite Christmas brunch with a bottle of champagne and holiday treats upon arrival. The holiday package begins at \$2,850 per night plus tax. **28 East 63rd Street, lowellhotel.com**



LET THERE BE LIGHT

The vibrant, dramatic creations of prominent architectural and stained glass artist Brian Clarke are now on view at the Museum of Arts and Design, showcasing more than 100 works of kaleidoscopic glass, compositions in lead, and related drawings through February 2021. The exhibition's centerpiece features a maze of 20 freestanding glass scenes, each animated and brought to life by changing light. Clarke has been a driving force in the stained glass genus since the 1970s and has collaborated with some of the globe's biggest architects to create mesmerizing and enduring stained glass windows and mosaics. **2 Columbus Circle, madmuseum.org**

WHISKY AT WESTERLY

In the penthouse of the Westerly in Union Square, Michelin-starred chef Hiroki Odo is teaming with House of Suntory for o.d.o by ODO at the Westerly. Rare Japanese whiskies from the House of Suntory will be available, including Hakushu, Hibiki 21 Year, Toki, and Yamazaki 18 Year, along with a tantalizing menu of whisky-based cocktails. Discontinued labels like Hibiki 12 Year are also on deck. The spacious outdoor terrace includes seating for six while indoor seating can accommodate up to 12 guests. The \$200 set menu includes beverage and whisky-infused small plates like a whisky raisin butter sandwich with pâté de campagne by Odo and his team. **39 East 13th Street, instagram.com/westerlyinc**



PHOTO CREDIT AIK WYENG