



**PLAY: IN CHARACTER**

Consider TheFaceShop's character masks the most ridiculously exciting thing to happen to your beauty routine since Jessica Simpson made lip gloss you could eat. Soaked in hyaluronic acid, collagen and other beauty-boosting ingredients, the sheets are imprinted with an emoji-quality pig (hydrating), a puppy (brightening) and a monkey (soothing). Pick them up at the brand's Eaton Centre location (220 Yonge St.).



**CRAFT: CUSTOM HEELS**

Dorothy clicked her heels to go home; Tanya Heath created footwear with heels that click in and out so you don't have to go home to change your shoes. Get an interchangeable heel (from \$45) or have one custom made (from \$85) at the boutique's new Heel Bar (138-7 Cumberland St. on Old York Lane).



**INDULGE: ARTISANAL CHOCOLATES**

If Jackson Pollock Patisserie existed, it would probably create sweet treats similar to those available at the Golden Apple (142-171 East Liberty St.; think spiced eggnog and gingerbread caramel chocos), and at Chocolates x Brandon, the soon-to-open Brockton Village shop of chef Brandon Olsen, which creates delectables such as lime-ginger-black-pepper and rose-fennel raspberry truffles. (In the meantime, order the treats above at [cxbo.ca](http://cxbo.ca).)



**GET OUT THERE: DECEMBER 12**

So this is basically shaping up to be the busiest day of the year. Here's how we think you should spend it:

1. Start by shopping at the Gladstone Flea (1214 Queen St. W.), the Etsy Christmas Marketplace (103 Bellevue Ave.) or the Pink Market Xmas fair (519 Church St.).
2. Snack time calls for a trip to the Foodie Holiday Pop Up at Artscape Sandbox (301 Adelaide St. W.) to scoop up pastries from Nadège and the Rolling Pin.
3. Then hit up Sephora in Yorkdale (3401 Dufferin St.) and speak with Atelier Cologne experts to find a signature scent. Then visit Sephora at Square One (100 City Centre Dr.) to dress your lips in YSL Beauty's new crimson shades.
4. Lastly, search StubHub for tickets to Alvvays at the Danforth Music Hall (147 Danforth Ave.). Or settle into the Four Seasons Centre (145 Queen St. W.) for opening night of *The Nutcracker's* 20th season. Phew.

**CHECK OUT:**

**pop till you drop**

Yorkdale Shopping Centre (3401 Dufferin St.) is hosting four holiday pop-up shops until early 2016 that bring the boutique experience to the mall.

Brika's shop features a colouring wall, event space and café with Moo Milk Bar snacks—plus exclusive-to-Brika retailers like Bizu Jewellery.

Kit and Ace's soft tees and cashmere can be found beside the Club Monaco men's store and Kiehl's. Check out "The Wall" featuring local art by Melody Hansen.

The Drake General Store brings its coveted kitsch north. The crocheted doughnut ornaments are everything.

The Nutra Fruit Cranberry pop-up sells only cranberries: cranberry-seed oil, cranberry powder, cranberry coulis. Know someone who likes it tart?

**SHOP: RIANT**

The wide selection of fuzzy furs, cozy knits and accessories from hard-to-find brands like By Malene Birger, Mr & Mrs Italy, Tamara Mellon and Vancouver jewellery designer Melanie Auld shine at Riant (35 Bathurst St.), thanks to a redesigned black-and-white shop.



**LEARN: NEW LINGO**

FROM DRAKE'S MOUTH TO YOUR BRAIN, THE NEW TERM IS *BOOSIE*. THE RAPPER RECENTLY TOLD *W* MAGAZINE, "IT'S A TORONTO WORD. IT MEANS TALKING THAT TALK." SPEAKING OF CONVERSATION, HERE'S A STARTER: DRAKE VERSUS LORDE IN A DANCE-OFF. WHO WINS? GO!



**ANTICIPATE: DESIGN FEST**

Mark these 2016 dates now: Check out the latest in innovative design at the Toronto Design Offsite Festival from January 18 to 24. Attend a "Do Good, Do Design, Do Things That Matter" talk at MaRS Centre (101 College St.) on January 23, or stop by the week-long Umbra + To Do Compact Living Product Exhibition at the Umbra Concept Store (165 John St.).



**Team Taylor**  
*A Place in the Sun*, December 29;  
*Giant*, January 3



**Team Monroe**  
*The Seven Year Itch*, December 13;  
*The Misfits*, January 7

**HOT DATES**



**December 9**

Everybody 1, 2 step at the Danforth Music Hall for Ciara's Toronto tour stop. After all, this beat is automatic, supersonic, hypnotic, funky fresh.



**December 21**

Whisky! A gingerbread-cookie bake-off! Ugly-yet-cozy sweaters! It's an embarrassment of riches at the Drake Hotel's Mitty's Canadian Whisky Mingler.



**Until December 24**

Yorkdale and Square One shoppers can win gift cards worth up to \$500 by posting a pic of purchases with #MyMrsClaus on Instagram or Twitter.



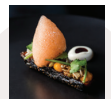
**December 28**

Stay inside and shop: Consonant's all-natural skincare lands on sephora.com. To celebrate, the Toronto brand is launching the travel-sized Hydragasm Kit.



**December 31**

Imagine a *Downton Abbey* Christmas special—but at the Gladstone Hotel—and ringing in 2016, not 1926. So, basically the same thing. Lo and behold, your NYE plans.



**December 31**

Take your parents out—or, you know, get them to take you—to Splendido for its final night. After nearly 25 years, the local institution will close in 2016.

PHOTOGRAPHY: ISTOCK PHOTO (MAP, NUMBERS, QUOTE, VEST); GETTY IMAGES (CIARA, DOWNTON ABBEY); ILLUSTRATION: LEONARD GIANCI (DRAKE); ILLUSTRATION: LEONARD GIANCI (THE NUTCRACKER).