

# ALL ABOARD!

## HUNTINGTON HOLIDAY TRAIN

1. The original train display was built in 1992 by Applied Imagination's Paul Busse, the renowned designer and builder of large-scale garden and railroad replicas.
2. The exhibit is never the same - it's assembled differently each year. 2021 marks the 30th anniversary of the Huntington Holiday Train in downtown Columbus.
3. All of the buildings are made from natural plant materials - leaves, bark, seeds, pinecones, fungus and moss - a hallmark of Mr. Busse's work.
4. The miniature buildings are modeled after actual churches, homes and commercial buildings in and around the Bavarian towns of Bernkastel and Rottenberg, Germany, known for their Gothic and Renaissance-era architecture.
5. Each building took one to three weeks to create and build. The castle and waterfall took more than three months to complete, while the cathedral took more than 10 months. The entire display is set up over a two-day period.



6. The cathedral is modeled after Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady) in Dresden, Germany – Columbus’ sister city. The original cathedral, destroyed in a World War II Allied bombing campaign, reopened in 2005 after more than a decade of restoration.
7. Inspiration for the 8-foot tall Bavarian-style castle came from 19th century fantasy castles throughout southern Germany that were commissioned for the eccentric “Mad King” Ludwig II.
8. A waterfall that pumps nearly 600 gallons of water per hour is integrated into the castle.
9. Miniature trains run on 280 feet of track and more than 50 pounds of artificial snowflakes simulate 600 square feet of snow-covered land.
10. The historic lobby of Huntington’s original bank building was the longtime home of the display. Other than during its 2015 renovation, Main Library has showcased the Huntington Holiday Train every year since 2009.

