Find the perfect gift in Northcenter!
Dear Friends,

We all know that by shopping at local, independent businesses, you invest in your local economy, promote a unique, vibrant community and get top-notch customer service from your neighbors. In this challenging year, it’s more important than ever to support the local businesses that make Northcenter such a wonderful place to experience.

That’s why we’ve created this handy gift guide. No matter your holiday budget, you can find something for everyone on your list, right here in the Northcenter neighborhood! Whether you’ve got foodies or fashionistas, crafters or craft beer enthusiasts, we hope you’ll find that perfect something that will make their eyes light up.

And as everyone’s health and safety remains a top priority, our local businesses have a number of options to make your holiday shopping flexible, convenient and safe, from online ordering to curbside pickup to shopping by appointment. It’s never been easier to shop locally.

From all of us at the Northcenter Chamber, we wish you a happy, and healthy, holiday season.

With Warm Wishes and Holiday Cheer,
The Northcenter Chamber of Commerce Staff

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**Gift Ideas for the Home**

*Autumnal Bouquet:* Get stunning arrangements in the colors of the season—mention this guide and get 15% off orders or subscriptions placed before January 1st. Prices vary, available at A Pretty Flower, 2334 W. Lawrence, or aprettyflower.com.

*O’Keeffe, O’My:* This dramatic planter will make an impression in any position, on a coffee table or mounted on your wall. $82, available at Stella Grey Blooms, 2057 W. Irving Park.

*Smells of the Season:* Gingerbread, evergreen trees and cranberry are among the festive scents in this homely candle collection. $23.99, available at Canna Bella Lux, 4357 N. Lincoln, or cannabellalux.com.

*Gnome Is Where The Heart Is:* These felted friends are perfect if you want to show off your holiday spirit and Chicago pride at the same time! $27.95 each, available at tori grace outfitters, torigraceoutfitters.com.
**Off the Wall:** These wooden sculptures come in a variety of sizes, colors and patterns, from flowers to skull heads. And since you assemble them, it also becomes a fun activity! $38-92, available at **Stella Grey Blooms, 2057 W. Irving Park.**

*Photo: Steven E. Gross*

**Friendly Fika:** These bright trays, made in Sweden, will liven up your afternoon coffee/tea and snack time. $30/each, available at **Hawthorne, 3854 N. Lincoln.**

*Photo: Steven E. Gross*

**Start Making Scents:** Unwind with locally-made incense nestled in a modern, minimalist holder. $58, $20 for incense packs available at **Union Handmade, 3860 N. Lincoln.** In-store shopping by appointment only. *Photo: Steven E. Gross*

**Spice It Up:** Whether on Italian beef or a hot dog, nothing says Chicago like a good giardiniera. Send your friend a spicy, briny jar of home. $8.49, available at **L&M Fine Foods, 4363 N. Lincoln.**

*Photo: Steven E. Gross*

**Gifts for Faraway Friends**

**A Cup of Love:** Tuck a bag of their favorite tea or hot chocolate in the cup for a thoughtful, comforting gift. $14.95, available at **Hawthorne, 3854 N. Lincoln.**

*Photo by Steven E. Gross*

**How Deep Is Your Dish:** If you have a friend or a loved one who hasn’t been able to get back to Chicago, you can give them the taste of home they crave (just don’t tell Emily in Paris). 2 pizzas for $66.99, available at **loumalnatis.com.**

**Moonage Daydream:** This dreamy postcard set will have you seeing stars. Literally. $16.95, available at **Hawthorne, 3854 N. Lincoln.**

*Photo by Steven E. Gross*

**Give ‘Em a Hand:** These handmade mittens are like a hug for your hands. $48, available at **Union Handmade, 3860 N. Lincoln.** In-store shopping by appointment only.

*Photo by Steven E. Gross*
Making the Most of Quarantine

A Cut Above: You can buy this for a crafty friend interested in learning the art of scrimshawing, or buy it for yourself and present someone with a stunning custom knife. It’s like two gifts in one! $49.95, available at Hawthorne, 3854 N. Lincoln. Photo by Steven E. Gross

Best Part of Waking Up: If you’re making your coffee at home, you can still support your favorite local coffee shop by buying a bag of their single-origin beans. $17.95, available at Coffee Joint, 2059 W. Irving Park and coffeejoint.com.

Activating Activewear: Freshen up your at-home workout routine with these cheery, motivating and comfortable workout tanks. $44.99, available at Bras Galore, 3148 N. Lincoln.

Propagation Station: Keep your favorite plants alive with the help of this station made of gorgeous reclaimed driftwood. $40, available at Botanical Cafe, 3940 N. Lincoln.

Into the Fold: All ages and skill levels can enjoy bringing these beautiful paper butterflies to life with this Cambridge Imprint origami set. $24, available at Bari Zaki Studio, 3858 N. Lincoln. and barizaki.com. In-store shopping by appointment only.

Slice of Life: Make family dinner a more interactive affair with a pizza making kit from Northcenter’s premier Italian market! $10 for supplies for a 12-14” cheese pizza, available at Tuscan Hen Market, 4019 N. Damen or tuscanhenmarket.com.
Box of Wonder: Learn the art of windowsill gardening with this curated, easy-care box from City Grange. Pair it with one of their online gardening classes to earn your green thumb in no time! $59.99, available at City Grange, 5500 N. Western, or citygrange.com.

Look to the Stars: Self-care is essential in these trying times. This handy book helps you find your perfect routine with the help of the stars. $19.99, available at Canna Bella Lux, 4357 N. Lincoln, or cannabellalux.com.

Build Me Up: Northcenter’s high-end kids consignment shop has a variety of Lego sets in top condition, some which have been discontinued and are impossible to find online. Prices vary, available at Kangaroo Kids, 4161 N. Damen.

Wild Wood: These cute little animal puzzles come in a whole menagerie of varieties, but the li’l sloth has got to be our favorite. $13 each, available at Stella Grey Blooms, 2057 W. Irving Park.

Chicago-Style Baby: This little book is perfect for new or expecting parents. $8.95, available at Stella Grey Blooms, 2057 W. Irving Park.

There’s Always Next Year: Local designer Heather Polcaster’s timeless Cubs tees are perfect in the offseason too. $24.95, available at tori grace outfitters, torigraceoutfitters.com.
### A guide to safer shopping options for the holidays.

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**Northcenter Chamber of Commerce**

- [northcenterchamber.com](http://northcenterchamber.com)
- [facebook.com/Northcenter](http://facebook.com/Northcenter)
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Please note: we do our best to present current pricing and information, but prices and availability of items are subject to change.
$25 and Under Gift Ideas

C’est Magnifique: These floral Parisian notebooks will brighten up your desk and spark creativity at the same time. $20 each, available at Bari Zaki Studio, 3858 N. Lincoln and barizaki.com. In-store shopping by appointment only.

Deck the Halls: For Poker night with your pod or Go Fish with the kids, this unique, wild card set is a perfect stocking stuffer. $16, available at Hawthorne, 3854 N. Lincoln. Photo by Steven E. Gross

Desert Gold: This ring tray is as cute as it is functional. $14, available at Stella Grey Blooms, 2057 W. Irving Park. Photo: Steven E. Gross

Little Green Friends: Easy-care peacock calatheas will brighten up a room on a dreary Chicago winter day. $15, available at Botanical Cafe, 3940 N. Lincoln. Photo by Steven E. Gross

It’s Lit: With dreamy scents like “Mandarin Sunrise” and “Vanilla Amber,” these high-quality soy wax candles will transport you to a different time and place. Think of it as a mini-vacation for your senses. $20 each, available at embellish boutique, 4161 N. Lincoln, or embellishchicago.com.

When All Else Fails, There’s Chocolate: And your local Irish grocery has the good stuff. $11, available at Mrs. Murphy & Sons Irish Grocery, 3905 N. Lincoln or irishbistro.com.
**Don’t Forget Your Pets!**

**Pachyderm Planter:** This lucky elephant planter will brighten anyone’s day! The team at embellish will even help you choose a plant and pot it for you. $16 with succulent, available at embellish boutique, 4161 N. Lincoln, or embellishchicago.com.

**Old Skull, New Skull:** These spooky and stylish glasses even have real platinum running through them. $13 each, available at Hawthorne, 3854 N. Lincoln. Photo by Steven E. Gross

**Down the Hatch:** Vintage vacation-inspired shot glasses are a perfect stocking stuffer. $6.50 each, available at Hawthorne, 3854 N. Lincoln.

**Holiday Card Ready:** Why should humans be the only ones who get to wear festive sweaters? Urban pooch has dog and cat sizes available. From $29.99, available at Urban Pooch, 4501 N. Ravenswood or shop.urbanpooch.com.

**Talk About a Growler:** Your dog won’t care that this flying disc is repping one of Chicago’s iconic craft brews—they’re just happy you’re down to play fetch. $12, available at Half Acre Beer Company, 4257 N. Lincoln or halfacrebeer.com.

**Chew On This:** Save your furniture and shoes with these durable, long-lasting chewies even the most energetic, tough-chewing pooch will love. $7.99, available at Urban Pooch, 4501 N. Ravenswood or shop.urbanpooch.com.

**Magical Friend:** With durable knots and soft fabric, this unicorn pal is perfect for tug of war and snuggling alike. $22.99, available at Urban Pooch, 4501 N. Ravenswood or shop.urbanpooch.com.
Favorite Wearable Gifts

Dog Days: This comfy crew-neck is a little contemporary art, a little loungewear, and celebrates Half Acre’s iconic Big Hugs. Fitting then, that it feels like, well, a big hug. $50, available at Half Acre Beer Company, 4257 N. Lincoln or halfacrebeer.com.

Sleep it Off: Soft and featuring sustainable fabrics, your loved ones will be comfy-cozy in this sleepwear. $84.99, available at Bras Galore, 3148 N. Lincoln.

Fit for a Queen: Perfect for your favorite Beyhive member. $20, available at Canna Bella Lux, 4357 N. Lincoln, or cannabellalux.com.

Petal Pusher: These fun flowers come in a variety of colors and patterns to add a festive pop to your holidays. $6.50 each, available at Soutache, 3862 N. Lincoln.

Crystal Chic: Boho yet refined, these Jaxkelly mineral earrings are sure to take your look to the next level while keeping your mind grounded and centered. $34 each, available at embellish boutique, 4161 N. Lincoln, or embellishchicago.com.

Twisted Sister: Kara Hetz’s intriguing handmade jewelry is a favorite for its simple but captivating patterns. $72, available at Union Handmade, 3860 N. Lincoln. In-store shopping by appointment only. Photo: Steven E. Gross
**Savor Local:** Northcenter’s specialty food & drink grocery has curated gift baskets for the foodie with good taste, from cheese and charcuterie to sweets to cocktails. $40–110, available at L&M Fine Foods, 4363 N. Lincoln or lmfinefoods.com.

**Community Supported:** December is one of just two months of the year where you can sign your loved one up for Begyle Brewing’s beloved Beer CSA membership program. Details available at Begyle Brewing, 1800 W. Cuyler or begylebrewing.com.

**Fellowship & Suds:** Burning Bush, Northcenter’s newest craft brewery, is the brainchild of former pastor Brent Raska. Share in the love with a growler of one of his creative and Biblical brews, like the Jonah Cream Ale or the St. Basil Amber Ale, brewed with basil from Raska’s garden. $22, available at Burning Bush Brewery, 4014 N. Rockwell or burningbushbrewery.com.

**A Shot of Chicago:** Have a holiday obligation that you’re hoping to be uninvited to in the future? Why not say it with a mini-sixer of Malört? $9.99, available at Bottles & Cans, 4109 N. Lincoln.

**Think in Ink:** This silky, dark, dramatic squid ink pasta will liven up date night. Available at Tuscan Hen Market, 4019 N. Damen.

**Don’t Forget The Milk:** Brighten someone’s day with a gift box of Northcenter’s most unique treats, Cookie Spin’s iconic “deep dish” cookie, available in a variety of fun flavors like caramel apple, turtle brownie and red velvet. Prices vary, available at Cookie Spin, 4350 N. Leavitt and cookiespinchicago.com.

**Savor Local:** Northcenter’s specialty food & drink grocery has curated gift baskets for the foodie with good taste, from cheese and charcuterie to sweets to cocktails. $40–110, available at L&M Fine Foods, 4363 N. Lincoln or lmfinefoods.com.
**Gifts that give back**

**A-Door-Able:** Vivant Gardening Services’ decorative winter wreaths make for classy, inviting décor and support the work of the Montrose Metra Community Garden. $45-80, available at [vivantgardens.com](http://vivantgardens.com).

**Bring the Ruckus:** Students in Concordia Place’s teen entrepreneurship program created these soothing shea balms and lip balms, perfect to protect your host from a Chicago winter. Buy one gift package and one is donated to another local social services organization. $28, available at [etsy.com/shop/RuckusTeens](http://etsy.com/shop/RuckusTeens).

**Plants Are Pets, Too!** When you give an aspiring (or seasoned) plant parent a new green friend from City Grange, you’re supporting community gardening and foodways efforts like the Peterson Garden Project and Slow Food Chicago. Prices vary, available at [City Grange, 5500 N. Western or citygrange.com](http://citygrange.com).

**The Sweetest Thing:** Surprise your loved ones with Blue Sky Bakery’s cookies, cupcakes or irresistible maple cashew granola and support their programs providing transitional employment to unhoused and at-risk youth. Prices vary, available from [Blue Sky Bakery at blue-sky-bakery.org](http://blue-sky-bakery.org).

**What a Gem:** Gemstone and metal charm necklaces on inspirational cards by Ruthie & Olive are meaningful and motivating. Even better? Three meals are donated to someone in need for each necklace sold. $30, available at [embellish boutique, 4161 N. Lincoln, or embellishchicago.com](http://embellishchicago.com).

**Save our Stages:** This Situationchicago vinyl, featuring tracks from beloved local artists like Jeff Tweedy, Ric Wilson & Poi Dog Pondering, supports independent music venues that have closed indefinitely due to the pandemic, including Northcenter’s own Martyrs’. $45, available at [situationchicago.com](http://situationchicago.com).