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**HOLIDAY SEASON KICKS OFF WITH TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY  
 AT THE SQUARE TONIGHT @ 5:30PM!**

*Pink Martini & Friends lead in-person Holiday Sing-along Together Downtown*

<p><b>WHAT:</b></p>	<p>Pioneer Courthouse Square and its <a href="#">38<sup>th</sup> Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony Presented by Smart Park</a> take center stage to kick off Portland’s holiday season <i>Together Downtown</i> on November 25<sup>th</sup>. Join in the celebration as Santa, City Officials and Portland area school children ‘flip the switch’ to illuminate more than 9,500 colorful LED lights on our City’s 75 ft. Douglas Fir Tree donated by Stimson Lumber</p> <p>Portland’s own Thomas Lauderdale and China Forbes, with members of Pink Martini, 234<sup>th</sup> Army Band, The Beat Goes On, Portland Interfaith Gospel Choir, Portland State Chamber Choir, Pacific Youth Choir and students from Gresham High Schools’ Chorus will perform to leading Portlanders in the traditional community carol singalong.</p> <p>Custom sing-along songbooks curated by Thomas Lauderdale, containing lyrics and music of 23 songs of the season, will be distributed to attendees at the event or can be found online <a href="#">HERE</a>.</p> <p>At the event the City of Portland, as part of the American Rescue Plan, will be giving away \$150,000 worth of \$50 KUTO Stimulus Gift Cards to support intentional shopping in the Central Core of Portland this holiday season. Event attendees can download the KUTO app <a href="#">HERE</a> to claim a \$50 stimulus gift card at the Here for Portland tent located along SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the Square.</p> <p>The public can also attend <a href="#">The Portland Bazaar at The Square</a> with over 40 artisans and makers on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> 11:00am – 4:00pm. For a full schedule of events at The Square throughout the holiday season; visit <a href="https://www.thesquarepdx.org/our-events/">https://www.thesquarepdx.org/our-events/</a>.</p>
<p><b>WHERE:</b></p>	<p>In-Person: Pioneer Courthouse Square at 701 SW 6th Avenue on Friday, November 25, 5:30 pm</p> <p>Broadcast: LIVE Tree Lighting on KGW’s News @ 6pm and full Ceremony live streamed on <a href="http://KGW.com">KGW.com</a></p>
<p><b>WHEN:</b></p>	<p><b>Friday, November 25</b></p> <p><b>Pre-Ceremony Performances</b></p> <p>4:00 pm - 4:30 pm      The Beat Goes on Marching Band</p> <p>4:35 pm - 5:00 pm      Portland Interfaith Gospel Choir</p> <p><b>Tree Lighting Ceremony</b></p> <p><b>5:30 pm</b>                      <b>Pink Martini &amp; Friends Sing-along at <a href="#">the Square</a></b></p>
<p><b>NEWS BEATS:</b></p>	<p>Portland Events, Concert, Culture, Art, Music, Public Art, Travel</p>