

# MEDIA ALERT & CALENDAR LISTING

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# FREE COMMUNITY HOLIDAY EVENTS CONTINUE AT THE SQUARE, BE SURE TO JOIN IN THE FUN... TOGETHER DOWNTOWN



**Portland, Ore. - (December 7, 2023)** - After a successful kick-off to the holiday season Downtown, with thousands of Portlanders enjoying lights, music, art and brews, The Square is proud to announce the continuation of more FREE community programming.

The holiday calendar of upcoming events, designed to bring Portland *Together Downtown* for the 2023 Holiday season, include:

# Friday, December 8, Caroling 6 – 7:30 p.m.\* The Great Figgy Pudding Caroling Competition

More than a dozen community caroling groups will perform in front of local retailers in a 10-block radius surrounding The Square in Downtown. Event attendees can vote for their favorite caroling groups. This year's participating retailers include Nordstrom, Pendleton, Tory Burch and YSL at Pioneer Place, as well as The Nines, The Bidwell and Southpark Seafood, among others. *Download the Figgy Pudding caroling map here*. A "carol-off" of the finalists, hosted by KGW's Drew Carney, will wrap up the evening's event at The Square to award prizes for the top caroling groups. The grand prize-winning group will be selected by crowd applause and awarded \$1,000. Second and third place prizes, as well as the coveted People's Choice designation, will also be awarded.

\*Registration for registered caroling groups begins @5:30pm

#### Saturday, December 16, 1:30 p.m.

## 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Tuba Christmas Concert presented by SmartPark

Experience the mighty sounds of big brass as over 250 tubas play in harmony for the 32nd Annual Tuba Christmas Concert in *Portland's Living Room*. Led by conductor Chuck Bolton and accompanied by vocalists by the Portland Opera this overwhelmingly popular seasonal performance is FREE for all to enjoy. All of this year's registered Tuba players are able to play for FREE compliments of the <u>Oregon State University Foundation</u>.

# December 7<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, at Sundown Portland's Public Nightly Menorah Lighting

Chabad of Oregon will bring Portland's Public Hanukkah menorah to The Square for its nightly lighting. For more information about Hanukkah and a local schedule of nightly events visit <u>JPortland.com</u>.

In addition, The Square will carry on its tradition of showcasing Live Holiday Art Performances, featuring local musical artists, dancers, schools, bands, and performance groups throughout the holiday season on The Bricks. For a full schedule of events in downtown visit: <a href="https://www.thesquarepdx.org/event-calendar/">https://www.thesquarepdx.org/event-calendar/</a>

This year, The Square will be bringing free pop-up programming to SW Yamhill, Morrison, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues as part of the <u>Holidays on the Downtown Transit Mall Series</u>, in partnership with Portland Mall Management. These pop-up events will feature live holiday performances on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays throughout the month of December along Portland's Transit Mall, on SW 5<sup>th</sup> and SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues, to bring holiday joy to the neighboring streets of Downtown. Visit <u>portlandmall.org</u> for more details.

Now through December, parking on weekends will be free at the SmartPark garages near The Square. For a complete schedule of all of the fun holiday events Downtown click <u>here</u> or follow The Square on <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>X, formally</u> Twitter, and to stay up to date.

Visit The Tree @ The Square Social Media Giveaway runs through Dec. 17th Come downtown and visit The Tree at The Square and share your photo for a chance to win a prize package worth over \$1,000! The giveaway includes a \$500 Nordstrom gift card, an overnight stay at The Heathman Hotel and gift cards to Din Tai Fung, Nike, Powell's and Made Here! To enter snap a photo with The Tree and follow the instructions on The Square's Instagram on how to enter.

#### Sponsors and Supporters

The 2023 Holiday Season at Pioneer Courthouse Square is made possible by <u>Smart Park</u>, with additional support from <u>Nordstrom</u>, <u>Stimson Lumber Company</u>, <u>Redmond Heavy Hauling</u>, <u>NessCampbell Crane + Rigging</u>, <u>Portland Parks & Recreation</u>, <u>Prosper Portland</u>, <u>Equipment Share</u>, <u>Portland Mall Management Inc</u>, <u>Pioneer Place</u>, <u>OSU Foundation</u>, <u>The Oregonian</u>, <u>KGW</u>, and <u>KINK</u>.

### About Pioneer Courthouse Square

Pioneer Courthouse Square is where Portland comes together. Through stewardship and strategic vision, the nonprofit ensures that The Square remains the foundation of a diverse and thriving downtown, and in turn a better Portland. With more than 300 events per year, The Square is home to many of Portland's favorite community traditions including concerts, festivals of food and drink, and cultural celebrations. Through a variety of public and private partnerships, Pioneer Courthouse Square operates within an annual budget of \$2.2M composed of cash and in-kind donations.