Festive music and celebration began at our Capitol as early as December 1869, during its triumphant opening. The halls of the Capitol were festooned with flowers and two musical bands performed. Fourteen years later, amid much fanfare, D.O. Mill’s gift of the statue *Columbus at the Court of Spain* was officially presented to the State of California as generous holiday gesture.

Past Governors of California established a tradition of celebrating the winter holiday season by adorning the Capitol with garlands and decorating the tress of their offices. The earliest photographs of this celebration show Governor James Rolph and his staff in 1931 standing beneath a large decorated tree.

Since 1996 the California State Capitol Museum, in association with the Legislature, the Governor’s Office, and the Department of General Services has worked to restore holiday traditions inside the Capitol with daily musical concerts and early twentieth century decorations. This year, thanks to the State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association, with assistance from William Glen Stores, Christmas trees once again adorn the historic 1903 office of the Governor and Treasurer. In addition, the tree and menorah lighting ceremonies on the West Steps brings the festivities outdoors for all to enjoy.
Holiday Music Program 2017
Schedule of Performers

Sunday, December 10
11:00 Girl Scouts of the Sierra
12:00 Camellia Symphony Juniors and Cadets
1:00 Ron Ortiz Presents
2:00 Sacramento Recorder Society
3:00 Phoebe Hearst Elem School Choir

Monday, December 11
11:00 Pine Hills Adventist Academy Choir
12:00 Brassy!

Tuesday, December 12
11:00 CalPERS Holiday Chorus
12:00 Sheldon High School Vocal Ensemble

Wednesday, December 13
11:00 Sacramento Valley Chorus
12:00 Ukulele Heaven Orchestra

Thursday, December 14
11:00 Natomas Charter School String Orchestra
12:00 Salvation Army Brass Band
1:00 Folsom Lake Youth Choir

Friday, December 15
12:00 Capitol Valley Harp Circle

Saturday, December 16
11:00 Sing-along w/ the Capitol Singers
12:00 Sacramento Opera Carolers
1:00 Sacramento Women’s Chorus
2:00 River Bells

Sunday, December 17
1:00 Sacramento Flute Club
2:30 West Sacramento Community Singers

Monday, December 18
11:00 Renaissance Choir of Sacramento
12:00 Davis Chorale

Tuesday, December 19
11:00 ACC Showstoppers
12:00 Avalon String Quartet

Wednesday, December 20
11:00 CalSTRS Christmas Choir
12:00 Caltrans Choir

Thursday, December 21
11:00 Welty Strings
12:00 Vocal Art Ensemble
1:00 Mellodika Harp Duo

Friday, December 22
12:00 Anna Maria Mendieta, Harpist

Saturday, December 23
12:00 Festival Brass
1:00 California Veteran’s Home Bell Choir
2:00 Yuba Voice and Friends
3:00 Capitol Horn Choir

Sunday, November 26
1:00 Granite Bay Brass
3:00 Sacramento Gay Men’s Chorus

Monday, November 27 (No Performances)

Tuesday, November 28
12:00 Welty Strings

Wednesday, November 29
12:00 Davis High School Baroque Ensemble

Thursday, November 30
12:00 John Adams Academy Choirs

Friday, December 1
11:00 High Voltage - El Dorado Theater Co.
12:00 Cosumnes River College Chamber Singers

Saturday, December 2
11:00 Ibaraki Christian School Choir From Japan
12:00 Lincoln Theater Choiristers
1:00 Davis Splash Music Ensemble
2:00 Vivace Strings (Sacramento Youth Symphony)
3:00 Harp Ensemble (Sacramento Youth Symphony)

Sunday, December 3
California International Marathon (No Music)

Monday, December 4
11:00 Franklin High School
12:00 Lincoln High School

Tuesday, December 5
11:00 Los Banos Junior High School Choir
12:00 Pacheco High School Choir

Wednesday, December 6
11:00 Golden State Accordion Club
12:00 Davis High School Madrigals
12:30 Saint Mary School Choir

Thursday, December 7
11:00 Sacramento Community Home Schools
12:00 Davis High School Advanced Treble Choir

Friday, December 8
11:00 Sacramento Capitolaires
12:00 Cantare Chorale of the Sierra Foothills

Saturday, December 9
11:00 West Campus Wind Ensemble and Choir
12:00 West Valley Chorus
1:00 Camellia Flute Choir
2:00 Sacramento Valley Concert Choir
3:00 Parker Whitney Elem School Choir
3:30 Crocker Riverside Singing Cubs Choir