

DECEMBER 20**IPR NEWS/STUDIO ONE*****Studio One Tracks: The Holiday Special***

7 - 9 p.m.

Join Iowa Public Radio Studio One and xBk for a holiday adventure featuring an evil villain who has stolen live holiday entertainment and a cast of characters who bring back the harmony. With more than 40 Iowa musicians and creatives, don't miss this original musical for a pandemic year.

The Big Tiny Desk Holiday Special

9 - 10 p.m.

Celebrate the season with amazing holiday performances from The Tiny Desk Concert series including Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings, Steve Martin, Hanson, The Polyphonic Spree and more! Hosted by NPR Music frenemies Bob Boilen and Stephen Thompson.

DECEMBER 24 - Christmas Eve**IPR NEWS/STUDIO ONE*****Doug Brown's reading of A Christmas Carol***

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

The incomparable Doug Brown, longtime host of WOI's *The Book Club*, reads Dickens' holiday classic.

Selected Shorts: Christmas Spirits High and Low

12 - 1 p.m.

Our two stories, presented by guest host Cynthia Nixon, do deliver good cheer in the end. In Laurie Notaro's "O Holy Night, or The Year I Ruined Christmas" there's a hideous Christmas tree, and a demanding parent with a long memory. In Jeanette Winterson's luminous "Spirit of Christmas" a married couple set off for their holiday with frayed tempers and too much stuff. They wind up with nothing but a miracle.

Bob Dorr's Rockin' Christmas Eve

7 - 10 p.m.

Every year Bob hosts his "Rockin' Christmas Eve." This year's broadcast is the 46th out of the last 48 Christmas eves that Bob's hosted on Iowa Public Radio. The music is all holiday songs from all eras and all music styles, some of it picked out by listener request. Join Bob and Iowa Public Radio this Rockin' Christmas Eve!

December 25 - Christmas Day**NEWS/STUDIO ONE*****Tinsel Tales: NPR Christmas Favorites***

9 - 10 a.m.

This program features stories from the NPR archives that touch on the meaning of Christmas. David Sedaris, Bailey White, John Henry Faulk - these and other NPR voices, past and present, tell stories of the season.

Tinsel Tales 2: More NPR Christmas Favorites

10 - 11 a.m.

Continuing with the tradition of the first Tinsel Tales program, this is another collection of the best and most requested holiday stories. Joy, hope, and childhood memories overflow as NPR voices, past and present, tell stories of the season.

Tinsel Tales 3: Even More NPR Christmas Favorites

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Audie Cornish, Ken Harbaugh, Nina Totenberg and other voices from NPR's past and present tell stories of the season in this hour long special. Some tales are funny, some are touching, some are insightful or irreverent or nostalgic or surprising.

Tinsel Tales 4: So Much More NPR Christmas Favorites

12 - 1 p.m.

In keeping with a well-loved NPR holiday tradition, hear the fourth collection of extraordinary Christmas stories that will transport you to unexpected places. You might recognize them from our broadcast archives — or you might fall in love with them for the first time.

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All Songs Considered for the Holidays: The Return To The Cabin

9 - 10 p.m.

For the first holiday extravaganza in 2012 (at a snow-covered cabin in the woods), nearly all of the invited guests canceled. The party was a lovable flop, but it launched a tradition that's continued since, including trips to Bermuda, the north pole and even outer space. For this holiday party, Bob and Robin return to the cozy cabin where it all began. The special guests include Taylor Swift, Jenny Lewis, Tarriona "Tank" Ball, Lucy Dacus and more.

December 28**IPR NEWS/STUDIO ONE*****Marketplace Tech – How We Survive: Adapting to Climate Change***

12 - 1 p.m.

Climate change is here. We hear about it more than ever. And experts say we need to adapt—but what does that actually look like? This one hour special from *Marketplace*, led by Molly Wood, explores the role of technology in helping humanity weather the impacts of climate change. The time of complete prevention has passed, and we must turn towards adaptation. This special will focus on how practical, tangible tools can help solve this crisis—and the pandemic's impact on how quickly that technology can be deployed.

December 31 - New Year's Eve**IPR NEWS/STUDIO ONE*****The Keepers: Archiving the Now***

12 - 1 p.m.

Stories of can-do people. Must-do people. Get-it-done people. People who are grappling with the now, with where we are and where we've got to get to. As the world we all knew unravels and communities begin to re-shape themselves, The Kitchen Sisters have been gleaning, looking for those who have something to offer during these uncharted times. People who rebuild, restore, reinvent. Nobody showed them the path, they cut it themselves. Striking stories of grit, hope and possibility.

January 1 - New Year's Day

IPR NEWS/STUDIO ONE

Best of the Best 2020: Letters to a Young Poet

9 - 10 a.m.

In this episode, two young Black artists revisit memories to grapple with how they are seen by others, and how they see themselves.

Best of the Best 2020: Of Bodies & Minds

10 - 11 a.m.

This hour features three intimate stories that grapple with the messiness and the triumph of existing as a person, from the outside body to the inside mind.

Best of the Best 2020: Towards a Better World

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

In this episode, we meet extraordinary people who are fighting the system, working to make transformative change and seeking a better world, for themselves and for others.

Best of the Best 2020: The Great Indoors

12 - 1 p.m.

In this episode, three winning stories of the 2020 Third Coast/RHDF Competition each paint a unique portrait of survival and hope in the time of coronavirus.