Holiday Programming 2021

• **Monday, Dec. 20 to Friday, Dec. 24 ~ 1:00pm-4:00pm CT** ~ “Classical Christmas on the Third Floor with Bill Cromwell”
  - Join host Bill Cromwell for three hours of glorious choral, vocal, and instrumental classical music for the season, including arias and choruses from Messiah, instrumental Christmas favorites with the Empire Brass and LA Guitar Quartet, plus long segments of sacred choral music from across the centuries from the great choirs of the world: King’s College, Cambridge; the Robert Shaw Chorale; the Choir of Men and Boys, St. Thomas 5th Avenue New York; The BBC Singers; the American Boychoir; Pomerium; The Elora Festival Singers; St. Olaf Choir, NY Polyphony, and many others.

• **Monday, December 20 ~ 9:00pm CT** ~ “Hot Jazz For a Cool Yule”
  - Jim Cullum and the Band welcome an all-star cast of legendary jazz players, outstanding vocal artists and one outrageous tap dancer to the stage of The Landing to interpret carols and holiday classics in a jazz band mood. Tap sensation Savion Glover joins cornetist Jim Cullum and drummer Eddie Torres on a highly original jazz interpretation of the holiday classic, “The Little Drummer Boy.” Champion of trumpet and flugelhorn and veteran of Ellington and Basie Bands, Clark Terry offers a luscious rendition of “The Christmas Song.” Milt "The Judge" Hinton, a legend of the jazz bass fiddle, holds forth with a genial stroll through “Winter Wonderland” and much more!

• **Monday, December 20 ~ 10:00pm CT** ~ “A Latin American Christmas”
  - A Latin American Christmas brings your listeners some warm and sunny music of the season and a lot of good cheer from many lands south of the border and even the equator. Feliz Navidad!

• **Tuesday, December 21 ~ 7:00pm CT** ~ “The Christmas Revels: In Celebration of the Winter Solstice”
  - Christmas Revels performances have been described as entertaining collections of country, ritual and courtly dances, wassails, carols, songs and ballads, hymns and anthems, story-telling, poetry and drama. They are made up of sacred and secular folk materials, plus some composed popular and “art” music, from traditional European, Middle Eastern and American celebrations of Christmas, The Feast Days of Saints Nicholas, Lucia, Basil and Stephen, Chanukah, the Feast of Fools, Jonkonnu, New Year’s, Twelfth Night/Epiphany, and other end-of-the-year festivals, along with various cultures’ hereditary observances of the Winter Solstice, some elements of which date back to pre-Christian times.

• **Tuesday, December 21 ~ 9:00pm CT** ~ “The Canadian Brass: Christmas Time is Here”
  - Hosted by WQXR’s Jeff Spurgeon, this program features arrangements of music by Vince Guaraldi and Luther Henderson as well as traditional favorites from "A Charlie Brown Christmas," "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Frosty the Snowman" and more – timeless classics infused with jazz and lush harmonies. The selections on this program are featured on the quintet’s latest album, "Christmas Time is Here."
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- **Tuesday, December 21 ~ 10:00pm CT ~ “Jingle Bell Jazz”**
  - Ho Ho Ho! Start out your holiday with fun Christmas Jazz Classics. They are all here in one solid hour. This musical holiday program includes: "Winter Wonderland", "Jingle Bells", "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas", "Little Drummer Boy" plus others. Jingle Bell Jazz all the way today on Jazztime.

- **Wednesday, December 22 ~ 9:00am CT ~ “Festivo Alt.Latino with Cantigas”**
  - The encore of 2014 Festivo Alt.Latino - a special holiday concert featuring the 20 piece choral ensemble Choral Cantigas. This musical performance also includes stories about holiday traditions and cultures. Hear a traditional Peruvian Christmas carol, folk music from Brazil, Spain, and Mexico plus Parrandas from Venezuela and Puerto Rico. The many rich styles of LatinX choral music will unite listeners through the joyful and transformative power of music. Hosted by Felix Contreras.

- **Wednesday, December 22 ~ 10:00am CT ~ “Music of the Baroque: Brass & Choral Holiday Concert”**
  - The audience will share in a live, world-wide Christmas Eve broadcast of a service of Biblical readings, carols, and related seasonal ‘classical’ music (anthems a cappella and with organ accompaniment, and congregational hymns), presented by one of the world’s foremost choirs of men and boys and performed in an acoustically and architecturally renowned venue.

- **Wednesday, December 22 ~ 7:00pm CT ~ “A Carol Dickens Christmas”**
  - Bah, humbug! Don’t let that phrase apply to you this Christmas! The High Plains Public Radio Book Club is pleased to share their traditional holiday read with you - High Plains author, Thomas Fox Averill’s *A Carol Dickens Christmas*. It’s a new twist with the spice of an old classic. Hear the author explore the themes of the book as you come to know both Dickens and Carol Dickens.

- **Wednesday, December 22 ~ 9:00pm CT ~ “A Swinging Holiday Jazz Party with Wynton Marsalis”**
  - Wynton Marsalis hosts an hour of holiday jazz favorites by Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Cécile McLorin Salvant, Gregory Porter, René Marie, and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra.

- **Wednesday, December 22 ~ 10:00pm CT ~ “A Soul-Jazz Christmas”**
• Thursday, December 23  ~ 9:00am CT  ~ “An Afro Blue Christmas”
  • This is a special holiday concert with Howard University's premiere vocal ensemble Afro Blue, and special
guest pianist Cyrus Chestnut. The acappela group performs a variety of holiday songs including African-
American spirituals, jazz and pop tunes, and classical repertoire. The joyous celebration includes one of a
kind arrangements of traditional holiday songs plus new compositions. Music perfect for the holidays and the
spirit of Christmas. Hosted by Michele Norris.

• Thursday, December 23  ~ 10:00am CT  ~ “St. Olaf Christmas Festival”
  • A service in song and word that has become one of the nation's most cherished holiday celebrations. Tickets
to the event - which takes place at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN - are always gone months in advance.
The festival includes hymns, carols, choral works, as well as orchestral selections celebrating the Nativity and
featuring more than 500 student musicians in five choirs and the St. Olaf Orchestra.

• Thursday, December 23  ~ 9:00pm CT  ~ “A Latin Jazz Christmas Experience”
  • Enjoy your Christmas break and winter holiday season with a little "Latin Jazz" fun. Soak in the excitement
with Poncho Sanchez, Celia Cruz, Ray Barretto, Sheila E, Carlos "Patato" Valdes, The Joe Loco Quintet, and
others.

• Thursday, December 23  ~ 10:00pm CT  ~ “A Cool Christmas”
  • It's "A Cool Christmas" as we usher in the holiday with a jazz tribute. Come along for a jazz sleigh ride with
music from Shirley Horn, Paul Bley, Duke Ellington, and more. Also featuring Ella Fitzgerald, Buselli-Wallarab
Jazz Orchestra, Eddie Higgins, and Duke Pearson.

• Friday, December 24  ~ 9:00am CT  ~ “Christmas with Madrigalia 2021”
  • Christmas with Madrigalia celebrates the excitement and joy of the holiday season with traditional carols and
anthems from the Medieval era through the 21st century. This one-hour program, recorded live in concert,
features beautiful music by Michael Praetorius, Andreas Hammerschmidt, Ola Gjeilo, Alice Parker, and Craig
Hella Johnson, along with a number of Cary Ratcliff’s own arrangements. Their music is drawn from all times
and places, spanning the riches of classic choral styles, the vast range of compelling music being written in
our time, and the intriguing musical expressions of cultures throughout the world.
• **Friday, December 24 ~ 10:00am CT ~ “A Carol Dickens Christmas”**
  
  • Bah, humbug! Don’t let that phrase apply to you this Christmas! The High Plains Public Radio Book Club is pleased to share their traditional holiday read with you - High Plains author, Thomas Fox Averill’s *A Carol Dickens Christmas*. It’s a new twist with the spice of an old classic. Hear the author explore the themes of the book as you come to know both Dickens and Carol Dickens.

• **Friday, December 24 ~ 12:00pm CT ~ “Mark O’Connor’s An Appalachian Christmas”**
  
  • Mark O’Connor, famous bluegrass fiddler and respected American composer, leads the O’Connor Band and special guest Nancy Ives, principal cellist of the Oregon Symphony, in An Appalachian Christmas. Hear holiday favorites including “The Cherry Tree Carol,” “We Wish You a Merry Christmas,” “Carol of the Bells,” and more! Plus, Mark O’Connor talks about the importance of fiddling in the development of early American music. Recorded LIVE at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall in Portland, Oregon December 2016.

• **Friday, December 24 ~ 7:00pm CT ~ “A Christmas Carol with Jonathan Winters”**
  
  • A public radio tradition hosted by NPR’s Susan Stamberg. Master comedian Jonathan Winters presents a distinctive reading of Dickens’ holiday classic, with a special performing edition prepared by Dickens for his own presentations. Also featuring Mimi Kennedy. From NPR and KCRW.

• **Saturday, December 25 ~ 9:00am CT ~ “Cantigas de Santa Maria”**
  
  • Las Cantigas de Santa Maria explores the songs and poems dedicated to the Virgin Mary produced by Debra Bolton, former program director of HPPR. The musical journey focuses on the reign of King Alfonso X of 13th-century Castile-Leon, now Spain. Alfonso "The Wise" wrote more than 420 songs for performance in his court and across his kingdom, in order to teach morality and "secure his place in the kingdom of heaven." Bolton says she became interested in King Alfonso when she learned that he was a pluralist, honoring Christians, Jewish and Muslim on equitable footings because he was more interested in studying and learning from great thinkers than practicing exclusions of certain peoples living in his kingdom. "At its core, this show is a musical biography of King Alfonso X," Bolton said. "One can infer what points of concern that the good king was facing based on the stories of the musical poems." Bolton also posts her narrative, playlist, and photos on her blog.

• **Saturday, December 25 ~ 11:00am CT ~ “American Routes—Winter Holiday: Solstice, Hanukkah, Xmas & Kwanzaa”**
  
  • It’s that time of year, when the days are shorter and the nights are colder. Warm up to our sounds for the season. Classic songs to celebrate the winter holidays plus a visit to South Louisiana’s Christmas Eve bonfires lighting the way for Papa Noel along the Mississippi River.
• **Saturday, December 25 ~ 1:00pm CT ~ “A Cool Christmas Mix with Paul Ingles”**

• **Saturday, December 25 ~ 2:00pm CT ~ “A '40s Radio Christmas”**
  - Christmas programs on the radio in the 1940's ranged from variety shows, to dramas, to comedies... all of them, containing a generous portion of music, from swing, to sentimental, to religious. The decade of the 40's represents three distinct periods... continued recovery from the depression, America's entry into World War Two, and the beginning of the cold war. This was the last decade before the advent of television, and many radio performers of the 40's became household names to early television viewers. Produced by Wes Sims.

• **Saturday, December 25 ~ 3:00pm CT ~ “A Christmas Gift For You”**
  - The inside story behind this 1963 album featuring performances by The Ronettes, The Crystals, Darlene Love and Bob B. Soxx and the Blue Jeans that raised the bar for pop/rock arrangements of classic holiday songs. The All Music Guide says, “This is the Christmas album by which all later holiday releases had to be judged,” and Rolling Stone lists it as one of the best albums ever made. Includes interviews with singers Darlene Love and LaLa Brooks, musicians Nino Tempo, Don Randi and Hal Blaine.

• **Saturday, December 25 ~ 5:00pm CT ~ “A Mexican Baroque Christmas with the Rose Ensemble”**
  - This holiday program features over two centuries of festive Christmas dances and songs from the great cathedrals of Puebla and Mexico City. With rich instrumental and percussive accompaniment, solos and choruses burst forth in this program that's a far cry from the same old Christmas show. Expect a couple of surprises for the season in this one hour production. The music is all rhythmic and tuneful and totally appealing.
Holiday Programming 2021

• **Saturday, December 25 ~ 6:00pm CT ~ “A Cowboy Christmas”**
  - A Cowboy Christmas celebrates the holiday with memories, music, and poetry of people who live and work in the isolation of America's outback. Some of the stories and songs are family traditions passed down through the generations while others are new works inspired by Christmas on the lonely range. This program features poets Baxter Black, Waddie Mitchell, and Native American singer and comedian Vincent Craig.

• **Saturday, December 25 ~ 7:00pm CT ~ “A Celtic Christmas”**
  - Tomáseen Foley's A Celtic Christmas recreates the joy and innocence of a night before Christmas in a farmhouse in the remote parish of Teampall an Ghleanntain in the west of Ireland, when the neighbors gather around the fire to grace the long wintry night with the laughter of their stories, the joy of their music, and dances they always said they were much too old for.

• **Saturday, December 25 ~ 8:00pm CT ~ “Santa’s Greatest Hits”**

• **Saturday, December 25 ~ 9:00pm CT ~ “Juke in the Back: R&B Christmas”**
  - The entire "Juke In The Back" is loaded with the greatest R&B Christmas records from the late 1940s and 1950s. It's the yuletide soul that came before rock n' roll. From the all-time classics by Clyde McPhatter & The Drifters and The Orioles to some rarer Christmas plattahs from Amos Milburn, JB Summers and The Five Keys. So grab some 'nog and get groovin'!

• **Sunday, December 26 ~ 3:00pm CT ~ “A Season’s Griot 2021”**
  - A Season's Griot is public radio's only nationally syndicated Kwanzaa program. Hosted for 25 years by acclaimed storyteller Madafo Lloyd Wilson, this annual one-hour special captures the tales and traditions of African American and African peoples. The show's poet laureate, Beverly Fields Burnette, and other members of the Season's Griot family return with familiar and favorite elements of Griot.

• **Friday, December 31 ~ 7:00pm CT ~ “What Are You Doing New Year's Eve?”**
  - Featuring Diana Krall, Eleanor Tomlinson, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Frank Sinatra, Nancy LaMott, New York Voices, Shirley Horn, The Real Group, Duchess, Sing We Enchanted.