TACOMA CITY THEATERS
THREE STAGES • ONE DISTRICT

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CELEBRATE THE SEASON AT TACOMA'S 80TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

An afternoon of music, community, and holiday cheer—culminating in Tacoma's treasured tradition.



TACOMA, WA, Thursday, November 20, 2025—Tacoma City Theaters and the City of Tacoma warmly invite residents and Visitors to kick off the holiday season at Tacoma's beloved annual Holiday Tree Lighting. The celebration will kick off on Saturday, November 29, at 5:00 pm at the historic Pantages Theater (901 Broadway).

Festivities begin earlier in the afternoon with the Tacoma Concert Band's holiday performance, "It's a Wonderful Life," at 3:00 pm. The joyous concert features timeless seasonal favorites and a collaborative performance with talented local student musicians as part of the Band's Side-by-Side community engagement initiative. Tickets can be purchased on the Tacoma City Theaters website. Youth 18 and under are eligible for complimentary admission by visiting or calling the Tacoma City Theaters Box Office.

Starting at 4:15 PM, the Tacoma Fun Band (Tacomarama) will entertain eager tree-lighting goers with lively tunes outside the Pantages, setting the festive tone for the evening.

Then, at 5:00 PM, the free community open house officially begins inside the Pantages Theater lobby, featuring complimentary hot beverages and cookies, photos with Santa and

Mrs. Claus, and a special performance by a live brass quartet from Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Media partner KNKX adds to the celebration, with host Paige Hansen serving as event Emcee, and their nearby studio at 930 Broadway open for public tours starting at 4:30 PM.

The evening culminates at 6:00 pm outside the theater, where the community will gather for the highly anticipated countdown to the lighting of the tree, followed by the annual community photo. This cherished tradition captures the heart of Tacoma's holiday spirit.

"The Holiday Tree Lighting is one of Tacoma's most joyful traditions, and we're proud to host it at the Pantages Theater," said **Erin Jepson, Tacoma City Theaters General Manager**. "It brings together the best of Tacoma's holiday traditions and community spirit."

Mayor Woodards on Her Final Tree Lighting Celebration as Mayor

This year's ceremony holds special meaning as it marks the final holiday tree lighting presided over by Mayor Victoria Woodards. "The annual Tree Lighting brings our community together in the heart of our city, reminding us of the warmth, joy, and connection that make this season so special." – **Mayor Victoria Woodards.** The mayor will kick off the holiday countdown after her remarks reflecting on the tradition and joy of the season.

This year's celebration will also include special remarks from a representative of Joint Base Lewis-McChord. **Colonel Erin Miller, Commander of the 593rd Corps Sustainment Command at Joint Base Lewis-McChord**, will join the community in honoring the season and recognizing the deep connection between JBLM service members, their families, and the greater Pierce County community. Colonel Miller has honorably served for twenty-seven years and has seven combat deployments. As commander of the 593rd CSC, she oversees the sustainment of the American First Corps throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

More holiday cheer

On December 16, the traditional Menorah lighting will be held at the Pantages. More details will follow. Upcoming performances include *O Christmas Tea: A British Comedy, Seattle Men's Chorus: Holly Jolly Jingle, Symphony Tacoma: Holiday Favorites, Puget Sound Revels: The Midwinter Revels, Tacoma City Ballet: The Nutcracker, Christmas with C.S. Lewis, and A Charlie Brown Christmas Tour Live on Stage*.

Event: 80th Annual Tacoma Holiday Tree Lighting
Date: Saturday, November 29
Time: 5-6 pm
Cost: Free

Media Contact:
Aleecia Ramsey-Gonzalez, Marketing Manager
Tacoma City Theaters
253.573.2360
aramsey@asmtacoma.com

For information about these and other events, visit TacomaCityTheaters.org. Tickets to the Tacoma Concert Band performance are available online or by calling 253-591-5894.

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About Tacoma City Theaters

Tacoma City Theaters, owned by the City of Tacoma and managed by ASM Global, is home to the historic Pantages Theater, Rialto Theater, and Theatre on the Square. They host eight Resident Arts Organizations, enriching the community with presentations of a diverse schedule of performances, special events, and educational programs. The venues showcase live entertainment ranging from concerts and comedy to movie showings, original theater, spoken word, and performances by international touring artists and productions. (TacomaCityTheaters.org)

About Tacoma Venues & Events

The City of Tacoma enhances quality of life for the community and drives economic vitality through its premier venues, special events, and diverse entertainment opportunities. Tacoma Venues & Events oversees these renowned venues, which include the Tacoma Dome, one of the world's largest wood-domed structures with flexible seating configurations ranging from 5,000-21,000; the Greater Tacoma Convention Center, artful and modern with its trademark glass walls and 119,000 square feet of event space; Cheney Stadium, home of the Tacoma Rainiers; and the historic Pantages and Rialto Theaters and Theater on the Square.