

L.A. HOLIDAY CELEBRATION 2011

- Highlights of Emmy-Nominated Music and Dance Spectacular Feature
Guest Performances by Eileen Ivers and Tia Carrere, an Orchestra of Korean drums
and a Mariachi Version of "Little Drummer Boy" -



The country's biggest multi-cultural holiday show debuts on American Public Television! **L.A. HOLIDAY CELEBRATION 2011** is the "best of" of the 51st Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration broadcast live from Los Angeles' Music Center in December 2010. The one-hour highlights version of this Emmy-nominated music and dance spectacular combines seasonal traditions from around the world with a look at L.A.'s grass roots artists and favorite holiday customs.

Nine-time All-Ireland Fiddle Champion **Eileen Ivers** and **Immigrant Soul** kick off the celebration with high wattage Celtic riffs. Fellow guest artist and Grammy winner **Tia Carrere**, accompanied on piano by Daniel Ho, soothes with a Brahms lullaby set to Hawaiian lyrics. The **Harmonic Bronze Handbell Ensemble** summons up snowy landscapes in "Winter Dance." Tiers of drummers from **Jung Im Lee Korean Dance Academy** captivate with the rhythmic purity of "One Drum." **Mariachi Sol de Mexico de Jose Hernandez** shows lyrical mastery in "The Little Drummer Boy" sung in Spanish. That favorite holiday standard "The Christmas Song" receives the swing treatment from the **Elliot Deutsch Big Band**.

Self-confessed "retro geek" and "histo-tainer" **Charles Phoenix** visits the Rowley family of Ontario, CA, whose business still makes candy canes by hand, and L.A. County's "King of Jello," whose shimmering seasonal creations are to die for.



L.A. HOLIDAY CELEBRATION 2011 is being distributed this holiday season by American Public Television. Check your local public television listings for times and dates.

Also on the program are music teachers from the Los Angeles Unified School District who came together to form the **LACESMA Women's Chorale**, one of six choruses selected for the highlights show. **Salvation Army Tabernacle Children's Chorus** has the moves for "Hip Hop Reindeer" as does the **Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles** in the salute to Santa anticipation, "Man with the Bag." The a cappella **Palmdale High School Choral Union** conveys the joys of downhill sledding in "Run Toboggan Run." The **Christian Community Center Cathedral Choir** praises with gospel fervor in "To Our God." The **Colburn Children's Choir & Young Men's Ensemble** is simply having a "Wonderful Christmas Time."

The students of **Gabriella Axelrad Education Foundation**, which provides free and low cost dance instruction to children, lead off the show's dance offerings with their precision tap routine, "Toy Soldiers." **Antics Performance** turns "The Nutcracker" on its head, sometimes literally, with their hip hop remix of the Snow Scene. **Pacifico Dance Company** and **Mariachi Los Toros** celebrate Christmas as it is done in the Mexican state of Jalisco.

The L.A. County Holiday Celebration is a tradition beloved by Angelenos, thousands of whom flock each year to the live show from which the highlights special was created. The celebration, which is admission-free, is a gift from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to the community at large.

Producers: Los Angeles County Arts Commission and CDK Productions. Director: Kenneth Shapiro.
Format: CC Stereo HD where available. Online: www.holidaycelebration.org

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The Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Laura Zucker, Executive Director, provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines for the largest county in the United States, encompassing 88 municipalities. In addition to producing the L.A. County Holiday Celebration locally and nationally and the Free Concerts program, the Arts Commission provides leadership and staffing to support the regional blueprint for arts education, *Arts for All*; administers a grants program that funds more than 300 nonprofit arts organizations annually; oversees the County's Civic Art Program for capital projects; programs the John Anson Ford Theatres; funds the largest arts internship program in the country in conjunction with the Getty Foundation; and supports the Los Angeles County Cultural Calendar on ExperienceLA.com. The 2011-12 President of the Arts Commission is Ollie Blanning. For more information please consult the Arts Commission online press kit: <http://lacountyarts.org/page/pubnewspress>

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