

### Tuesday, December 8

**7:00 p.m.** | *A Christmas Gift for You*: The inside story behind this 1963 album that set the standard "by which all later holiday releases had to be judged." (All Music Guide) These performances by The Ronettes, The Crystals, Darlene Love and Bob B. Soxx and the Blue Jeans have inspired more than four decades of pop and rock holiday music recordings. Rolling Stone lists it as one of the best albums ever made. **(REPEAT: Sunday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m.)**



### Tuesday, December 15

**7:00 p.m.** | *Chanukah in Story & Song*: Narrated by Leonard Nimoy and sung by the acclaimed vocal sextet The Western Wind Vocal Ensemble, "Chanukah in Story and Song" is a unique holiday program created especially for public radio listeners.



This delightfully engaging program presents 25 eclectic selections, from the Ladino songs of the Spanish Jews and Yiddish melodies of Eastern Europe to modern Israeli tunes and the ensemble's original version of "I Have a Little Dreydle."

The ensemble performs *a cappella* as well as with instrumental accompaniment. The narration, written by Rabbi Gerald Skolnik, sheds new light on the holiday's customs and rituals. Listeners of all ages will hum the tunes after enjoying this wonderful program.

### Wednesday, December 16

**7:00 p.m.** | *Leroy Anderson Christmas*: This one hour program contains 80% music of classic Christmas arrangements and original music by Leroy Anderson. It is hosted by conductor Leonard Slatkin and the composer's son Kurt Anderson, and features recorded performances of **Leroy Anderson's Christmas Music** with Leonard Slatkin conducting the BBC Concert Orchestra, and Leroy Anderson conducting his "Pops" Concert Orchestra. Listeners will also hear Leroy Anderson talking about how he wrote some of his famous Christmas music and what Christmas means to him.

## Saturday, December 19

**7:00 p.m.** | *Your Folk Connection*: Join Barney Hartline and Terry Wright as they present their Christmas program with a lot of great folk music and some fun for all listeners -- young and young at heart.

## Sunday, December 20

**9:00 a.m.** | *Backstory / A History of the Season*: Christmas wasn't always such a big deal. In fact, the Puritans tried to ban it altogether. So, has the holiday gotten more or less religious? How do we celebrate religion in a pluralistic society?

**6:00 p.m.** | *KRCU's Winter Project | A Very Vinyl Christmas*: Join KRCU General Manager Dan Woods as he presents a special edition of the Winter Project, *KRCU's only music show that uses LPs exclusively*, with great music, a fruit cake recipe from Master Chef Tom Harte, holiday readings for the season and more.  
**(REPEAT: Tuesday, December 22 at 7:00 p.m.)**

## Monday, December 21

**7:00 p.m.** | *Broadway Melodies*: Join Dennis Seyer as he celebrates the holidays... Broadway style!

**8:00 p.m.** | **MESSIAH with the PSO and the Mendelssohn Choir**: The holiday season is always a festive time of year at Heinz Hall. A tree is decorated in the grand hall, snow is falling outside, and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra performs one of the season's musical delights.



Let the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and the Mendelssohn Choir get you in the holiday spirit with Handel's "Messiah." Under the baton of Resident Conductor Lawrence Loh, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and chorus perform the magnificent "Hallelujah Chorus," the jubilant "Ev'ry Valley," and the stirring "Amen." Soloists include Awet

Andemicael, soprano; Margaret Lattimore, mezzo soprano; Robert Gardner, baritone; Alan Bennett, bass.

Jim Cunningham hosts this 2-hour concert, delivering his always fresh insight on the music and short interviews with some of the performers.

### Wednesday, December 23

**7:00 p.m.** | *A Christmas Carol*: Local, state and national award-winning actor Arthur Wilhite comes home to KRCU with a new version of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," from Wilhite's own adaptation for radio.

### Thursday, December 24

**7:00 p.m.** | *Themes Familiar*: Join Peter Hirschburg as he celebrates the holidays with music from some memorable holiday movies.

**8:00 p.m.** | *A Musical Meander*: On the Christmas Eve program, Alan Journet and the Musical Meander Theater Players will bring you four politically correct children's stories and a program of seasonal music.

### Friday, December 25

**7:00 p.m.** | *Jazz @ Lincoln Center / In This House, On this Morning*: Welcome to the holidays with Wynton Marsalis' first commissioned work that takes the form of a church service, packing brimstone, fire and a *Sweet Embrace* in the hands of drummer Herlin Riley, saxophonists Wess "Warmdaddy" Anderson and Todd Williams, trombonist Wycliffe Gordon and "Swing Doom" – the bassist Reginald Veal. With Marsalis on trumpet they give old Joshua some stiff competition on *Call to Prayer, In This House, Alter Call*, and more.

**10:00 p.m.** | *An Elliot Potter Christmas*: This special edition of TEPS will feature traditional favorites from the likes of Johnny Cash and Bright Eyes, original music from Sufjan Stevens and The Knife, and we'll address the age-old problem of what to get a wookiee for Christmas, if he already has a comb.

### Sunday, December 27

**9:00 a.m.** | *Lessons & Carols from Washington National Cathedral*: Host Robert Aubry Davis welcomes listeners to "Lessons and Carols from Washington National Cathedral," the fourth annual broadcast of the stirring Christmas service.



Each Christmas Eve, the Cathedral hosts a quietly spectacular Lesson and Carols, one of its most attended and cherished events of the year. The service combines biblical readings that chronicle the story of Jesus' birth with age-old and all-new carols, from folk to ethereal polyphony. Attendees and listeners thrill to the swell of many voices and organ together, as well as to the contemplative hush of "Silent Night" as the service ends. This year the Cathedral Choirs are joined by the Cathedral's Choral Society, the most important in the nation's capital, directed by J. Reilly Lewis.

**6:00 p.m.** | *Christmas with the Philadelphia Singers 2009*: An annual favorite, "Christmas with the Philadelphia Singers" is a concert of traditional and contemporary holiday music performed by the renowned choral group. This year, the famed ensemble celebrates Christmas on Logan Square with a program of 20th-century music. Host Ed Cunningham shares new seasonal sounds and cherished traditional favorites — from the beautiful candlelight procession to the spirited singing of carols with the audience. The hour-long concert is made complete by the choir's delightful arrangements of traditional hymns and carols.



### **Monday, December 28**

**7:00 p.m.** / *Broadway Melodies*: Join Dennis Seyer as he rings in the New Year.

### **Tuesday, December 29**

**7:00 p.m.** / *Mother of God / A Portrait in Song*: Set amidst the stunning architectural and natural landscapes of Carmel, Calif., the Carmel Bach Festival, one of America's oldest festivals, is a major international cultural event. This 16-day celebration features concerts performed in the historic Mission Basilica San Carlos Borromeo del Rio Carmelo, a heritage site visited by thousands each year.



Hosted by Bill McGlaughlin, "Mother of God: A Portrait in Song" shares Marian Christmas-themed repertoire performed by the festival's orchestra and chorale, along with the local symphonic chorus. The composers range from the 12th to the 20th century, from Hildegard of Bingen to Sergi Rachmaninoff, and the compositions span New Spain, Europe, Moscow, England and more. Between the motets are interludes that include celebrated music for solo violin by J. S. Bach, exquisitely performed by The Julliard School's Cynthia Roberts.

"Mother of God" features some of the most beautiful, reflective a cappella music ever conceived for the human voice. It offers an ideal holiday complement to the bustling festivities of the season.

**(REPEAT: Sunday, January 3 at 6:00 p.m.)**

### **Wednesday, December 30**

**7:00 p.m.** / *A Season's Griot 2009*: A Season's Griot" is public radio's only nationally syndicated Kwanzaa program. Hosted for the last 22 years by acclaimed storyteller Madafo Lloyd Wilson, this annual one-hour special captures the tales and traditions of African-American and African peoples.



This year's program features stories told to, for and about children. With folktale, song and poetry, Wilson and friends put the spotlight on youth: love for them, responsibility to them, and ways adults can sometimes not see them. The program presents traditional and original works of poetry, music and prose that speak to the institution of family.

**Thursday, December 31**

**10:00 p.m.** | *Elliot Potter Best of 2009*: Tune in as KRCU's Jason Brown and Jacob McClelland shares Elliot's favorite indie tunes from 2009.