

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Jefferson Performing Arts Society encourages community donations at its inaugural JPAC Tree Lighting Ceremony!

This event is free and open to the public. All attendees are encouraged to donate coats & toys for community members in need.

(December 1, 2022—Metairie, Louisiana) ---Jefferson Performing Arts Society (JPAS) will host a public tree lighting ceremony to celebrate the installation of the beautiful 20-foot tree in the Jefferson Performing Arts Center (JPAC) lobby on Monday, December 5, 2022, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. **A special appearance by Santa** and complimentary hot cocoa and caroling will make this an event for the whole family to attend.

During the tree lighting, local Marines from the Marine Corps Reserve will receive gifts for their **Toys for Tots** program and meet and greet donors in person. Additionally, there will be opportunities to collect donations including the final weekend of Irving Berlin's *Holiday Inn* performances, both matinee performances of *The Nutcracker*, and weekday business hours in the Toys for Tots bins in the JPAC lobby.

Starting December 5 through December 11, **JPAS will host a coat drive** in partnership with Jefferson Parish Schools. Coats in good condition only (new or very gently used) will be received starting on December 5 through December 11, to be delivered to G.T. Woods Elementary School in Kenner before the holiday break.

“Support from our community is key to our success,” said **Dr. James Gray, superintendent of Jefferson Parish Schools**. “The generous donation from the Jefferson Performing Arts Society’s coat drive will benefit our kids and families, and we look forward to continuing to partner with them to help our students and community.”

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. preceding the tree lighting on Monday, December 5, **Vitalant and JPAS will host a Blood Drive inside the lobby of Jefferson Performing Arts Center**. Blood donors will receive two complimentary tickets to the current production of *Holiday Inn* for the final weekend shows December 9-11.

For more information on all donations, contact Amy Kirk Duvoisin, Director of Marketing and Community Relations, at amy@jpas.org or (504) 885-2000 ext. 212. Please see further details and schedule below.



Blood Drive: December 5, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

To register to donate, visit www.donors.vitalant.org and use donor code JPAS. Blood donations will be received between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. only. All donors receive a voucher to redeem for 2 complimentary tickets to *Holiday Inn* at JPAC on Friday December 9, Saturday December 10, or Sunday December 11.



Coat Drive December 5-11, 2022

Bring coats for boys and girls ages 5-10 years old (Kindergarten through Fifth Grade students). We are gathering coats to deliver to G.T. Woods Elementary School in Kenner on December 15, 2022. Coats will be collected during the Tree Lighting ceremony event from 6:00-7:00 p.m. on December 5th, throughout the week of Dec 5-9 during business hours, and before showtimes of *Holiday Inn* December 9-11. To arrange a drop off during business hours the week of December 5-9, email amy@jpas.org or call 504-885-2000 ext. 212.



Toy Drive December 5-18, 2022

Toys must be new and unwrapped. Marines will be present to help in collecting the toys on December 5, December 9, 10, 11 (*Holiday Inn*) 17 and 18 (*Nutcracker Ballet*). At all other times, please bring toy donations only during business hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to Jefferson Performing Arts Center lobby at 6400 Airline Drive by appointment. To arrange a drop off email amy@jpas.org or call 504-885-2000 ext. 212.