



## FROM FOLK DANCERS TO FUNK MASTERS; THE VANCOUVER CHRISTMAS MARKET SHOWCASES STELLAR SEASONAL ENTERTAINMENT

For Immediate Release

**Vancouver, B.C.** – You may have come for the Strudel – but you’ll definitely stay for the show! Whether it’s the sweet sounds of festive carolers and gospel choirs or the toe-tapping beat of the brass band and traditional German folk dancers – the sights and sounds of Christmas will fill the air with holiday cheer as the remarkable collection of daily and nightly performances invigorate the Pavilion Stage, offering entertainment for all ages!

With performances ranging from traditional European choirs and folk dance groups to world-class string ensembles and festive holiday singers, you won’t want to miss out on the exciting line up of entertainers set to take the Pavilion Stage for each of the 31 market days from November 24<sup>th</sup> to December 24<sup>th</sup> on the Queen Elizabeth Theatre Plaza in Downtown Vancouver.

Stop by on November 30<sup>th</sup> and December 19<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm for two stellar performances by the legendary **Dal Richards Big Band**. For more than seven decades, Dal Richards & his Orchestra have delighted Canada with memorable dance music. A Vancouver legend, Dal continues to swing – leading his orchestra of talented musicians in a blend of unique sounds that capture the best of the big band era, along with jazz, rock and pop standards from the 1930s to today. He’s played small towns and big cities throughout the province – and continues to bring his unique sound to British Columbians from White Rock to Whistler, New Westminster to Inuvik and beyond.

On December 8<sup>th</sup>, it’s a must-see performance of **Christmas Pops**, the **Special Christmas Musical** presented by **James Productions**. This 90-minute musical extravaganza, featuring up-tempo Christmas music performed by the fabulous 16-piece JP Orchestra and the talented 14-member JP Chorus, offers musical fun for the whole family. Musical stylings include 60s swing, beautiful ballads, full production numbers, and even a little Rock ‘n Roll. Along with a special tribute to JP’s favourite Christmas personality – Santa Claus – the show will offer stellar renditions of all the Christmas classics, songs like “What Christmas”, “I Need a Silent Night”, “Perfect Christmas Night”, “All I Want for Christmas is You”, and many more!

This year’s musical highlights include performances by: the **British Columbia Boys Choir**, an internationally-acclaimed local choir comprised of talented young men aged just 7-24; the **Concordia Choir**, a group of largely German-born and German-speaking singers, now celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> year of keeping German folksongs and traditions alive in Vancouver; **Rough Pearl**, a fiddle and vocal trio; **Santa’s Brass Band**; the **Austria Vancouver Club Melody Choir Group**; and many more.

Also on-hand to spread the holiday spirit – the **German Junior Folk Dancers**, a troupe of teens and younger dancers from Saskatoon, dressed in authentic colourful costumes that originate from German traditional dress (‘Trachten’), and the **Langley Ukulele Ensemble** whose lively renditions of Hawaiian-inspired Christmas-themed songs will prove once again why Langley is known as the “Ukulele Capital of Canada”.

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With a range of instruments including brass, woodwinds, drums, percussions, the accordion, guitar, fiddle, banjo, piano, and of course, voice, the immensely up-beat repertoire of **The Carnival Band** will feature the energetic sounds of traditional music from around the globe, while the soulful performances of **VOC Sweet Soul Gospel Choir** will have visitors clapping their hands, stomping their feet, and dancing up and down the aisles!

**Dates:** November 24<sup>th</sup> to December 24<sup>th</sup>

**Hours:** 11am-9pm

**Location:** Queen Elizabeth Theatre Plaza

**Admission:**

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| Adults (13+ years)  | \$5 Monday to Friday 4pm-9pm & weekends<br>\$2 Monday to Friday 11am-4pm |
| Youth (7-12 years)  | \$2  |
| Child (0-6 years)   | Free   |
| Season Pass (multiple entry for 1 adult plus 2 kids up to 12 years) | \$15 Valid for all market days   |

**Christmas Passport: \$24.95**

Get one free Season Pass (\$15 value) for the Vancouver Christmas Market when you buy the Christmas Passport. Plus, for only \$24.95 (includes HST), this Christmas guidebook provides great Christmas discounts at VanDusen Gardens, Bloedel Conservatory, Museum of Vancouver, Vancouver Art Gallery, Symphony & Ballet. Enjoy Vancouver Attractions, Museums, Restaurants, Entertainment & more! Valid to April 30, 2012.

For more information visit [www.vancouverchristmasmarket.com](http://www.vancouverchristmasmarket.com)

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