

**Montana Historical Society  
Public Programs and Events  
December 2022**

**Join the Montana Historical Society  
for Christmas Cheer!  
Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**



**9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**

***The Golden Age of Santa Claus: 1860s-1910s***



Bring the family and get into the Christmas spirit by enjoying private collector Mike Smith's 40 years of extraordinary Christmas treasure collecting, which include everything from antique Christmas ornaments to feather Christmas trees (the type of first artificial Christmas tree) and antique prints featuring Saint Nick himself. These Thomas Nast prints date back to the 1860s when the illustrator "invented" Santa Claus as we picture him today. Smith will remain with his collection to answer viewers' questions throughout the day.

**12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.- Dolce Strings**

***Courtesy of the Music Makers Conservatory***

Enjoy Christmas music at the museum from 12-1 pm with the Dolce Strings, an ensemble that includes violins, cellos, and a few valiant viola players who come from all walks of life. Enjoy from 1-2 pm music by the younger group, the Treble Makers.



**12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**

***Original Governor's Mansion Christmas Open-House Tour***

Experience the festive Christmas atmosphere of the Queen Anne style original Governor's Mansion. The house, which has been decorated for Christmas, will be opened for self-guided tours, with volunteers stationed on each floor to answer any questions you may have. **Please note:** The mansion is not ADA compliant. There are stairs to the front porch, with two flights of stairs inside the house.

**This will be our last presentation in the MTHS Lobby due to the construction of our exciting new facility. However, MTHS will continue to offer historical presentations in cooperation with the Lewis and Clark Public Library. Join us in the library's large meeting room every second and fourth Thursday from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. starting in January of 2023.**