



The State Theatre

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ASF Tree Lighting in Blount Cultural Park, November 18, 4 p.m.  
Family-Friendly & Free Holiday Event!**

**Montgomery, AL (November 1, 2017) - Santa Claus is coming town!** The Alabama Shakespeare Festival proudly announces the fourth annual ASF Tree Lighting, **Saturday, November 18 at 4 p.m.**, sponsored by **Baptist Health** and **Alexander Pediatrics**, with additional event sponsorship by **Country Financial** and the **Alabama AARP**. **TrueSouth Properties** and **Buchanan Forest Management** provide a beautiful 40 foot Leyland Cypress Christmas tree that will be on display in front of the Festival Theatre throughout the holiday season.

Bring the whole family out to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival at on Saturday, **November 18**. Starting at 3:45 p.m. **enjoy** the dulcet holiday sounds of the **Upbeat Combo** along with free hot chocolate sponsored by the **AARP**. Community partners will be on site beginning at **3 p.m.** with free samples, treats and activities, including the **Montgomery Biscuits, Whole Foods, Catering Creations, Chappy's Deli, Chicken Salad Chick, Chick-fil-A, Newk's Eatery, Dreamland Barbeque, Alabama Bicentennial Commission, Montgomery School of Music, Montgomery Public Library, Montgomery Zoo, Home Depot, Montgomery Ballet, WVAS, Community Coffee, Girl Scouts of Alabama, Auburn University Montgomery** and **Cheesecake EmporiYUM**. The **Montgomery Chorale** will be on hand along with cast members of the Alabama Shakespeare Festival's **A Christmas Carol** to lead the crowd in a festive carol sing. **Spectrum Media** and **Country Financial** sponsor the classic film *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, shown in the Shakespeare Garden. At **5p.m.** Santa will parade through the park in a **Capitol City Carriage** and light our tree, after which he will be available for family photographs, assisted by the **Teen Team Elves of Eastdale Mall**. **Capitol City Carriage** will have two carriages offering free carriage rides in our beautiful park – pictures encouraged!

This family-friendly community event is generously sponsored by **Baptist Health, Alexander Pediatrics, Country Financial, AARP, TrueSouth Properties** and **Buchanan Forest Management** with event media sponsorship provided by **Cumulus Broadcasting (Mix 103 with JT & Leanne)** and **The Montgomery Advertiser**.

**WORLD-CLASS THEATRE IN THE HEART OF THE SOUTH!**

*The Alabama Shakespeare Festival is among the largest Shakespeare theatres in the world. Designated as The State Theatre of Alabama, ASF has been located in Montgomery since 1985 when it moved from Anniston as a result of Mr. and Mrs. Wynton M. Blount's gift of a performing arts complex set in the 250-acre Wynton M. Blount Cultural Park. This program/project has been made possible by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.*

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