NET Radio features seasonal, Christmas programming in December

A local musical theater performance and three national Christmas specials highlight holiday programming on NET Radio.

New this year is “A Cornhusker Christmas,” an original musical theater comedy taped before a live audience at Lincoln’s TADA Theater for broadcast on NET Radio. Written by Donald Koor, “A Cornhusker Christmas” (on stage Dec. 6-23) is a heartwarming tale set in a small fictional town of Timberwoods, Nebraska, as the townspeople gather for their annual holiday show on K.O.R.N. radio. During the program the live studio audience is introduced to an array of colorful characters, comical tales and holiday songs. Everything is going great until the station is informed of some unfortunate news. Not to let the humbug pull them down, the townspeople gather in the spirit of giving, reminding everyone of the true meaning of the holiday.

“A Cornhusker Christmas” airs on NET Radio at 7 p.m. CT on Saturday, Dec. 22; 3 p.m. CT Sunday, Dec. 23; and 6:30 p.m. CT on Tuesday, Dec. 25.

NET Radio broadcasts “A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols,” the annual Christmas service from the chapel of King’s College in Cambridge, England. This beloved service, live from England, runs from 9 to 10:30 a.m. CT on Monday, Dec. 24. Hosted by Michael Barone, this stereo music and spoken-word broadcast features the 30-voice King’s College Choir in the tradition-steeped Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols service of Biblical readings and music.

“A Chanticleer Christmas” is American Public Media’s one-hour celebration of the season as told through the glorious voices of Chanticleer, the 12-voice San Francisco-based men's choir. The program spans the globe and the centuries — from 14th century England to new arrangements of classic and contemporary carols. “A Chanticleer Christmas” airs from 2 to 3 p.m. CT on Monday, Dec. 24.

Celebrate Christmas day with “St. Olaf Christmas Festival,” airing from 1 to 3 p.m. CT on Tuesday, Dec. 25. This service in song and word is one of the nation’s most cherished and beloved holiday celebrations. Recorded live at the St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., the festival includes hymns, carols, choral works and orchestral selections celebrating the Nativity and featuring more than 500 student musicians who are members of five choirs and the St. Olaf Orchestra.

Other specials include “Leroy Anderson’s Christmas Music,” airing Dec. 21, at 10 a.m. CT. This program is hosted by conductor Leonard Slatkin and the composer’s son Kurt Anderson. It features performances of Anderson’s music with Slatkin conducting the BBC Concert Orchestra and Anderson conducting his Pops Concert Orchestra.

For more information about NET Radio’s holiday schedule and to listen to live webcasts, go to netNebraska.org/radio. To access NET Radio live from an Android phone, iPhone, iPod Touch
or iPad, the free NET Radio Nebraska app is available from the iTunes store or Android market. The NET Radio Nebraska app offers two streams, News/Classical (main FM station) and News/Jazz (HD2).

NET RADIO CONTACTS: Mary Jane Winquest, (402) 470-6247, or e-mail at mjwinquest@netNebraska.org
RELEASE WRITTEN BY: Kim Hachiya, (402) 470-6694, or e-mail at khachiya@netNebraska.org.