

FLORENCE

# Ho Ho Hollywood

*Santa, Sarge  
and his elves  
take off from  
the North  
Pole*



COURTESY PHOTO

## *Holly Jolly Follies returns to Florence Events Center Dec. 2-4*

**I**t is time for merriment and mirth as Holly Jolly Follies takes the stage with “Ho-Ho Hollywood” at Florence Events Center in four performances Dec. 2 to 4.

Prepare to sing along with a host of area performers — including Children’s Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW) singers and dancers, belly dancers, cowboys, tap-dancers and more — during this continent-crossing show.

Sarge Elf (played by Mike Smith) isn’t amused by all of the shenanigans in this year’s Holly Jolly Follies.

Santa (Dorland Neale) has been kidnapped by Jack Frost (Mike Jacobson), and Sarge has no qualms about telling you exactly how he feels about that. Of course, he does so in such a charming way that you can’t help but love him anyway.

It’s a frantic race in the “back up sleigh” from the North Pole to Los Angeles to rescue Santa, reform Frost and see if Christmas can be saved before too much craziness ensues.

This year’s hilarious show was penned by local author, Rose Ellen Jacobson, of Poison Pen Players, and directed by CROW artistic director Melanie Heard.

An army of incredible volunteers has been collecting props, painting scenery, arranging music and assem-

bling all of the red and green costumes that are located in the immediate vicinity.

The Follies features some old favorites (like “Sarge”) as well as some new surprises, such as a not-to-be missed commercial message featuring Florence’s own Mayor Joe Henry. Rumor has it that Siuslaw News editor-in-chief Ned Hickson has his mind made up to “Thank you very much” as “Elfis,” and that Betty Dumbauld’s Encore Tappers are ready to share some Shirley Temple sweetness.

The FloTones and Siuslaw High School choir will be singing holiday favorites, and Buck and a Quarter Band will make an appearance.

And then there’s those adorable CROW kids, ready to entertain you

with a Tarzan-themed dance, and some pretty snazzy holiday characters.

The 2016 Holly Jolly Follies will be presented at the Florence Events Center, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m., Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Dec. 4 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$18 for adults or \$10 for kids ages 12 and under.

Proceeds will go toward future arts programming for youth, and a new graduating senior scholarship fund that CROW has created.

In addition, See’s Candy will be sold in the lobby, and those who bring two non-perishable food items to any performance for Florence Food Share will receive a free See’s Candy lollipop.

Tickets can be purchased by calling 541-997-1994 or by visiting [www.eventcenter.org](http://www.eventcenter.org).