



**Eddie A. Perez**  
**Mayor**

## **ENJOY HARTFORD FOR THE HOLIDAYS** **DESTINATION HARTFORD WEEKEND**

### **---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---**

(December 4, 2009)--- Mayor Eddie A. Perez invites you to enjoy and explore Hartford for the Holidays. This weekend is a Destination Hartford Weekend--- sponsored by the Hartford Business Improvement District (HBID [www.hartford.com](http://www.hartford.com)) and the Rising Star Committee--- chock full of events to help get you and your family and friends into the holiday spirit.

To highlight the fun and festivities, Mayor Perez also shares a holiday greeting in the “tickertape” on the City’s website [www.hartford.gov](http://www.hartford.gov). This public service announcement can also be heard on area radio stations starting this weekend and will run throughout this Season of Giving that continues through First Night Hartford on New Year’s Eve and Three Kings Day on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

“The City of Hartford is all decked out for the holidays. What a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the sights and sounds of the season. Hartford is proud to be home of such a diverse group of arts, cultural and entertainment venues and even more proud that, in partnership with the Greater Hartford Arts Council ([www.letsgoarts.org](http://www.letsgoarts.org)), we are investing \$1.7 million in the Arts and Heritage Jobs Grant. This not only creates about 350 job opportunities in our renowned Arts Community, but it also has a positive ripple effect on the small businesses and restaurants that help make up our local economy. I hope this Destination Hartford Weekend kicks-off a happy, healthy, safe, generous, and prosperous Holiday Season for residents and visitors alike,” says Mayor Perez.

Here’s just a sample of some of the special holiday events happening this weekend in the Capital City: “A Christmas Carol” at Hartford Stage; “Awesomest Art Thing Ever” on Pratt, Main, and Trumbull Streets; “Castleberry Christmas Craft Expo” at the CT Expo Center, “Hartford Festival of Light” on Constitution Plaza; “Breakfast with Santa” at the Bushnell; “Ebenezza” at Kinsella Magnet School for Performing Arts; “Festival of Trees and Traditions” at the Wadsworth Atheneum.

To learn more about these and other events, you can log on to [www.hartford.gov](http://www.hartford.gov) and go to the special events box where you’ll find additional links to the HBID, Connecticut Convention Center, CT Expo Center, CT Science Center, the Greater Hartford Arts Council, Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, Mark Twain House, and the XL Center to get more ideas on how to Enjoy Hartford for the Holidays!