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Subject: Governor's Mansion Christmas Open House Scheduled For December 5

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For immediate release
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Governor's Mansion Christmas Open House Scheduled For December 5 *First Family Welcomes South Carolinians For Holiday Celebration*

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Governor Nikki Haley, First Gentleman Michael Haley and their children, Rena and Nalin, invite South Carolinians and their families to join them for a Christmas Open House on Monday, December 5, from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the Governor's Mansion. The event is free of charge, open to the public, and no reservations are required.

The First Family asks that open house guests consider bringing canned goods to be donated to the Harvest Hope Food Bank. The donations will be accepted at the entrance to the Governor's Mansion.

The Columbia Garden Club, which has decorated the Governor's Mansion for Christmas every year since 1981, began decorating last week when the Governor's Mansion received three live Christmas trees from the South Carolina Christmas Tree Growers Association and poinsettias grown by the Future Farmers of America from Lexington Technology Center – all of which will be on display during the open house.

Governor's Mansion Executive Chef, Steven Jankowski, and Chef Jared Hudson will build a classic gingerbread house, and wreaths within the Mansion Complex will be made and hung by the Horticulture Division of the South Carolina Department of Corrections. Additionally, the Carillon Carolers of Columbia, S. C. and the Heart of Columbia Chorus will perform for guests.

Regular guided Christmas tours will also be available December 6-8 and 13-15 at 10:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 11:00 AM. They are also free of charge, but are by reservation only. Anyone interested in scheduling a tour should call Nancy Bunch at (803) 737-1710.

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