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CONTACT: Jeff Mammenga, Media Coordinator, (605) 773-6000,
Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us

Entertainment set for Holiday Open House at Cultural Heritage Center

PIERRE, S.D. – A full slate of entertainment has been scheduled for Friday’s annual Holiday Open House of the South Dakota State Historical Society from 12-4:30 p.m. CST at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

The schedule is as follows:

Noon-1 p.m. – Plains Folk (Merlin Bennett, Jamie Freestone, Gene Lumby, Gary and Patti Heintz, Stephen Van Mullem)

1-1:15 p.m. – Rodd Bauck, vocal, accompanied by Karen Lindbloom

1:15-1:30 p.m. – Gloria Merriam, piano

1:30-2 p.m. – Jeanne Schweigert, piano

2-2:30 p.m. – Mal Hinckley, accordion

2:30-3 p.m. – Patrick and Jennifer Baker, guitar/vocals

3-3:30 p.m. – Kimberly Smith and Shauna Letellier on violin accompanied by Priscilla Hofer on piano

3:30-4 p.m. – Priscilla Hofer, piano

4-4:30 p.m. – Margaret Ellefson, piano

In addition to entertainment, the afternoon’s activities include photos with Santa Claus, free admission to the museum, holiday treats, living-history demonstrations and great buys on holiday gifts in the Heritage Store.

Following a theme of “Sharing Our Traditions,” a portion of the lobby at the Cultural Heritage Center is dedicated to German, Scandinavian and Irish Christmas traditions with display cases, ceiling hangings and specially decorated trees.

Visitors are encouraged to bring donations to the local food pantry.

Friday also marks the beginning of extended holiday hours for the Cultural Heritage Center. Through Dec. 23, the museum will be open 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 1-4:30 p.m. on Sundays and Christmas Eve. The center is closed Christmas Day and New Year’s Day.

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The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Tourism. The Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism, the South Dakota Arts Council and the State Historical Society. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society’s

world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.