



## **California Shines The 2011 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Project Indoor Trees Handmade Ornament Criteria**

In addition to providing the 60 foot outdoor tree for the U.S. Capitol, we will be taking approximately 100 smaller trees to decorate agency and congressional offices throughout Washington, D.C. You are invited to participate in this unique opportunity to join a long standing National tradition creating a handmade ornament(s) to adorn one of the indoor trees.

### **Invitation to California Artists**

California artists—all ages & skills—are invited to create ornaments for the smaller trees that depict our theme “California Shines”. From the Pacific Ocean to the sparkling deserts, from the high mountain peaks to its forests, rivers and abundant Central Valley, the diversity of nature and the people who live here, are what make this great state of California shine.

### **Indoor Ornament Criteria**

Ornaments should reflect the theme “California Shines” (rich cultural and ecological diversity of this state makes it shine). Due to the sheer volume of ornaments we anticipate receiving, not all ornaments will be selected. To help ensure your ornament can be used on the 100 indoor trees, ornaments must meet the following criteria:

- 3–7 inches in height and ready to hang.
- These ornaments will be viewed close up so quality and detail are important. Use of recycled and natural materials is encouraged to minimize the environmental impacts and encourage creative recycling.
- Share your interpretation of our theme “California Shines” through its ecological and cultural diversity.
- Ornaments cannot be returned, so while they should be thoughtfully created, valuable artwork is not appropriate. August 31, 2011 is the deadline to receive your ornaments.
- Enclose a completed Ornament Submission Form in the shipping box with your ornament(s).

## **Ornament Design Ideas**

Your creativity is welcomed as long as it meets the ornament criteria. It may be helpful to see what has been created in past years, to get ideas. Photos of indoor tree ornaments from Wyoming (2010), Arizona (2009) and Montana (2008) are posted on their respective websites.

**2010, Wyoming Forever West. <http://www.capitolchristmastree2010.org>**

**2009, Arizona's Gift. <http://www.capitolchristmastree2009.org>**

**2008, Sharing Montana's Treasures. <http://www.capitolchristmastree2008.org>**

## **Contact Information**

Please call and leave a message for the Capitol Christmas Tree Ornament Committee at 209-586-3234 ext 602. Someone will get back to you shortly. You may also email our Ornament Coordinator: Phyllis Ashmead, US Forest Service: [pashmead@fs.fed.us](mailto:pashmead@fs.fed.us)

We welcome your involvement. If you wish, take a few pictures of your group and your ornaments for our Photo Gallery page. Provide those to us in a digital format on a labeled CD shipped with your finished product along with a completed Ornament Submission Form included on this website. We can't wait to see the results of your creative efforts!

## **Ship to**

Mi-Wuk Ranger District  
Stanislaus National Forest  
Attention: Capitol Christmas Tree Ornaments  
P.O. Box 100  
24695 Highway 108  
Mi-Wuk Village, California 95346

Visit the rest of this website to learn more about the rich traditions surrounding the annual Capitol Christmas Tree project, the details of California's 2011 effort, and the many partners and sponsors who are working together to coordinate this effort.