



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

ADMINISTRATION

3200 East Highway 34
c/o 500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
Phone: (605) 773-3478
Fax: (605) 773-3194

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Contact: Michael Winder (605) 773-3478

DOC Youth, Staff Take Part in Christmas at the Capitol

(Pierre) - Every year the State Capitol in Pierre is decorated for the holiday season. This year, Department of Corrections youth and staff are helping to make the holiday season brighter by participating in the Christmas at the Capitol program in Pierre.

Youth and staff of the Custer Youth Corrections Center (CYCC) decorated one of the Christmas trees at the State Capitol. Youth from the Living Center B program and the Brady Boot Camp decorated the tree last week. Ornaments were made by the youth from the EXCEL, QUEST, Living Center A and Boot Camp programs during a recent ArtsCORR presentation at CYCC with artist Grete Bodogaard.

The skirting for the tree was made by youth in the Living Center programs during a recent ArtsCORR demonstration with artist Bob Miller. The youth worked with batik, which includes drawing with wax, dipping cloth into multiple stages of a dye process and ironing the piece to remove the wax. The batik pieces are then draped over a chicken wire structure filled with many tiny white lights, which illuminate the batik.

The Pierre Juvenile Aftercare Mentoring Committee also decorated a tree that is on display at the capitol.

Nearly 100 decorated trees will be on display in the Capitol hallways through December 26th. Schools, churches, communities, and civic groups from across the state decorate the trees. The display of trees in the State Capitol is open free to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. every day of the week. Over 40,000 people visit the capitol every year to enjoy the tree display and festive decorations.