

Christmas trees rule in these homes' decor

By Debbie Arrington, Sacramento Bee

What would the holiday season be without trees?

Since ancient times, these symbols of abundance, home and eternal life have been part of winter celebrations. Historians trace the use of evergreens as decorations back to the Egyptians, Chinese, early Hebrews and Scandinavians. By the 16th century, old Tannenbaum had become a regular part of the seasonal decorating inside German homes.

As a melting pot culture, America embraced this tradition as their own. All that holiday history can give tree decorators a whole world of inspiration, too.

Dozens of decorated trees at six homes will be part of this weekend's "Homes for the Holidays" tour in El Dorado Hills and surrounding communities. Hosted by the Assistance League of Sierra Foothills, this family-friendly tour supports several programs for schoolchildren in El Dorado County.

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