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MEDIA ADVISORY-PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

CREATIVE FLAIR, ZEAL OF SCHOOL CHILDREN TURNS MTA CHRISTMAS BUS DECORATING CONTEST INTO AN EXTRA SPECIAL OCCASION

- WHAT: Employees from MTA bus operating divisions, including drivers and mechanics, together with youngsters from elementary, middle and high schools as well as community groups, have transformed MTA buses into giant Christmas ornaments. One by one, like in a parade, the spirited colossal "floats," consisting of buses, and one tow truck, will make a grand entrance onto Patsaouras Bus Plaza at MTA headquarters where judges will review the eclectic entries. If past competitions are any indication, this pageant will resemble a loud pep rally where students really whoop it up. Following the announcement of the winners, chosen from three different age groups, the same buses will return into regular service. Joining the bus operators of these vehicles will be additional staff donning festive holiday costumes as they distribute candy to passengers.
- WHEN: <u>Tomorrow, 11 a.m., Friday, December 17</u> Judging takes place at approximately noon Buses will remain on display until 1 p.m.
- WHERE: MTA Headquarters Building Patsaouras Transit Plaza (Bus Plaza) One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles (off of Vignes Street behind Union Station) Downtown, Los Angeles <u>media can park on west side of bus plaza</u>
- WHO: Includes dazzling, special effects laden buses and more than 100 enthusiastic children and teen-agers vying for bragging rights.

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