

# MY MACY'S HOLIDAY HISTORY of SEATTLE

## TRAIN WINDOW · EST 1947



MOHAI, 2013.48.1

**1947**

Bob James installs the first Macy's Holiday Train Window using S gauge trains and smaller HO trains.

**Early 1950s**

The Gilbert American Flyer layout is a real crowd pleaser!

**1994**

Scott McAbee of Shoreline, together with Bob James, designs a new train system controlled by a remote control and TV monitor. The train receives a tune-up annually in the Macy's subbasement. A couple of weeks before Thanksgiving, it is carried up three floors and placed in the window of 4th Ave and Olive.



Thomas Egan, Seattle Times (Seattle Public Library)

**2000**

Jean Pierre Charette installs the train. Its tracks hold six different train sets that run simultaneously. Two sets are O gauge and the rest are G gauge. New engines and cars are purchased every year to keep up with Macy's store hours. Some days, the trains run for up to 18 hours with the aid of engineers.



Jerry Aabu, Macy's

**2014**

The Train Window features a moving ski lift, ice rink, and hot air balloons.

**2016**

The Train Window Display celebrates 70 years in Seattle!

## MACY'S STAR · EST 1957



MOHAI, 2013.48.2

**1953**

Bob James hangs lights in the shape of a Christmas tree on the Bon Marché building.

**1957**

Under the direction of Harold McLaren, Bob James designs and installs a 161-foot tall Star to adorn the Bon Marché building.



Robert Charter Photography

**1958**

In its second year of operation, the Star features 3,600 light bulbs.

**1960s**

The Star's design is updated and made larger, measuring 60 feet across, with 32 arms measuring from 15-35 feet long.

**1973**

Seattle conserves electricity due to a power "brownout" and the Star takes its only year off in history.



Joshua Trumbo, @seattlippi.com

**2011**

20,000 attendees assemble to view the 55-year-old Star with 4,300 dazzling light bulbs and to watch an incredible fireworks display.

**2016**

The Star celebrates 60 years in Seattle!

## MACY'S PARADE · EST 1991



Tom Reese, Seattle Times (Seattle Public Library)

**1991**

The first annual Bon Marché (now Macy's) Parade takes place in Seattle.

**1996**

The parade features 55 entries and more than 200 costumed characters.

**1998**

Inflatables join the parade tradition.



Robert Charter Photography

**2001**

Children dressed up as Dalmatians accompany the Puget Sound Dalmatian Club.

**2013**

Rag Doll, a parade staple, makes its debut.



Robert Charter Photography

**2016**

Macy's celebrates the 26th annual parade in Seattle featuring 27 floats and more than 650 costumed characters and banner carriers.



JOIN US AS WE CONTINUE MAKING HISTORY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!