

# Deck the White House with boughs of holly

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It's likely on every designer's bucket list: decorating the White House. For **Maureen Reddy**, it's mission accomplished. Reddy, owner of DaVinci Designer Gallery in Winthrop, was among 140 or so volunteers who just finished adorning the residence with untold trees, wreaths, garlands, cards, and ornaments. "The First Lady hosted a reception for the volunteers and it was lovely," says Reddy, who began her career fluffing trees and tying bulbs at Jordan Marsh and later helped do the holiday window display at Macy's in New York. She got the White House gig by making a pest of herself. In a good way. Reddy wrote to **Michelle Obama** in April and then followed up with the White House florist in August. In September, she got the call. The theme of this year's display is "Shine, Give, Share," and many of the decorations honor military families. (The 18 1/2-foot tall balsam fir in the Blue Room is decorated with holiday cards created by military kids, medals, and patches from all of the military branches.) "At one point," says Reddy, "I was cutting different greeneries on the marble floor in the main foyer. I was so intent on the work I kind of forgot where I was and then it hit me...I was sitting on the White House floor."

<http://www.boston.com/2011/12/08/namesreddy/MtdPszrEKu4XI9xwDPokfN/story.html>