

Rhythms of the Season - Solution

This puzzle looks like a bar-style crossword or cryptic, but the grid and numbering make no sense. The first realization is that each clue is comprised of random words from Christmas carol lyrics, as follows:

Across

Bring us some tidings	We Wish You a Merry Christmas
Citizens come adore angels	O Come All Ye Faithful
Corncob silk and broomstick	Frosty the Snowman
Eskimos roasting chestnuts	The Christmas Song
Fire of fair green leaves	Here We Come A-Wassailing
Foggy Santa names games	Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
Follow jolly gay apparel	Deck the Hall
Hills shone everywhere	Go Tell It On The Mountain
Nell will nick dolly	Up on the Housetop
Sleigh in bright open fields	Jingle Bells
Soon holiday style will stop	Silver Bells
Soul felt thrill and pining	O Holy Night
Stephen, poor man, lay round	Good King Wenceslas

Down

Children cheer favorite snowflakes	Christmas Time Is Here
Christ ships three angels	I Saw Three Ships
Gather your troubles	Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas
Golden maids calling partridge	The Twelve Days of Christmas
Holy quake!	Silent Night
Host and angels reconciled	Hark the Herald Angels Sing
Plan on love and mistletoe	I'll Be Home For Christmas
Prepare room and sing	Joy to the World
Satan's poor dismay	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
Star above little lamb	Do You Hear What I Hear
Sweet clear voices sing "Ding Dong"	Caroling, Caroling
The sky is verily ringing	Ding Dong! Merrily on High
Traverse mountain bearing incense	We Three Kings of Orient Are

The next realization, as hinted by the flavor text, is that the bars in the grid indicate rhythms visually (independently in both across and down directions). Finding each carol's rhythm in the grid allows the assignment of each carol to a row or column:

Rhythms of the Season - Solution (cont.)

Across - Titles by row, in order

Row #	Carol Title	Grid #	Indexed Letter
1	Up on the Housetop	10	U
2	Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer	8	T
3	Here We Come A-Wassailing	16	A
4	O Holy Night	2	H
5	Silver Bells	7	B
6	Jingle Bells	7	B
7	We Wish You a Merry Christmas	10	A
8	Deck the Hall	11	L
9	Good King Wenceslas	15	L
10	Go Tell It On The Mountain	18	T
11	O Come All Ye Faithful	5	E
12	Frosty the Snowman	15	A
13	The Christmas Song	10	M

Down - Titles by column, in order

Col #	Carol Title	Grid #	Indexed Letter
1	We Three Kings of Orient Are	10	N
2	Caroling, Caroling	10	A
3	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen	1	G
4	Do You Hear What I Hear	9	R
5	I'll Be Home For Christmas	5	E
6	I Saw Three Ships	13	P
7	Christmas Time Is Here	13	E
8	The Twelve Days of Christmas	11	A
9	Silent Night	6	T
10	Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas	24	E
11	Ding Dong! Merrily on High	5	D
12	Hark the Herald Angels Sing	12	L
13	Joy to the World	3	Y

Using the numbers in the grid to index into the carol titles, in grid order, yields the letters shown above, spelling a phrase in each direction: UTAH BBALL TEAM and NAG REPEATEDLY. These phrases clue the final two-word answer, **JAZZ HARP**.