

**PRESS RELEASE** — To be published during the weeks of May 30 – June 5 and June 6 – 12, 2010.

## **500 Musicians to Perform at Golden Gate Park Band Festival**

The Friends of the Golden Gate Park Band will present *The Let's Do It Again in 2010 Fourth Annual Golden Gate Park Band Festival* on Saturday and Sunday, June 12 and 13, at the historic Spreckels Temple of Music band shell in the Park's beautiful Music Concourse, located between the California Academy of Science and the DeYoung Museum.

The Festival showcases the professional Golden Gate Park Band, the US Air Force Band of the Golden West from Travis Air Force Base, and ten Northern California community bands. Each of the guest bands will present a 45-minute performance. The Festival starts at 11 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m. both days, with the Golden Gate Park Band featured at their regular time from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday. There is no charge to attend and everyone is welcome to enjoy two days of great band music.

The participating bands on Saturday, June 12, are: 11 a.m. - San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, Noon - Pleasanton Community Concert Band, 1 p.m. - US Air Force Band of the Golden West from Travis Air Force Base, 2 p.m. - Foothill Symphonic Winds from Los Altos Hills, 3 p.m. - Oroville Community Concert Band, and 4 p.m. - Daly City AllStars Band.

On Sunday, June 13, the schedule is: 11 a.m. - Pittsburg Adult Education Bands *and* Vallejo City USD Community Services Symphonic Band, Noon - Saratoga Community Band, 1 p.m. - Golden Gate Park Band from San Francisco, 3 p.m. - AUSA Military Concert Band—The Sounds of Freedom from Clovis, and 4 p.m. - Saint Helena Community Band.

The Golden Gate Park Band has been a San Francisco treasure, making music every year since September 1882. That is when the 22nd Artillery Regimental Band of the California National Guard formed the first Golden Gate Park Concert Band.

In 2007, the Friends of the Golden Gate Park Band, a non-profit band booster support group and a partner of the San Francisco Parks Trust, organized its first two-day Band Festival on June 16-17, 2007, as one of several projects to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Band. The Festival was so successful that the Friends decided to make this an annual event.

This year, the Friends published *Five Thousand Concerts in the Park: The History of the Golden Gate Park Band*. The book will be available for sale, along with t-shirts, at the Festival. Order forms are also available on the Friends' web site ([www.friendsofggpband.org](http://www.friendsofggpband.org)).

The Band Festival provides an opportunity for our audience to hear bands from throughout Northern California along with the Golden Gate Park Band. We hope people of all ages will come and hear the bands as well as enjoy a weekend in Golden Gate Park.

The Festival makes the public more aware of the rich history of bands in our state and encourages them to attend band concerts regularly, as well as support and join their local bands. This Festival also provides an opportunity for bands to network with each other, and for band members to hear other bands perform.

The GGPB consists of 32 professional musicians who play every Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m. from mid-April to October each year. The Band is conducted by Michael L. Wirgler, who has been a member since 1974, first as the solo clarinetist and then as its Conductor and Music Director since July 4, 1999. Wirgler has Bachelors and Masters degrees in Music from San Francisco State University. He is retired from Oakland Unified School District after 30 years as a music teacher.

Further information on the Festival is at [www.friendsofggpband.org](http://www.friendsofggpband.org). The Golden Gate Park Band's web site is [www.goldengateparkband.org](http://www.goldengateparkband.org).

**Let's Do It Again in 2010**  
**Golden Gate Park Band Festival**  
**Spreckels Temple of Music**  
**Music Concourse**  
**Golden Gate Park**  
**San Francisco, CA**  
**June 12-13, 2010**

**Saturday, June 12**

- 11:00 San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, San Francisco
- Noon Pleasanton Community Concert Band, Pleasanton
- 1:00 US Air Force Band of the Golden West, Travis Air Force Base
- 2:00 Foothill Symphonic Winds, Los Altos Hills
- 3:00 Oroville Community Concert Band, Oroville
- 4:00 Daly City AllStars Band, Daly City

**Sunday, June 13**

- 11:00 Pittsburg Adult Education Bands, Pittsburg *and*  
Vallejo City USD Community Services Symphonic Band, Vallejo
- Noon Saratoga Community Band, Saratoga
- 1:00 Golden Gate Park Band, San Francisco
- 2:00 Golden Gate Park Band, San Francisco
- 3:00 AUSA Military Concert Band—The Sounds of Freedom, Clovis
- 4:00 Saint Helena Community Band, Saint Helena

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