



John Philip Sousa Jr. Honor Band – MIDWEST Ozarks Region

October, 2009

Dear Music Educator,

The John Philip Sousa Foundation is a non-profit foundation dedicated to the promotion of international understanding through the medium of band music. Through the administration of band related projects, the foundation seeks to uphold the standards and ideals of that icon of the American spirit, John Philip Sousa.

Just as the name Sousa is synonymous with band, so bands are bridges that connect the music and culture of all strata of our society. And no type of music better typifies the spirit of America throughout the world than do the stirring strains of a Sousa march.

The members of the John Philip Sousa Executive Board continually discuss ways that the Foundation can help to support the work that band students and their directors do all over the country. In discussions several years ago, an area that kept appearing as a topic of conversation was the recognition of the junior high/middle school level student. After much deliberation, the John Philip Sousa Foundation decided to create regional junior high school-level honors band as a way to recognize the very special talents of junior high school-aged band students in grades 7, 8 and 9.

The very first regional John Philip Sousa National Junior Honors Band festival took place in South Carolina during October 2001, involving students from South Carolina and Texas. It was a tremendous success...so much so that many similar regional junior festivals have now been held in other areas of the country.

We are proud to announce the 1st Biannual John Phillip Junior Honors Band – Ozarks Region. The Sousa Foundation has selected the Harrison School District in Harrison Arkansas as its host. Harrison is located conveniently in No. Central Arkansas.

The festival is open to outstanding woodwind, brass, and percussionist in 7th, 8th or 9th grade from Arkansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. Dates for the festival are April 28, 29 and May 1, 2010.

Students will be housed at the Holiday Inn Express and the Hampton Inn located just minutes from the school, with bus transportation provided between the hotel and the school.

The band will be under the direction of Mr. Robert Sheldon, internationally renowned composer, conductor and clinician. Mr. Sheldon is a past middle school, junior high and high school band director serving in Peoria, IL and the past direct of bands at Florida State.

Enclosed in this brochure is a **student application form** that may be duplicated as needed to accommodate the number of students that you would like to submit to this festival. Please take the time to complete the application thoroughly and thoughtfully, as students will be selected and seated based upon the information that you provide.

Thank you for nominating your student(s) for membership and participation in the John Philip Sousa Jr. Band - Ozarks Region. We look forward to receiving your application(s).
Sincerely,

Randell W. Mealer – Host
Director of Bands
Fine Arts Coordinator
Harrison School District

National Coordinator

John Philip Sousa National Honor Band

Gladys Stone Wright

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Symphonic Band and Ensembles

1st Bi-annual John Philip Sousa National Honor Band – MIDWEST Ozarks Region

Festival Dates: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, April 28-29, May 1, 2010

Festival Host: Harrison High School, 925 Goblin Dr. Harrison Ar. 72601 - (870) 741-8403 (Office), (870) 741-2606 (fax)

Festival Hotel: Hotel Seville, 302 N. Maim, Harrison Arkansas 72601 (870) 741-2321 www.hotelseville.com

Concert Venue: Harrison High School Auditorium - Harrison High School, 925 Goblin Dr. Harrison Ar. 72601

GUEST CONDUCTOR

Mr. Robert Sheldon is one of the most performed composers of wind band music today. A recipient of numerous awards from the American School Band Director's Association, Phi Beta Mu and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, his compositions embody a level of expression that resonates with ensembles and audiences alike. His music is performed around the world and appears on many international concert and contest lists. Mr. Sheldon regularly accepts commissions for new works, and produces numerous publications for concert band each year.

In addition to his position as Conductor of the Prairie Wind Ensemble, his schedule includes many engagements as a guest conductor for All-State and Regional Honor Bands. He also frequently appears as a Music Education clinician, and has presented sessions and seminars at numerous colleges and universities as well as state Music Education Association conferences. He has served as a conductor and clinician throughout the United States, as well as Japan, Canada, Australia and The Republic of China, and has conducted performances of his works in New York's Carnegie Hall, Chicago's Orchestra Hall, Boston's Symphony Hall and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. Mr. Sheldon is currently Concert Band Editor for Alfred Music Publishing.

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA FOUNDATION

The first project of the John Philip Sousa Foundation was the dedication of the stage of the John F. Kennedy National Cultural Center in the name of John Philip Sousa on October 7, 1971. The dedication was the culmination of the Sousa Foundations efforts that raised \$100,000.00, primarily from schools and students throughout the country under the guidance of Colonel George S. Howard.

The stage was formally dedicated at a gala concert by the premier band of the U.S. Armed Services attended by President Nixon and the host of dignitaries.

Since that beginning in 1971, the Sousa Foundation has developed a great number of projects of benefit to band music, students, and directors through the generosity of Louis and Virginia Sudler, a number of Louis Sudler Awards of Merit have been developed to recognize outstanding musicians both in the community and throughout the world.

- *The Sousa National High School Honors Band is held biennially and was first organized in 1981.
- * The Sudler Trophy is awarded annually to one of America's outstanding university band for its major influence in the establishment and maintenance of high standards of musical and marching performance.
- * The Sudler International Composition Competition is a biennial competition. This recognizes outstanding wind band composers.
- * The Sudler Flag recognizes outstanding achievement of high school concert bands.
- * The Sudler Cup similarly recognizes bands at the junior high school level.
- * The Sudler Shield recognizes high school marching bands
- * The Sudler Scroll recognizes outstanding community bands.
- * The Legion of Honor recognizes outstanding high school band directors with a Long history of dedicated service to band.
- * The George Solti International Young Conductors Competition is held biennially and recognizes young wind band conductors.
- * The Historic Roll of Honor endowed by Al G. Wright, recognizes outstanding high school bands from 1920 to 1980, selected by committees representing each era.
- * The Historical Marker Project recognizes and identifies sites where the original Sousa Band performed.

Thursday

registration 1:30 – 3:30 pm

rehearsal 3:30 – 5:30 pm

dinner 5:30 – 6:30 pm

rehearsal 6:30 – 9:00 pm

hotel check-in 9:30 pm

room check, lights out 10:30 pm

Friday

breakfast 7:00 – 8:00 am

rehearsal 8:30 – 11:30 am

lunch 11:30 – 12:30 pm

rehearsal 12:30 – 4:30 pm

dinner 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Branson activity 7:00 – 9:30 pm

room check and lights out 11:00 pm

Saturday

breakfast 7:00 – 8:00 am

hotel check-out 8:00 am

rehearsal 9:00 – 12:00 noon

lunch 12:00 – 1:00 pm

concert 3:00 pm

depart for home 4:00 pm

Questions? contact:

Tom Reynolds, Executive Director

treynold@worldpath.net

Randell W. Mealer, Host

870.741.8403

rmealer@gobs.k12.ar.us

John Philip Sousa Jr. Honor Band –

Mid-West Ozarks Region

Harrison High School

925 Goblin Dr.

Harrison, AR. 72601

John Philip Sousa Foundation website:

<http://sousafoundation.org>

Harrison School Band website:

www.harrisonbandboosters.com