

The John Philip Sousa Foundation presents...

John Philip Sousa National Honor Bands New England Region

A Band Festival for Students in Grades 7-12



April 24-26, 2014
Gorham Middle School
Gorham, ME

John Philip Sousa

National Honor Bands

New England Region



November 2013

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 bands, 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 bands 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.

The second-in-the-nation John Philip Sousa National Junior Honors Band was held in New England in April 2002 in Harvard, Massachusetts. The program was so successful that three others took place in April 2004, 2006, 2009, and 2012. Now, another is now planned for **April 24, 25, and 26, 2014**. It will be held in a **NEW LOCATION** at The Gorham Middle School in Gorham, ME, conveniently located in southern Maine immediately off of Interstate 95 (The Maine Turnpike). The festival is open to the most outstanding middle school and high school woodwind, brass, and percussion players from Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Our past research has shown that this is one of the only weekends in which a regional or state music festival was not happening. This particular weekend happens to be the end or the beginning of the April vacation for many schools in New England, and it is important to keep this fact in mind.

Students will be housed at the Howard Johnson's Plaza, Portland, ME, a few miles from the school, with direct bus transportation provided between the hotel and the school.

This year, the festival will consist of two honor bands incorporating students from grades 7-12. The Wind Ensemble, consisting mostly of students in grades 9 through 12, will be conducted by Mr. Jay S. Gephart, Professor of bands at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana and treasurer of the John Philip Sousa Foundation. We are also pleased to welcome back Ms. Pamela Potter, retired band director of Notre Dame High School, Quincy, Illinois, and member of the John Philip Sousa Foundation Board of Directors as the conductor of the Junior Honors Band, consisting mostly of students in grades 7 and 8. The conductors' biographies are on page 3 of this brochure.

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. **NEW: Please note that our application and recommendation forms are all now ONLINE forms on our website.**

Thank you for considering your student(s) participation in the John Philip Sousa National Honors Band - New England Region. We look forward to receiving your application(s).

Sincerely,
Thomas E. Reynolds & Robert L. Rucinski, Festival Coordinators
Kim Mathieu Palmer, Host

National Coordinator
John Philip Sousa National Honor Bands
Gladys Stone Wright

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American School Band Directors Association
Association of Concert Bands of America
Japan Bandmasters Association
National Catholic Band Association
Norwegian National Bandmasters Association
Phi Beta Mu Fraternal Society
Women Band Directors International
World Association for
Symphonic Bands and Ensembles

Festival Schedule and Conductor Information

6th John Philip Sousa National Honor Bands - New England Region

Festival Dates: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, April 24-26, 2014

Festival Host: Gorham Middle School, 106 Weeks Road, Gorham, Maine 04038 – (207) 222-1220 x1374

Festival Hotel: Howard Johnson's Plaza, 155 Riverside Street, Portland, ME 04103 - (207) 774-5861

Concert Venue: McCormack Performing Arts Center, Gorham High School, 41 Morrill Avenue, Gorham, Maine 04038

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014

• Arrival

- 11:30AM - 1:30PM: Student and Director/
Supervisor Arrival: Parking available in
Gorham Middle School parking lot.
- 11:30AM - 1:30PM: Registration
- 2:00PM - 2:30PM: General Meeting in
Auditorium

• Rehearsals

- 2:45PM - 5:00PM: Band 1 – Auditorium
- 2:45PM - 5:00PM: Band 2 – Music Room

• Dinner in Cafeteria

- 5:00PM - 6:00PM: Band 1 & 2

• Evening Rehearsals

- 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Band 1 & 2

• All Day

- Student Concessions - Cafeteria:
Refreshments, T-shirt Sales, CD sales,
Concert Ticket Sales
- Directors Hospitality and Information
- 9:00PM - 9:30PM: Depart for hotel
- 11:00PM: Student Curfew

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2014

• Morning Rehearsals

- 8:30AM-12:45PM: Band 1 & 2

• Lunch - In Cafeteria

- 12:45PM-1:45PM: Band 1 & 2

• Afternoon Rehearsals

- 1:45PM - 5:00PM: Band 1 & 2

• Dinner - In Cafeteria

- 5:00PM - 6:00PM: Band 1 & 2

• Master Classes

- 6:00PM - 7:00PM

• Evening Rehearsals

- 7:15PM - 9:00PM: Band 1 & 2

• All Day

- Student Concessions - Cafeteria:
Directors Hospitality and Information
- 9:00PM: Return to hotel.
- 10:45PM: Student Curfew

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2014

• 9:00AM: Arrive at Gorham High School

• Onstage Dress Rehearsals

- 10:00AM - 11:30AM: Band 1
- 11:30AM - 1:00PM: Band 2

• Bagged Lunch

- 1:00PM - 2:00PM: Band 1 & 2
- 1:00PM - 2:00PM: Conductors and
Committees Lunch

• 2:00PM - 2:30PM: Students change into concert dress

• 2:00PM: Concert Ticket Sales/Pick-up, Lobby

• 2:30PM: Concert Hall Doors Open

• Warm-Up

- 2:30PM - 2:50PM: Band 1 & 2

• Concert

- 3:00PM - 4:30PM: Gorham High School
Order: BAND 2, 1

• 4:30PM: Concert over; Festival concludes

Revised – 11 November 2013 (subject to change)

Mr. Jay S. Gephart, Conductor



Jay S. Gephart joined the faculty of Purdue University in the fall of 1995 after having completed 12 years as a public school band director. In July of 2001, he was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure and in 2009 was promoted to Full Professor. In November, 2006, Professor Gephart was appointed Director of University Bands. He currently serves as Director of the Purdue "All-American" Marching Band and the Purdue University Wind Ensemble. He is also coordinator of the concert band program. From 1995-2006, Professor Gephart served as the music director for the Purdue Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Gephart received a Master of Music Degree in Performance with High Distinction from Indiana University in 1988 and a Bachelor of Music Education Degree with Distinction from Indiana University in 1983. Under his direction, the Purdue Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra have shared the stage with some of the nation's outstanding soloists and have represented Purdue at the Indiana Music Educator's Association state convention on two occasions. In February of 2012 the Purdue Wind Ensemble performed a concert at the national convention of the American Bandmaster's Association, held in Indianapolis. He has also served as a guest conductor, clinician, lecturer and adjudicator both nationally and internationally. He has commissioned numerous works for wind band, including "Anthem" by Steven Bryant which was premiered in 2011 celebrating the 125th Anniversary of Purdue Bands.

In May, 2008, he traveled with the Purdue "All-American" Marching Band to Beijing, China to perform in the "Meet in Beijing" International Arts and Music Festival prior to the Olympic Games and in 2006 his Purdue Symphonic Band performed at the New York Wind Band Festival at Carnegie Hall. Professor Gephart has conducted All-State Bands in Indiana and Arkansas and served as a clinician at the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago. In 1997, he was selected to conduct the music camp honor band for the Department of Education in the Northern Region of Queensland, Australia. In his career he has been the recipient of many awards and honors including the Indiana Outstanding Bandmaster Award and the Purdue University New Professional Award.

Mr. Gephart has been very active in various professional organizations including Music Educator's National Conference, National Band Association, College Band Director's National Association, Indiana Bandmaster's Association, Indiana Music Educator's Association and Phi Beta Mu. From 2010-12, he served as President of the Big Ten Band Director's Association and currently holds the position of Vice President and Treasurer of the John Philip Sousa

Foundation. He is also a member of the NBA Revelli Composition Contest selection committee. In 2012, he was elected to a position on the board of the National Band Association, serving as the Collegiate Representative. Professor Gephart was elected to membership in the prestigious American Bandmaster's Association in 2008 and now serves on the ABA Board of Directors. He, his wife Jana and their family reside in Lafayette, Indiana.

Ms. Pamela Potter, Conductor



Pamela Potter was named Music Director and Conductor of the Quincy Park Band in 1993, the second director in the band's 60-year history. Under her leadership, the Park Band has received numerous grants and was awarded the 1998 City of Quincy Arts Organization Award for having made a substantial impact on the cultural development of the community. The Park Band was selected to perform for President Clinton on his visit to Quincy in January of 2000. In June of 2004, the band performed at the World War II Memorial and the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C. and hosted the Association of Concert Bands National Convention in 2005.

Ms. Potter is the retired Director of Bands and Chair of the Music Department at Quincy Notre Dame High School, and is an adjunct instructor of woodwinds at Culver-Stockton College in Canton, Missouri. She is a well-known guest conductor of bands and music festivals in addition to being an accomplished clarinetist. She conducted the Mississippi River Brass Band to Second Place in Honors and Championship Divisions of the North American Brass Band Association, and performs with the Quincy Symphony Orchestra, Quincy Community Concert Band, and the Quincy Area All-Star Clarinet Choir. Pam is a past president of the National Catholic Band Association 1983-87, and was Chair of the North American Band Directors Coordinating Council in 1985.

Her awards include the 2004 Illinois Humanities Council "Studs Terkel Humanities Service Award", the National Catholic Band Association's "Charles R. Winking Award" for outstanding contributions to the field of wind band conducting; "Notre Dame Band Alumni Award"; "YWCA Woman of Achievement Award in Education"; Quincy University "Charles Winking Memorial Award"; National Catholic Band Association "Adam Lesinsky Award" in recognition for outstanding service to music education; and she was featured in THE SCHOOL MUSICIAN magazine - January 1986. Ms. Potter is also a member of the Board of Directors of the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

Questions?

Registration Fees once selected:

\$195.00 – Per person - Includes all fees, meals, hotel, and transportation.

\$125.00 – Per person – For commuting students, includes all fees and meals.

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If you have questions about the Festival, please contact:

Thomas Reynolds or Robert L. Rucinski,
Festival Coordinators
sousanewenglandinfo@gmail.com
(978) 456-4152, ext. 571

John Philip Sousa
National Honor Bands
c/o Thomas E. Reynolds
P.O. Box 102
Templeton, Massachusetts 01468

A website link is available on the John
Philip Sousa Foundation website:
<http://www.sousafoundation.net>

New England Region Website:
<http://www.SousaBandsNewEngland.com>

About The 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 bands 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 bands 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 which 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 bands.
- * 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.



John Philip Sousa National Honor Bands New England Region

c/o Thomas E. Reynolds
P.O. Box 102
Templeton, Massachusetts 01468