



## USAF HERITAGE OF AMERICA BAND – **HERITAGE RAMBLERS** SPONSOR GUIDE

Thank you for your sponsorship of the USAF Heritage of America Band!

### Overview -- Essential Sponsor Responsibilities

- Obtaining an appropriate venue<sup>1</sup>
  - ensuring seating for a minimum of 400
  - ensuring minimum stage size: 16 feet wide by 16 feet deep
  - auditoriums preferred; other locations, i.e. portable stages and gymnasiums will be considered
  - obtaining a stage/venue manager for the event
  - obtaining an operator for the venue lighting system
  - reviewing the stage/venue manager's guide (*see attached*)
- Marketing and advertising to your community<sup>2</sup>
  - following recommended publicity schedule (*see attached*)
  - utilizing local and regional media (print, TV, Radio)
  - utilizing electronic and social media (e-mail, facebook, twitter, websites, etc.)
  - exploring appropriate relationship-building tactics, including invitations to Mayor, City Council members, School Board members, civic leaders and other distinguished visitors
- Printing a program and distributing to attendees
  - using provided program master and printing guide (*see attached*)

### Additional Notes

1. Venue rental charges, including lighting, AC/heating, custodial fees, ushering fees and other expenses are the responsibility of our sponsors. With rare exception, the band is responsible for all travel costs, including lodging, per diem, transportation and communication expenses.
2. Marketing and advertising expenses are the responsibility of event sponsors. The band can provide: photos/videos, news releases, bios, poster templates, and other items. The band can also provide limited assistance with producing specific event marketing/advertising materials, and can provide assistance with utilizing electronic/social media.



## USAF HERITAGE OF AMERICA BAND – **HERITAGE RAMBLERS** STAGE/VENUE MANAGER'S GUIDE

### Responsibilities

- **Stage/Performance area**
  - Performance area of 16 feet wide, by 16 feet deep
  - Area for performing must be clean, and free of all obstructions
  - Load-in area must be free of obstructions and accessible to the venue performing area
  - Venue and load-in area must be unlocked at least 1 hour prior to the concert, in order for the band to complete set-up
  - Seating: The group normally stands during performance; however, 5 chairs (without arms) are requested. Chairs will be arranged by the band
- **Lighting**
  - Lighting operator should meet with the operations representative 1 hour before the event, to discuss lighting requirements
  - Stage lighting: white overhead stage lighting should be used. Stage should be bright enough to read newsprint, and intensity should be even across the entire performing area. Footlights and specials are not needed.
  - House lights should be dimmed to 10-15% during the performance
- **Audio System:** If available, a single microphone used through the house audio system is preferred
- **Backstage**
  - Two Dressing rooms are required; these should have clothing racks to hang uniforms and a full-length mirror, if possible
  - One warm-up/storage room that can be secured by stage/venue manager, preferably out of hearing range of the performance area. The performers will use the room to warm-up prior to the event, and to store instrument cases.
  - Restrooms: one for men and one for women, available for use by performers



## USAF HERITAGE OF AMERICA BAND – HERITAGE RAMBLERS

### PUBLICITY SCHEDULE

- **8 Weeks prior to event**
  - Review all stock materials provided by the USAF HOA Band
  - Review publicity schedule
  - Assemble ads and press releases
  - Contact band for additional materials needed
- **4 and 3 Weeks prior to event**
  - Full page newspaper advertisement
  - Send press release to all available print and electronic media
  - Radio/TV advertisements (30 second, 15 second spots)\*
    - \* - note: Band can provide assistance with radio/TV spots/PSAs
  - Electronic and social media ads/posts/websites
  - E-mail ads with all info to available distribution lists
  - Place posters in strategic locations
  - Include the following in all mediums:
    - Our name: USAF Heritage of America Band
    - Date/Time/Location of event
    - Photo(s) of band (print/social media)
    - Videos (TV/social media)
    - Emphasize free admission
- **2 Weeks prior to event**
  - Two general announcements within all media
    - Include all information from above
  - E-mail reminder to available distribution lists
- **7 Days prior to event**
  - News story placed within all media
    - Consider photos and individual bios (provided by band)
  - One general announcement within all media
    - Consider using entertainment section of print media
    - Include all information from above



## USAF HERITAGE OF AMERICA BAND – HERITAGE RAMBLERS

### PUBLICITY SCHEDULE (continued)

- **6 Days prior to event**
  - News story placed within all media
    - Consider photos and individual bios (provided by band)
  - One general announcement within all media
    - Consider using entertainment section of print media
    - Include all information from above
- **1-5 Days prior to event**
  - Additional ads in all media
    - Emphasize electronic media outlets
    - Include all information from above
  - E-mail reminders
- **Day of Concert**
  - Electronic and social media posts, blogs, tweets
  - Emphasize free admission
  - Run photo/story/release in print media
- The USAF Heritage of America Band has a variety of materials and resources that are available on the band's website; you may also contact the operations representative or the band's publicity section for additional materials or assistance:

United States Air Force Heritage of America Band  
Attn: Publicity  
86 Hickory Street  
Langley Air Force Base, Virginia 23665-2192



## USAF HERITAGE OF AMERICA BAND – HERITAGE RAMBLERS

### PUBLICITY SCHEDULE (continued)

#### **Additional Recommendations:**

- At least one full page newspaper ad to begin your media campaign
- Sunday newspaper supplements are best – higher readership
- Local merchants or service clubs can sometimes assist with sponsoring ads; ads paid for by local merchants must indicate the ad was paid for as a community/public service. Ads sponsored by merchants or service clubs must not imply Air Force endorsement of any business or private enterprise
- The Commander of the band and band members are available for radio and TV interviews – please contact the operations representative to plan these.
- Radio/TV promotional campaigns are highly effective and should be run often during peak viewing and listening times
- Request area Chamber of Commerce post the event on its calendar of events
- Ensure venue web site lists the event on calendar of events
- Contact local music educators, school district music administrators, local arts councils for placement on calendars, web sites, social media
- Consider inviting your community's Mayor, local and regional civic leaders, school board members, city council members, and other special guests. You may reserve a small section of seating for these special guests
  - Consider having the Mayor or other civic leader welcome the audience to your event and introduce the band
  - Inform the band's operations representative of any planned welcome/introduction and of any special guests you would like recognized during the event



## **USAF HERITAGE OF AMERICA BAND – HERITAGE RAMBLERS**

### **PRINTING GUIDE**

#### **Printing Instructions – Programs**

- Refer to samples provided on the band's website
- A template (master) for the program will be provided by the band's publicity shop
- The paper used should be of good quality, preferably medium weight (170-216 gsm, 65-80 lb cover); the printing inks used should be of good quality...color programs are best, but not required.
- Program when finished should be 4-page, 8.5"x5.5" (essentially 8.5x11 folded in half)
- Program design may be adjusted to include the optional items listed below.
- Program must contain the following:
  - Commander's biography (provided by band)
  - Band Personnel list (provided by band)
  - Musical program (provided by band)
- Optional items include:
  - Sponsor Information
  - Businesses or individuals who contribute towards cost of printing may be acknowledged; however, USAF endorsement may not be implied

#### **Additional Information**

- The Band Address, Phone, Web Site and facebook url:

**United States Air Force Heritage of America Band**  
**86 Hickory Street**  
**Langley Air Force Base, Virginia 23665-2192**  
**(757) 764-2931 Info Line: (757) 764-2934**  
[www.heritageofamericaband.af.mil](http://www.heritageofamericaband.af.mil)  
<https://facebook.com/heritageofamericaband>