

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New West Symphony to Present Free Pops Concert at Oxnard Pagoda Centennial Celebration

Concert highlights day of entertainment, food, and kids' activities to commemorate anniversary of landmark bandstand on Independence weekend.

Oxnard, CA – Downtown Oxnard invites the community to an all-American day of music, fun, and history featuring a one-time only free concert by the New West Symphony, Saturday, July 3rd, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the city's historic Pagoda bandstand in Plaza Park.

Festivities are planned from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Plaza Park, corner of Fifth and B Streets. City officials will be on hand to mark the original dedication of a century ago. The public is invited to come early at 10:30 a.m. to take part in a group photograph in front of the Pagoda.

"The pagoda is an icon of community pride," says Gary Blum, local historian and chair of the Oxnard Downtown Management District marketing committee, which is producing the event. "For generations, it's served as the backdrop for many important events, from large organized festivals to impromptu political and social rallies. It's a genuine cultural treasure."

Admission is free and includes complimentary popcorn, cake, lemonade, and souvenir buttons, while supplies last. Local community non-profits will offer burgers, hot dogs and snacks for sale. A variety of kids' activities and demonstrations will take place throughout the day. Costumed docents from nearby Heritage Square will provide "mini tours" of the Pagoda every half-hour.

The highlight of the event will be a free concert by the New West Symphony conducted by Victor A. Vanacore, beginning at 1:00 p.m. The pops program titled "Star-Spangled Rhythms of America" features arrangements spanning America's rich musical heritage, including Bandstand Boogie, Fabulous Fifties, Detroit Soul, Nickelodeon at the Pops, Michael Jackson Tribute, Good Vibrations, Southern Comfort, South Beach Soul (Gloria Estefan Medley), and Stars and Stripes.

Also performing, before the orchestra, will be "Country Gold featuring Johnny Fingers," a Johnny Cash tribute act performing some of the "Man in Black's" all-time favorites and other country hits.

"It's fitting that we're celebrating the Pagoda's anniversary on Independence weekend with an all-American program that's musically diverse," says Blum.

The program is made possible by sponsorship and assistance from Western Federal Credit Union, City of Oxnard, Canteen Vending, Oxnard Recreation & Community Services, and the Oxnard Downtown Management District.

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About the Oxnard Downtown Management District

The Oxnard Downtown Management District is a dynamic, non-profit corporation dedicated to making Downtown Oxnard a great place to live, work and play. As the leading advocate for downtown, the ODMD works in partnership with business and government to identify needs, develop strategies, shape public policy and implement programs to strengthen the economic vitality of Downtown Oxnard and its role as the historic and cultural heart of the community.

OXNARD DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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