

FORTISSIMO

Municipal Band of Charlottesville, Inc.

May 2006

**Municipal Band of
Charlottesville**

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2006

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Fred O'Bryant, Secy.
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Steve Millard
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The Municipal Band of Charlottesville is an organization of men and women of the community. Their remuneration is the pleasure in speaking the universal language of Music, the happiness of fellowship, and the service which they render their community.



DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

James W. Simmons, long time Music Director of the Charlottesville Municipal Band, recently announced his planned retirement effective the end of this current year. He will conduct the Band in a "Farewell Concert" next April 24, 2007. Simmons took over the Band in February 1980 and is currently in his twenty-sixth year as Music Director. He is the Band's sixth director in its eighty-four year history.

During Simmons' tenure he has expanded the Band's repertoire with a library now containing over fifteen hundred titles, designed concert programs to attract wide audiences for its some ten to fifteen yearly concerts, inaugurated annual Spring and Christmas Concerts that play to full houses each year and insisted that the Band's musicians play to their highest musical level thereby raising the Band's musicianship to a high degree of performance at all times. During his tenure he has conducted the band in over four hundred performances.

Simmons plans following his retirement include researching the Band's board minutes and letters to develop a published history of the Band, following his recent interest in digital photography and traveling, beginning with an Alaskan Cruise this fall followed by travels to Vienna and Mozart's birthplace and visits to Canada and Italy. And - he plans to continue working with the Band's fundraising efforts to retire the mortgage on the Municipal Arts Center, which serves as the Band's permanent home.

Steve Layman, Simmons assistant for the past twenty-three years, has been appointed to succeed him and will commence his full-time duties on January 1, 2007.

2006 Summer Concert Series

All summer series concerts will be held at the Charlottesville Pavilion on the Downtown Mall at 8 pm rain or shine.

June 6
June 20
July 18
August 1
August 15

Other concerts:

July 4
Naturalization Ceremony
Monticello
9:30 am

Charlottesville Pavilion

The Charlottesville Pavilion is a new venue in an old location for the Band. The Band played one concert at the Pavilion last August.

All summer concerts will be played at the Pavilion no matter what the weather as the tent provides protection for Band members as well as for the audience. You may wish to bring a lawn chair to the concert. If you haven't been to the Pavilion yet, this would be a good opportunity to experience it for yourself. We hope to see all of you at our summer concerts.

FORTISSIMO

MUNICIPAL ARTS CENTER

The Municipal Arts Center, home of the Municipal Band, was built in 2000 with funds from the community, Band members, benefit events and grants. Our mortgage has been reduced to \$112,000. The rental money from groups who rent the building spaces during the week help to offset the cost of maintaining the building. Additional fundraising continues to be necessary to pay off the mortgage. The building is rented to the following groups on a regular basis:

Alliance Francaise
Bland Contest Competition
Charlottesville Music Teacher's Assn.
Charlottesville Swing Dance Society
Charlottesville Vocal Arts Society
Contra Dancers
General Dynamics-Refuge
Home Instead Senior Care
Jazz Rascal's Dixieland Band
Jefferson Bridge Association
J. K. Harris
Lee Santos Ballroom Dancing
Oratorio Society
P. G. Lowery Star of the West Band
Renaissance Dancers
Robin Grimsby Dance
St. David's Anglican Church
Suter Swing Dance Group
US Dance
Virginia Reelers
Youth Orchestra Competitions
Various music recitals
Numerous receptions and parties

CONDUCT THE BAND

Yes, you too can become a band conductor. How hard could it be? At each of our five concerts on the Mall this summer there will be an opportunity for you to place your name in a box for \$10. If your name is drawn, you will conduct the Band in a march during the evening's concert. So practice your old one-two, one-two pattern. Who knows? You might win the drawing!



THE SEARCH IS OVER

A search committee, headed by Fred O'Bryant, the Board of Director's Secretary, set out to locate the most qualified person in the Charlottesville and surrounding communities to serve as the Municipal Band's seventh director. Although the search took us to Louisa, Green, Orange, Nelson, Fluvanna and Albemarle Counties we found the right person on the back row sitting in the trombone section.

Steve Layman has been a member of the Municipal Band since 1977 and has been its Assistant Director since the early 1980's. He has thirty-one years of experience in directing bands at the middle school and high school levels. He also directed the University of Virginia Symphonic Band from 1985-1990. Steve is currently the director of Western Albemarle High School's Bands. Steve knows the history of the Band, has served as President of it's Board and has the musical and organizational skills to lead the band into the future. He and Jim Simmons will share the duties of director until the end of the year. We look forward to working with Steve and feel that he has the ability to carry on the tradition of this eighty-four year old organization.

SPACE AVAILABLE

Do you need a room for a meeting or an event? There is still space available for groups both small and large on a once only, part-time or full-time basis. Want to know more about the spaces we offer and the rental rates? Contact our building manager, Bruce MacCall at 295-9850.

Please return slip with donation.

SUPPORT THE MUNICIPAL BAND OF CHARLOTTESVILLE

The Municipal Band depends on YOU! Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution today.
Please mail your donation to: Municipal Band—P.O. Box #6563—Charlottesville, VA 22906-6563.

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Amount of donation: \$25 _____ \$35 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other \$ _____

Your gift of any amount is appreciated and will help us reach our goal.

