

For Immediate Release

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Harmonica Heavies to Hit Sacramento
Annual convention draws world's top talent to city

Sacramento, CA, June 8th, 2009--Sacramento's Radisson Hotel will be rocking and rolling this summer as hundreds of harmonica players from expert to novice will descend on the city as The Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica (SPAH) kicks off its 46th anniversary convention in Sacramento, CA, from **Tuesday, August 11th thru Saturday, August 15th, 2009.**

The magical sound of the harmonica is loved and appreciated around the globe. It would be tough to find a genre of music where the harmonica has not left its mark. Here in the United States, the harmonica played an important part in the birth of the blues as well as the good old days of Vaudeville. It can be found in the worlds of classical and jazz music, rock and roll, country and western, bluegrass and folk--you name it and the harmonica has created miles of smiles and dancing in the aisles!

What happens at a harmonica convention, you may ask? World class performers teach and entertain from early morning ‘til late at night. Amateur and professional, male and female, young and old, they all come together with a common love and passion for the music. The sharing and jam sessions are non-stop. Attitudes and egos are left at the door. It is a musical celebration of life like no other.

Some of this year’s headliners include Tommy Morgan, the dean of Hollywood soundtrack harmonica players, Mark Hummel, California blues legend and impresario and Jia-Yi He, master of the classical harmonica.

The world’s most popular instrument has also been gaining much attention in recent years for its medicinal properties as well. There is no other mainstream musical instrument that creates sounds by both breathing in and out. What better way to exercise the lungs and respiratory system than by making beautiful music! SPAH is leading the way in this field with its “Harmonicas for Health” committee and is working directly with distinguished members of the medical community.

Major harmonica manufacturers including Hohner, Seydel and Suzuki will participate in the convention as well. They will be alongside a group of “boutique” manufacturers that cater to every whim of the harmonica aficionado.

SPAH is an international organization with close to 1000 members from around the world. More than 400 people are expected participate in this year’s event but there's always room for passionate players.

For more information or to register, please visit www.spah.org.