



Percy Grainger Wind Band Festival

Finally, a band festival celebrating
nothing but Grainger!

March 25 - 26, 2011

Festival Clinician Colonel Arnald D. Gabriel



Col. Arnald D. Gabriel retired from the United States Air Force in 1985 following a distinguished 36 year military career, at which time he was awarded his third **Legion of Merit** for his service to the United States Air Force and to music education throughout the country.

He served as **Commander/Conductor** of the internationally renowned **U.S. Air Force Band, Symphony Orchestra, and Singing Sergeants** from 1964 to 1985. In 1990, he was named the first **Conductor Emeritus** of the USAF Band at a special concert held at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.

Col. Gabriel served on the faculty of George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, from 1985 to 1995, as **Conductor of the GMU Symphony Orchestra** and as **Chairman, Department of Music** for eight of those years. In recognition of his ten years service to the university, he was named **Professor Emeritus of Music**.

A combat machine gunner with the United States Army's famed **29th Infantry Division** in Europe during WW II, Gabriel received two awards of the **Bronze Star Medal**, the **Combat Infantryman's Badge** and the **French Croix de Guerre**.

Col. Gabriel's professional honors include the very first **Citation of Excellence** awarded by the National Band Association, the Mid-West National Band and Orchestra Clinic's **Gold Medal of Honor** and its **Distinguished Service to Music Award**, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia's **New Millennium Lifetime Achievement Award** and its rarely presented **National Citation** for "significant contributions to music in America," Kappa Kappa Psi's **Distinguished Service to Music Award**, Phi Beta Mu's **Outstanding Contribution to Bands Award**, and the **St. Cecilia Award** from the University of Notre Dame. Col. Gabriel was inducted into the **National Band Association Hall of Fame of Distinguished Band Conductors**, becoming the youngest person ever to have received this honor, and was an inaugural inductee to the **Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame** of Cortland High School in Cortland, New York. He is also a **Past President** of the prestigious **American Bandmasters Association**.



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