

# NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

PRIDE · SACRIFICE · SERVICE

Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011



PAYING TRIBUTE TO AMERICA'S VETERANS  
AND OUR HONORED WAR DEAD  
IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Co-Sponsored by  
Music Celebrations International  
and the American Veterans Center



# A NATIONAL PARADE TO THANK VETERANS

*"You are to be commended for organizing this magnificent annual event in the nation's capital to honor those who died in service of their country."*

- Retired Four-Star General & Former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell

In 2004, the Memorial Day Parade returned to Washington, D.C. after a long absence, coinciding with the dedication of the National World War II Memorial. This outpouring of appreciation to the veterans of World War II spilled over to veterans of the more recent conflicts as well. Anthony A. Williams, former Mayor of Washington, D.C., was so moved by this parade that he was instrumental in reinstating this as an annual event in conjunction with the American Veterans Center and Music Celebrations International.



Memorial Day (originally known as Decoration Day) is much more than a three-day weekend that marks the beginning of summer. To many people, especially the nation's thousands of combat veterans, this day, which has a history stretching back all the way to the Civil War, is an important reminder of those who died in the service of their country.



Now, every year on Observed Memorial Day, this three-hour parade passes along side the National Mall on Constitution Avenue between 7<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Streets in a magnificent salute to America's Veterans and in honor of those who died in defense of our country - from the American Revolution to Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Parade consists of outstanding marching bands from many of the 50 states and veterans units honoring World War I, War World II, The Korean and Vietnam Conflicts, Desert Storm, and the liberation of Grenada, Panama, Iraq and Afghanistan. Large patriotic floats and helium-filled balloons are also part of the procession. More than 10,000 participants take part in the parade annually.



*"We owe a great debt to our veterans because the foundation of our freedom is rooted in their sacrifice. The limitless opportunities we enjoy today are a gift we can never repay...It is with great honor that we extend our support and best wishes for a successful parade."*

- U.S. Senator John Warner

*Upcoming Memorial Day Parade Dates  
(always the last Monday in May):*

**Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013**



# SAMPLE PARADE TOUR ITINERARY

3 Nights / 4 Days\*



## Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Arrival in Washington, D.C. Meet your Parade Tour Manager, who will escort you through the duration of your activities. Take a panoramic motorcoach tour of Historic Washington D.C. Check into Marriott or Hilton Hotel style property, or similar (it may be possible to use other classes of hotels in order to match your budget). Dinner at a local restaurant. *Evening walking tour of the Lincoln, Korean, Vietnam, and National World War II Memorials, as well as the Washington Monument.*



## Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Breakfast at the hotel. *Tour of Arlington National Cemetery and participate in the special U.S. Military Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown (pending to confirmation).* Visit the Smithsonian Institute's American History, Natural History, or the Air & Space Museum. Dinner at a local restaurant. *Attend the U.S. Marine Band "Summer Blast Off" with fireworks at Wolf Trap National Park (pending confirmation) OR attend the official "National Memorial Day Concert" on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol, featuring the National Symphony Orchestra and broadcast live on PBS.*



## Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Memorial Day

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning sightseeing may include one of the Smithsonian Institute Museums or the Holocaust Museum. Transfer to parade staging area on the National Mall where box lunch is provided. *Participate in the 2011 National Memorial Day Parade on Historic Constitution Avenue.* Following the parade, dinner at a local restaurant.



## Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning check-out and board motorcoach. Sightseeing, as time permits, to Ford's Theater and the Peterson House. Afternoon departure for home.

**\*2 night / 3 day tour itineraries are possible and are similar to the 3 night / 4 day tour itinerary shown above.**

**Longer options are also possible!**

***This itinerary is flexible*** and will allow your band to include other musical activities while in our Nation's Capital, e.g., attending a performance at the **Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage** or a musical at the **National Theater**. Other opportunities include hearing a **USNA Drum & Bugle Corps afternoon performance**, attend a morning rehearsal at the **Marine Barracks Parade Field**, where you may see and hear **The Marine Band, Marine Drum & Bugle Corps** – or, see a **Marine D&B Corps summer performance** at the **Iwo Jima Memorial**. Your band may also take a tour of **Brucker Hall**, home of "**Pershing's Own**" **U.S. Army Band (Ft. Myer, VA)**, travel to **Ft. Meade**, home of the **U.S. Army Field Band**, hear the **U.S. Air Force Band**, or hear the **U.S. Navy Band**, as their schedules and yours allow.

# HONOR THOSE WHO PROTECT OUR FREEDOM

*They are dead; but they live in each Patriot's breast, and their names are engraven on honor's bright crest.*

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

"The intensity in our group sure gave me chills up my back. I think they were all proud of themselves for being there and performing in front of Washington, D.C. fans. The thrill and nerves of how they felt marching in the National Memorial Day Parade will be in their memories for rest of their lives. We might be small, but we put on pretty good sound. *In 34 years of my teaching career, this is the best experience I had with the band trip.*"

**~Tom Dillon, Band Director, New Mexico**



"The parade was the most organized event I have ever been a part of in my 14 years of teaching. From picking up the boxed lunches to unloading, from pictures to step-off, there was constant communication from Music Celebrations Staff members. Your staff was professional, friendly and complimentary. They answered all questions and provided guidance during the day. The parade experience itself was wonderful. *Watching our students perform down Constitution Avenue in front of thousands of patriotic, flag waving Americans was a thrill I will remember for the rest of my life.*"

**~Evan Rogovin, Band Director, Florida**

"Words cannot express my appreciation for the hard work and organization of Music Celebrations International in making our trip to Washington, D.C. so enjoyable and memorable. It was such an honor to be involved (in the Parade) with so many outstanding bands from across the country. This will be an unforgettable, and possibly, a life changing event in the lives of many young people who were involved in this important event in the history of our country as we celebrate and honor 'The Greatest Generation'. Thank you again for allowing us to be a part of this (Parade), and to represent our school, community, and our great state of Oklahoma!"

**~Jim Winkle, Band Director, Oklahoma**



Music Celebrations International

1440 S. Priest Drive, Ste. 102 Tempe, AZ 85281-6954

800.395.2036 | [www.musiccelebrations.com](http://www.musiccelebrations.com) | [info@musiccelebrations.com](mailto:info@musiccelebrations.com)