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Dance-Along Nutcracker[®] Gala is Great Way to Kick Off the Holiday Season

The Official Band of San Francisco Rings in the Holidays With Music, Dancing, Performances and Fun

SAN FRANCISCO – The upcoming Dance-Along Nutcracker Gala, Saturday night December 12 at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco, is a spectacularly festive event to kick off the holiday season and the annual fundraiser for the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, the official band of San Francisco.

“This Band performs for the community at numerous events throughout the year, donating their time and talent to many worthy causes,” said Mayor Gavin Newsom. “In addition to everything they do locally, many of the musicians in the Band represented us in President Obama’s inaugural parade, and we can thank them by supporting their efforts while having a great time at the Gala.”

All four Dance-Along Nutcracker performances are the primary fundraisers for the Band and support all its year-long activities including 15-20 concerts, parades and civic events. The Gala evening performance features a pre-show reception with champagne and cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, sweets, and music by City Swing Big Band. Champagne and wine are being donated by Barefoot Winery, a generous supporter of the Band.

“Barefoot Winery is proud to support a cultural institution that is as much fun as the Freedom Band,” said Randy Arnold, Barefoot Winery Ambassador. “They are not only talented but are a source of tremendous fun, which we all need. Barefoot is all about

SAN FRANCISCO LESBIAN/GAY FREEDOM BAND, INC.

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fun, so it's a great partnership!"

The Gala hosts company holiday parties as well as family and friend groups, dates, and individuals out for an enjoyable evening. Various levels of sponsorship are available for the Gala as well as the daytime performances. Gala sponsors receive everything from preferred seating, listing in the program and invitations to the Gala reception to special tutus and holiday spirits.

"The Dance-Along Nutcracker is a fun, entertaining, family event where you don't have to be shy about dancing along and letting loose," said Alex Randolph, Mayor Newsom's Liaison to the LGBT Community. "Music unites people and is a language that everybody understands, so regardless of your background, ethnicity, age, or orientation, you can have a fun time dancing and celebrating at the Gala."

"This year's theme is 'Blazing Nutcrackers' featuring a rollicking romp through the Wild West," said Jadine Louie, Artistic Director. "Musicians will be in Western-themed costumes as will many audience members. If you can't join us for the Gala on Saturday night, there are three other daytime performances that can fit in your schedule. You won't want to miss stars Trauma Flintstone and Leigh Crow, and the dance numbers choreographed by Carolyn Carvajal. Most of all, you won't want to miss hitting the dance floor yourself. We hope to see you there."

WHEN:

HOLIDAY GALA PERFORMANCE: Saturday December 12, 7:00 PM, featuring City Swing Big Band and holiday reception.

ADDITIONAL DANCE-ALONG NUTCRACKER PERFORMANCES:

Saturday December 12 at 2:30 PM.

Sunday December 13 at 11:00 AM 3:00 PM.

WHERE: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum, 701 Mission Street at 3rd, San Francisco.

TICKETS: www.dancealongnutcracker.org, 415-978-2787

PRICES: General admission \$25; Children 12 and under and seniors \$16; Holiday Gala \$50. Group discounts of 20% for 10 tickets or more.

MORE INFO: www.dancealongnutcracker.org, 415-255-1355

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The Dance-Along Nutcracker is a registered trademark of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band. www.dancealongnutcracker.org

The SFLGFB is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, and is proud to be sponsored in part by Grants for the Arts of the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, the Jon Sims Endowment Fund for the Performing Arts, and Betty's List. www.sflgfb.org

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