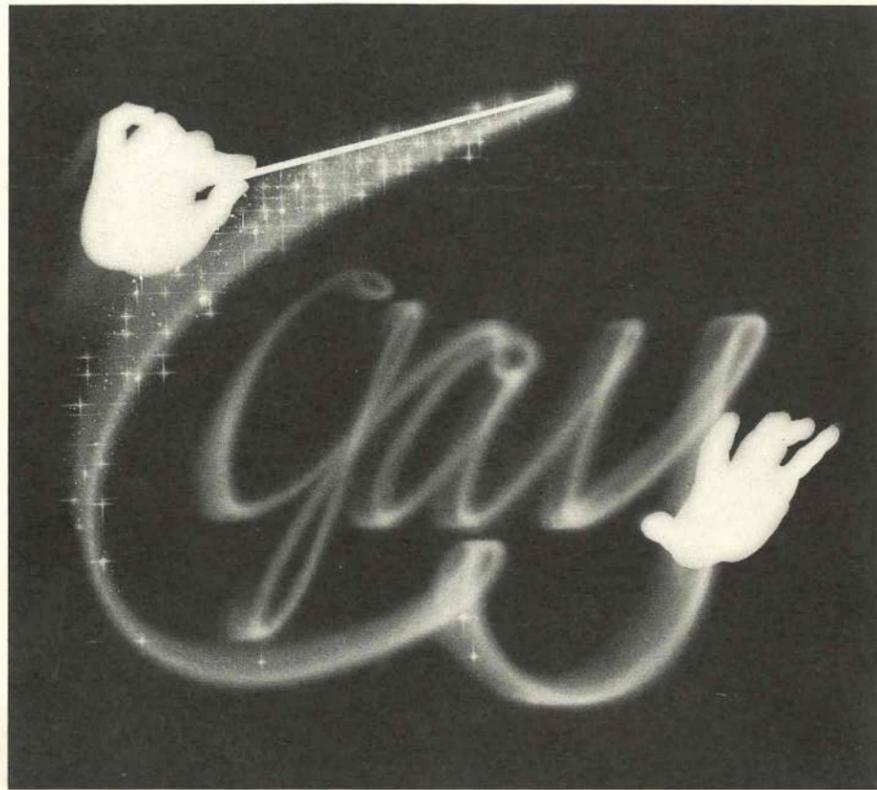


**San Francisco
Gay Freedom Day
Marching Band and
Twirling Corps**



STRIKE UP THE BAND

The Pacific Center for Human Growth and the Gay Peoples Union, U.C. Berkeley present the opening event of Gay Awareness Week

Pauley Ballroom, Student Union, U.C. Berkeley
8 o'clock p.m., Monday 12 November 1979

**Benefit Concert for
The Pacific Center
12 November**

**San Francisco
Gay Freedom Day
Marching Band and
Twirling Corps**

People have trouble remembering the name of the band, many just call them, "the Gay band"; but everybody who hears them sure knows who they are.

From a beginning of only sixty-five members, it has grown in membership to over a hundred and is comprised of men and women musicians from all walks of life. They include doctors, accountants, nurses, attorneys, clerks, teachers, secretaries and business executives. Musical background ranges from Masters Degrees from the Julliard School of Music to less than a year's experience in high school or private study. A large segment of the membership returned to their musical instruments after many years of pursuing business and professional careers, having not performed since high school or college.

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps was formed for the 1978 Gay Freedom Day Parade. This year, the Band marched in the Santa Cruz Gay Pride Parade, and, following their performance in the San Francisco parade, the Band, the Guard and the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus flew to Southern California to perform in concert at Hollywood High School and to march in the Los Angeles Gay Pride Parade.

For this year's Gay Pride Week, the Band and the Gay Men's Chorus presented "A Gay Musical Celebration at Grace Cathedral" to an overflow crowd welcomed by the Mayor and the Dean of Grace Cathedral.

Acknowledgment of the Band's musical and performing excellence has taken many forms. National television exposure has included live broadcast by satellite in San Francisco's Chinese New Year Parade along with inclusion in the upcoming ABC Close-up documentary on gay lifestyles. The Band, Twirling Corps and Guard have received numerous awards for their performances in parades including First Place for two years in the City's Columbus Day Parade, First Place in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, and Second Place in the Chinese New Year Parade. Another award was won as the Band took First Place in its division at the Redwood City 4th of July Parade, the largest and most competitive Independence Day event in the state.

The Twirling Corps is led by Gary Moon. Their new routines and costumes

are always a favorite at marching events. The newly formed Guard premiered in this year's Gay Freedom Day Parade, significantly adding to precision, color and showmanship.

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps is an affiliate of Golden Gate Performing Arts, Inc. GGPA was formed in March of this year to serve as a support mechanism for the operations and growth of performing arts groups in the San Francisco gay community.

If you are interested in contributing to the musical groups and the work of Golden Gate Performing Arts contact phone 415/864-0326, or write GGPA at 480 Castro Street, San Francisco 94114.

**Proceeds from
this concert**

Tonight's concert is the opening event in the 1979 Gay Awareness Week at the University of California, Berkeley. Co-sponsored by the Gay Peoples Union and The Pacific Center, this first concert performance by the Band in the East Bay is a benefit for The Pacific Center for Human Growth.

Opened in 1973, The Pacific Center is a multi-service professional agency providing comprehensive mental health services to gay men and women, as well as, community educational programs and informational outreach. Since the Center opened it has served over 30,000 men and women from throughout Northern California.

Tonight's benefit will mark the first time that the Center has gone directly to the public for financial support. Proceeds from this event will supplement funding from Federal and local grants and private foundations. The Pacific Center is the first gay agency to be given funds through the United Way. All contributions to The Pacific Center are tax deductible.

The Pacific Center for Human Growth is located at 2712 Telegraph Avenue (at Derby) in Berkeley, office telephone 548-8283, hours Monday thru Friday 10am to 10pm and Saturday and Sunday 12noon to 4pm. The 24-hour Crisis and Information Referral Switchboard number is 841-6224.

Special Thanks To
Roos-Atkins, San Francisco
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Our Town, San Francisco

Jon R. Sims, Conductor

Whether directing the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band on a concert stage, leading them in a parade, or acting in an administrative capacity, Jon R. Sims is realizing a personal dream.

Sims is a native of Smith Center, Kansas where he was his high school's drum major. At Wichita State University he was head drum major and earned a Bachelor's Degree in French horn as well as in theory and composition.

After earning a Masters Degree in French horn at Indiana University, he taught music for six years at elementary through college levels, last teaching in Daly City, California. He has played with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, guest conducted the California Bach Society, studied arts administration and has had professional experience in public relations in the San Francisco area.

In the Spring of 1978, Sims made his decision to stop teaching in public schools and to form a gay marching band. The idea began to take shape and the group's first appearance was in the 1978 Gay Freedom Day Parade. Since that time, Mr. Sims has been involved with the various musical organizations which have become a reality since the Band's inception.

David Kelsey, Piano

David Kelsey is well-known to West Coast audiences, beginning with his television show in Eureka at the age of fifteen, his hundreds of concert appearances and his nightclub work.

David's musical background began with the pump organ he inherited from his grandmother when he was eight years old. He studied piano technique for six years and the pipe organ for one year. While studying, and before and after serving in Europe in the U.S. Army, David taught both piano and organ to many students, some of whom are working professionally today. He was the pianist for the Seventh Army Soldiers Chorus in Germany, France and Holland. This group won top awards in many international competitions.

As a member of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, David Kelsey is regularly featured on the Bells. His musicianship and flair for performance have served well, both for his fellow Band members and for the community.

Tonight's Program

EGMONT OVERTURE
Ludwig van Beethoven
arr. Th. Moses-Tobani

FIRST SUITE IN E-FLAT
Gustav Holst

Chaconne
Intermezzo
March

BALLET PARISIEN
Jacque Offenbach
arr. Merle J. Isaac

Gary Moon
Bill Bishop
Will Cooper
Frank Medina
Ric Yusko, twirlers

Intermission

RHAPSODY IN BLUE
George Gershwin
arr. Ferde Grofe

David Kelsey, piano

NEW WORLD SYMPHONY
Antonin Dvorak

Fourth Movement/Finale