

COVINA CONCERT BAND, INC  
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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COVINA SWING BAND FESTIVAL

The sixth annual Covina Swing Band Festival featuring 10 live swing bands is scheduled Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 27 and 28 at Covina Park in the City of Covina. Bring your picnic blankets, lawn chairs, or seat yourself on one of the many benches at the bandshell, and enjoy live music from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. both days. Each band performs a 1 hour set of big band swing jazz dance music while members of the audience are encouraged to get up and dance to their favorite tunes. The park is located on 4th street between San Bernardino Road and Badillo Street. The Festival is free and open to the public of all ages.

Twist of Orange, the swing band of Covina Concert Band, kicks off the Festival Saturday and is followed by four more unique bands. The second band to perform is Harmony Sisters and their Little Big Band which features intricate harmonies sung by the Harmony Sisters trio. Following them is Palminteri and the Big Band playing music of the big band era. Continuing is Bob Snyder Red Apple Orchestra "Bringing to you the Core of Good Music"™. City Beat is a group new to the Festival and closes the Saturday evening part of the two-day Festival.

The Festival begins again on Sunday with five more bands. California State University, San Bernardino brings their CSUSB Jazz Ensemble consisting of undergraduate students of all majors. The second band to perform for your enjoyment is SOZO Jazz Band playing contemporary and Latin jazz, some Big Band Gospel, and classics of the Swing Era. Following them is LAPD Swing Band which is the swing band of The Los Angeles Police Concert Band. Continuing is Music Masters with musicians who especially enjoy watching the audience get up and dance to their music. The Festival closes with Verdugo Swing Society Big Band which is another group new to the Festival and has been bringing back Big Band memories since 1986.

Audience participation is one of the most important parts of the festival. The audience is encouraged to appear as if transported from the big band era. The spontaneous dancing in the aisles and the excitement projected for others to see also helps make the festival a success. Mark your calendars not only to attend this free Covina Swing Band Festival but to enjoy being a part of it. Visit [www.CovinaConcertBand.org](http://www.CovinaConcertBand.org) for more information as it becomes available.

The Covina Swing Band Festival, which is provided at no cost to the audience, was designed by the committee to be self-supporting with donations from local entities and proceeds from the Covina Concert Band Snack Bar in Covina Park. With help from the City of Covina Parks and Recreation Department staff and volunteers, members of the support group called Friends of Covina Concert Band donate their time to provide printed programs, stagehand functions, and staff the snack bar. The snack bar staff provides food from their reasonably priced menu and, on special occasions such as the Festival, they make barbequed hamburgers which are served with lettuce, tomato, and onion. All performing bands donate their time to participate in the festival and in addition to having fun they receive exposure and publicity to help promote their programs.

A little history of the Festival may be of interest. At the February 2008 regular meeting of the Covina Concert Band Corporate Board the future of The Covina Festival of Music was discussed. The Music Festival was an abandoned venue for community bands and was popular for many years. Many Ideas were offered and rejected. Before the meeting was over however, a committee was formed that began organizing the First Annual Covina Swing Band Festival. The Festival made its debut in Covina Park at the Charles King Memorial Bandshell on Saturday, June 20, 2009, and featured 3 swing bands. Each year the Festival has attracted more and more participating bands. This year with 10 bands it was determined by the committee that a two-day Festival would be required.

The Covina Swing Band Festival Committee meets regularly and welcomes ideas and suggestions. You may use [CovinaConcertBand@yahoo.com](mailto:CovinaConcertBand@yahoo.com) to contact the committee. The Covina Swing Band Festival is sponsored by Covina Concert Band, a California not-for-profit corporation. Thank you for your support of this event and other Covina Concert Band activities.

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