

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
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Riverside National Cemetery Concert Honors Heroes

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – Riverside National Cemetery will once again be the site of one of Riverside's most beloved 4th of July holiday traditions when the Riverside County Philharmonic Orchestra drops the baton for the *Concert for Heroes*, beginning at 7:30 p.m., July 3 at the cemetery's amphitheater.

Philharmonic Music Director Tomasz Golka will conduct the orchestra in a program that divides the evening between traditional American favorites in the first half of the program and classical pieces following the intermission.

A tribute to George Gershwin will highlight the patriotic favorites in the first half.

The classical program will feature music by Barber, Schubert and Rimsky-Korsakov. Members of the King High School band will join the Philharmonic for Tsaikovsky's *1812 Overture* to close out the second half of the evening.

And as he does each year, John Philip Sousa will command the fireworks finale with America's march – *Stars and Stripes Forever*.

The *Concert for Heroes* is the only symphonic concert staged at a national cemetery.

The concert is free to the public, however, the cemetery amphitheater has limited seating, therefore, Mike Goldware, who has directed the concert since its inception in 2002, advises everyone to bring blankets, lawn chairs and a flashlight, prepared to sit on the grass.

To reach Riverside National Cemetery, take the Van Buren Boulevard exit off Interstate 215; go west to the first traffic light and turn left into the cemetery gate. Stay on the main boulevard into the cemetery; which will lead to the amphitheater and parking.

Opened in 1978, Riverside National Cemetery is the final resting place for nearly 200,000 veterans and their family members. With a daily average of 35 services, RNC is the busiest of the 131 national cemeteries operated by the National Cemetery Administration of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Riverside County Philharmonic Orchestra was established in 1958 as an all-volunteer, community-based orchestra. Today, the 72-member orchestra presents a season of four Saturday evening performances and two Sunday matinees, as well as the *Concert for Heroes* each July at Riverside National Cemetery.

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