

## PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Northfield To Host A Vintage Band Music Festival

**Northfield, MN, July 2010** - An international Vintage Band Music Festival will be held in the charming historic river town of Northfield, MN, just 35 miles south of the Twin Cities, on August 5-8.

Dressed in period costumes and using authentic instruments, 25 European and American vintage bands will perform 100 concerts in four days, recalling repertoires from various cultures of eras gone by. The whole town will become the venue with concerts held indoors and out at concert halls, churches, taverns, parks and downtown.

Some featured bands include the Tschecharanka Kappele Bohemian Band of Austria, the Wind Band of the Music Institute of Eastern Helsinki, the Chestnut Brass Band from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Newberry's Victorian Cornet Band of Maryland and the Chicago Gargoyle Brass of Illinois, just to name a few.

The festival's music represents a wide range of genres, from baroque-era European tunes to Civil War and other 19<sup>th</sup> century marches, ballads and dances, to New Orleans jazz, alphorn songs, and even a Mexican mariachi style. Paul Niemisto, Associate Professor of Music and director of the Norseman Band at St. Olaf College and artistic director for the Vintage Band Festival promises the experience will be absolutely unique!

A few highlights or auxiliary events that are connected to the festival are the annual conference of the Historic Brass Society, a Riverwalk Market Fair of locally produced fine art, organic produce and artisan foods, and a contra dance with vintage music and period dress.

Another sight to be seen and heard is when the Newberry's Victorian Cornet Band challenges the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Band in a "Battle of the Bands" on the banks of Northfield's picturesque Cannon River.

A vintage base ball game will take place at St. Olaf. There you will find gentlemen playing ball using the original Knickerbocker Rules from the mid 1800s — this game is played with no gloves! And there'll be no spitting, betting or cursing! A band will be playing at the game, of course.

At the end of the festival will be a Vaudeville performance starring the Northstar Cinema Orchestra. This type of variety entertainment dates back to the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century and includes a silent film with musical accompaniment and singing and dancing acts.

The festival music starts at noon each day and carries well into the evening at many downtown pub and restaurant establishments. Several neighboring towns are also participating through band performances.

Come for the weekend and experience centuries of rich musical history!

For more information go to [www.vintagebandfestival.org](http://www.vintagebandfestival.org) and [www.visitingnorthfield.com](http://www.visitingnorthfield.com). Special festival stay-over packages can also be found at <http://www.visitingnorthfield.com/packages.html>.