



Sept. 8, 2006

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## Media Advisory

**WHAT:** Media preview for the exhibition “Banding Together: School Bands as Instruments of Opportunity,” followed by opening festivities to include a parade led by the Howard University’s “Showtime” Marching Band and a 9/11 anniversary tribute by the Smithsonian Institution color guard preceding admission to exhibition and reception

**WHEN:** Sunday, Sept. 10  
1 p.m.: Media preview at the Smithsonian’s Anacostia Community Museum  
2 p.m.: Community procession by Howard University “Showtime” Marching Band  
3 p.m.: Opening ceremony at museum steps, followed by reception ending at 5 p.m.

**WHERE:** Preview: Anacostia Community Museum at 1901 Fort Pl. S.E.  
Parade start: Stanton Elementary School at 25th St. and Alabama Avenue S.E.  
Assemblage and opening event: museum front, main gallery and lobby

**WHO:** Gail Lowe, exhibition curator and senior museum historian  
Camille Akeju, Anacostia Community Museum director  
Lloyd Hoover, retired band director, Shaw H.S.  
Dorothy Marschak, founding director of Community Help in Music Education

“Banding Together,” which runs through May 14, 2007, focuses on the more than 100-year history of instrumental music programs in Washington, D.C., public schools—particularly the band program—noting their benefit to the young people involved and the community. The exhibition highlights the heyday of the band programs at D.C. public high schools, including Cardozo, Anacostia, Ballou, Roosevelt and Dunbar, among others. It explores the development of junior and high school cadet drill bands and their evolution into the show-style bands of today. “Banding Together” features several interactive audio visual displays that recreate the band experience, as well as artifacts, instruments and wall-sized photographs. Band leaders—many of whom are featured in the exhibition and contributed artifacts—will be available to share personal experiences about band instruction, student successes and their views on the significance and future of these programs.

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**Note to editors:** Great photo opportunities abound at the press preview and during opening festivities. Contact Marcia Baird Burris at (202) 633-4876.

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