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## HAWAII BAND FESTIVAL OFFERS FREE MUSICAL CONCERT AT HONOLULU FESTIVAL MARCH 3

**HONOLULU** – In celebration of Hawaii's range of musical talents, the Honolulu Festival will be hosting the popular Hawaii Band Festival on Saturday, March 3, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

This free, daylong concert treats attendees to performances from six Hawaii-based bands throughout the day in the Hawaii Convention Center's Kauai Room, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. The performing bands are:

- Hawaii Pacific University Concert Band
- Kalani High School Concert Band
- Pacific Fleet Wind Ensemble
- Royal Hawaiian Band
- U.S. Army Band
- University of Hawaii Wind Ensemble

"Hawaii has such a robust diversity of musical talent so we're very proud to be hosting the Hawaii Band Festival and providing a showcase for them to display their talents," said Keiichi Tsujino, president of the Honolulu Festival Foundation. "I encourage everyone to take advantage of this unique opportunity to enjoy this free musical concert."

The Hawaii Band Festival has been providing musical groups with the opportunity to perform in front of Hawaii audiences for more than 25 years. Groups interested in participating may contact Richard Tagawa of the Hawaii Music Festivals at 800-366-7486.

## ABOUT THE HONOLULU FESTIVAL

To help perpetuate the strong cultural and ethnic ties of people in the Asia-Pacific region, the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Honolulu Festival will present a weekend of *free* arts and cultural displays, exhibits, and entertainment, March 3-4. Performers representing the cultures of the Pacific Rim including, Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea, Australia, the Philippines, Canada, Alaska, U.S. Mainland, and Hawaii will dazzle guests with their amazing talents.

Under the banner "*Pacific Harmony*" and the theme, "*Bonding together, hand in hand*," the Honolulu Festival will be open to the public at three locations – Hawaii Convention Center, Ala Moana Center, and Waikiki Beach Walk – with the Waikiki Grand Parade along Kalakaua Avenue on Sunday, March 4, starting at 4:30 p.m.

The Honolulu Festival will also light up the skies of Waikiki with the spectacular Nagaoka Fireworks Show following the Waikiki Grand Parade. Originating from Nagaoka City, Japan, this fireworks extravaganza will make its first appearance outside of Japan over Waikiki Beach.

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