

**Laramie Senior High School
“Plainsmen Band”**

1972 World Champions

Name of Project:

**Laramie Senior High School
“Plainsmen Band”**

**1972 World Championship
European Competition
And Concert Tour**

**A Historical
Documentation**

Laramie, Wyoming

Laramie Senior High School
"Plainsmen Band"
1972 World Championship European Tour

Name of Project:

Laramie, Wyoming, Senior High School "Plainsmen Band" 1972 World Championship European Competition and Concert Tour - A Historical Documentation.

Statement of Purpose:

To document and preserve the historic trip of the Laramie Senior High School "Plainsmen Band" world championship performances and European concert tour to the first International Band Festival in Vienna, Austria in 1972. The "Plainsmen Band" won two International Band competitions in Gorinchem, Holland and Vienna, Austria.

Project Description:

The focus of the project is to produce a complete documentary film/DVD utilizing all of the archived materials of the "Plainsmen Band" world championship competition and concert tour through Europe. The "Plainsmen Band" European competition and concert tour was fully documented with the aid of 2 (two) professional photographers, Ed Fowler and Bruce Mitchell. The performances were filmed with a 16mm movie camera, and photographically documented with 35mm slide film. The Laramie Daily Boomerang, Laramie's local newspaper did a great job covering the entire event. They covered all the events leading up to the departure of the "Plainsmen Band" to Europe, and did complete coverage of the band's competition and concert tour throughout Austria, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Switzerland, Germany and Luxemburg. They fully covered the band's return to Laramie, and the public performances of the band after returning to Laramie.

Value To Wyoming's History:

Documenting the "Plainsmen Band" world championship competition and concert tour through Europe would result in having multiple values to Wyoming and Wyoming history. The accomplishments the "Plainsmen Band" achieved have never been matched in the history of Wyoming. The 1972 award winning "Plainsmen Band" is the only, and the largest youth group in Wyoming's history to win a world championship.

Historically, this major accomplishment by a youth group in Wyoming is of definite historical value, and needs to be added to the historical archives of Wyoming. This was an historic event for the town of Laramie, it's youth, and to the state of Wyoming.

The accomplishments achieved by the "Plainsmen Band," was not the only historic event that occurred, but also how the entire community of Laramie came together to send its only high school band to Europe for the 1st International Youth Music Festival. This historic event was a great accomplishment for the city of Laramie.

The "Plainsmen Band" were true ambassadors, representing not only Laramie, but also the state of Wyoming. To quote United States Senator Clifford P. Hansen, "Everyone in Wyoming is very proud of the Laramie High School Band, and more especially of the young people like you who make it the great musical unit it is."

The Laramie "Plainsmen" marching and concert band captured countless honors throughout the Western United States and Canada, the marching band having won 26 first place trophies and two second place trophies in four years. The concert band received the "superior" trophy in all the festivals in which it took part, including the international competition in Calgary, Canada, which at that time the "Plainsmen Band" was named the "Outstanding American High School Band." The energy and precision carried on from Canada, to being given the title of the world's best marching band at the 1st International Youth Music Festival in Vienna, Austria.

The impact this historic event had on the band members, and those who participated are immeasurable. From the building of individual character, to carrying it over into their professional careers, the influence it has had on band members will be part of the lives forever. Laramie, and the state of Wyoming were represented by the finest group of high school musicians the state has ever produced, which demonstrated to the entire world that Wyoming's educational capabilities are among the best. In the International musical community, the "Plainsmen Band" literally put Wyoming and the city of Laramie on the map.

Public Benefit:

The produced documentary film/DVD's impact will not only be of historic value, but will have positive influences on those viewing it today, and in the future. It will be of great inspirational value to both high school band directors and the musicians themselves. It will prove to them that anything is possible, it only takes tenacious dedication to make dreams come alive. The documentary film/DVD will give a complete record of the historic event to all it's participants, a cherished item that they can pass on to future generations to come.

The historical value and its' importance to the state of Wyoming has been recognized by many state agencies: the American Heritage Center - University of Wyoming, the Wyoming State Archives, the Wyoming Arts Council, and the Wyoming State Historical Records Advisory Board. Each departmental director contacted endorsed the project, and want the completed film/DVD submitted to them to be included in their archives.

A Non-Profit Organization is being formed to produce the film/DVD, and upon completion of the production, DVD's will be sold on the retail market at various outlets throughout the state. All proceeds generated above and beyond the production costs and operational costs, will be donated to the Wyoming Arts Council, to be used for grant and/or scholarship funds for students needing assistance furthering their musical education.

Funding Requirements:

Production of the film/DVD requires digitizing the content of the 16mm movie film, audio tapes, 35mm slides, photographs, and the necessary print material (newspaper articles, programs, posters, trip memorabilia, etc.), which will then be transferred and formatted and produced into DVD format. VHS movies will also be produced and made available for sale. The estimated cost to produce the documentary film/DVD is \$6000.00. An estimated breakdown is as follows:

16mm Film Digitization:.....	\$ 1000.00
Audio Tape Digitization:.....	\$ 500.00
Slide Digitization:.....	\$ 600.00
Photograph Digitization:.....	\$ 500.00
Newspaper Articles Digitization:.....	\$ 600.00
Print Material Digitization:.....	\$ 600.00
Production Costs:.....	<u>\$ 16,000.00</u>
Estimated Development/Production Cost:	\$ 19,800.00

DVD & Music CD Duplication & Printing Costs:

2000 DVD's w/Amaray Box and Insert	\$ 3,500.00
2000 Music CD's w/Jewel Box	\$ 2,700.00
Estimated Duplication & Printing Costs:	\$ 6,200.00
Marketing & Distribution Costs:	<u>\$ 2,500.00</u>
Total Estimated Cost:	\$28,500.00

Without the assistance of grant or donation funding, this historical event will not come to pass. Grant applications have been submitted to the Wyoming Historical Society, and other organizations that offer grants. In addition to grants, funding by Donation is also being sought from businesses, organizations, and individuals. Credit(s) to those who have donated to the project will be listed in the documentary. Upon receiving funding this historical event will be documented completely and professionally. It will then be placed into the Wyoming State Archives, The American Heritage Center - University of Wyoming, recording the historic event in the proper way that is available to us now, that was not available at the time the event occurred. Recording this historic event before all the material and information we have available to us know, becomes either lost, forgotten, deteriorated or destroyed, is of utmost importance and must be done.

Contact Information:

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