

Civil War Brass Bands of 1863

On Sunday, June 23rd at 2:00 PM, the Providence Brigade Band will present a concert of music arranged for brass band from the Civil War period. The concert will feature original arrangements from that timeframe and will be held at Border's Farm at 31 North Road, Foster, RI. It is free and open to the public and is endorsed by RI Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission.

Military bands of the Union and Confederate armies played an important role to the armies and the civilians both North and South. By 1863 the Union had discharged all its regimental bands and replaced them with brigade bands. The replaced musicians returned home and resumed their musical roles in the community. In the South the regimental bands continued their role of musically inspiring, entertaining and consoling southern troops. This program will present the music and the stories and even legends associated with the music and bands, both North and South, of the Civil War.

Providence Brigade Band

The original Providence Brigade Band was chartered in 1847, and was made up of tradesmen and professional people who were musicians by avocation. Numbered among them were a music professor, a carpenter, a blacksmith, and a jeweler.

Today that tradition is carried on as the Providence Brigade Band performs in the manner of early American brass bands. They dress in militia-style uniforms of these bands and play original music on instruments from the Civil War period. With special emphasis on the American Civil War, programs are presented that brings to life this critical chapter of our history and its music.

The Providence Brigade Band has attained a distinguished reputation in the Southeastern New England area. These are just a few of the events or organizations the band has performed for:

Gettysburg National Military Park

Springfield Armory National Site

Providence City Hall 125th Anniversary Observance

Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

Linden Place of Bristol

Blithewold Mansion

Pictures and more information about the Providence Brigade Band can be found at their web site at: www.pbband.org