

Gardens of the World announces 10th Annual Concert Series

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The Gardens of the World, located across from the Thousand Oaks Civic Center, is announcing its 10th Annual Summer Jazz Concert Series, this year, called the "Big Band Extravaganza." Running every Sunday in August, the free concerts will feature some of the country's most accomplished and popular bands—Boyd Cannon Big Band Explosion, The Pat Longo Orchestra, the Late Nite Big Band, and Bruce Lofgren Jazz Orchestra.

The Boyd Cannon Big Band Explosion with special guest vocalist Bonnie Bowden will perform August 5 to kick off the Gardens of the World's concert series. The 16-piece orchestra features some of the finest musicians in the Los Angeles area playing crowd-pleasing big band tunes and their own compositions.

On August 12, The Pat Longo Orchestra featuring vocalist Nancy Osborne will bring the musical talents of some of Hollywood's best. Originally a key member of the famed Harry James Orchestra, Longo has been performing and recording with his band for over 35 years.

The Late Nite Big Band led by Joe Gray will headline the August 19 concert. This fun, diverse, powerful swing band will play many big band favorites and showcasing special guest soloists.

The concert series concludes August 26 with the Bruce Lofgren Jazz Orchestra, featuring Lofgren compositions that are uniquely compelling and transcend multiple music genres, including Latin, New Age, Jazz, Blues, Classical, and Pop.

The free concerts will run from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday in August, with lawn seating available in front of the Gardens of the World American Bandstand. Blankets, lawn chairs, and picnic baskets are welcome; however, smoking, glass containers, alcohol, and pets are not allowed.

The Gardens of the World is located at 2001 Thousand Oaks Boulevard. Free parking is available along the street. Parking for a fee is available across the street at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Center.

For additional information or sponsorship opportunities, call 805-557-1135 or visit the Gardens of the World website at www.gardensoftheworld.info.

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About the Gardens of the World: The Gardens of the World is a 4.5-acre cultural garden open to the public and located across the street from the Thousand Oaks Civic Center on Thousand Oaks Boulevard. The authentically-landscaped Gardens commemorate various cultures of the world, including Italian, French, Japanese, and English. There is also a California Mission Courtyard, an American Bandstand for free summer jazz concerts, and the Resource Center, where local artists can exhibit their works. The Gardens of the World is owned and operated by the Hogan Family Foundation. Admission is free. Reservations are required for Docent tours and any group visit. For more information, visit www.gardensoftheworld.info.

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