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## LAPD Concert Band

BY JIM STARR

In every organization there is a mission statement, motto, etc. that describes the goals and objectives of that organization. The LAPD Band's motto is "To Perform and Serve." The person who translates that from words to actions, better than anyone else, is our own Christina Challey. Maybe she promotes the spirit of the Band from her cheerleading days as a former Oakland Raiderette, or her organizational skills through her education. As Director of Operations of the

Los Angeles Police Concert Band, she is responsible for a vast array of duties. These include working with the executive director and music director/conductor to insure good musician relations; assisting with recruitment; working on scheduling, production, budgeting, guest artist negotiations, venue and event management; working to build sponsorship and donor relationships; overseeing the music library. She is also the representative and spokesperson for the Band's community relations. To accomplish all that, she relied on her education, graduating from

Cal Berkeley with a B.A. in theater arts, and California State University, Northridge with an M.A. in public administration.

Christina recently coordinated the Band's performance at the National Law Enforcement Memorial during National Police Week. She also coordinated the following Band's performances: Reagan Library; the CSUN joint concert at the Soraya; the 150th LAPD anniversary for the Department; Jack Webb Police Museum; Sunshine Kids; Elementary Schools; World Police Games at the

Los Angeles Coliseum; in addition to 14 recruit graduations a year.

In addition to her administrative duties, Christina is the Band's vocalist/producer. In 1996, on the Band's trip to Stockholm, Sweden, to perform for the World Police Games, she was an invited guest to meet King Gustav. Another time she performed with her Band trio at the Kennedy Center and World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Where did she get all this talent, and why the Band? Having been raised in Sacramento by a former lieutenant in the Marines and a creative mother, she loved the LAPD and wanted to give back to the community. Her qualifications were acting, dancing and singing in musical theater, and appearances on national TV. (Her great influence in dancing came from Martha Graham.) After a brief audition, she was 'hired'. Soon, Christina was asked to be the vocalist in the swing band. Then, she was asked to be a member of the Los Angeles Police Band Executive Committee, the governing board of the Band. A final request was that she be the Band producer because of her professional background. As a volunteer Band member, she was also required to attend recruit graduations once a month.

During her time with the Band, Christina has produced and starred in many Band productions. In association with USC, she co-produced a show at the Shrine Auditorium for the Los Angeles Police Department honoring the Children of Los Angeles. In addition, Christina



Christina Challey

co-created, co-produced and performed in the musical television series "Starrland." She has also written and produced a reality pilot for television called "Vegas Profiles," produced music and training videos, and is currently in development with a number of projects for television and film (see Christina on the Band's website, [www.lasown.com](http://www.lasown.com).)

Her real satisfaction comes from the weekly rehearsals that garner a "family feeling" that comes from the members of the Los Angeles Police Concert Band, and her devotion to the Los Angeles Police Department—"To Perform and Serve."

For more information about the Band, see our website at [www.lasown.com](http://www.lasown.com), and contact Jim Starr, executive director at [sngcop@aol.com](mailto:sngcop@aol.com). For greatly appreciated donations, please go to [www.lapolicfoundation.org](http://www.lapolicfoundation.org), and under "Comments," put "For the Band." ♦



Christina in costume



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TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION THAT STEPS  
IN TO HELP LAPD OFFICERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, AND CHILDREN IN NEED

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Christina at Reagan Library