



TOLEDO
SYMPHONY

1838 PARKWOOD AVE. #310 • TOLEDO, OH 43624-2502 • PHONE: 419.241.1272 • FAX: 419.321.6890

NEWS RELEASE

Music Under the Stars - 2002

“Sam Gets the Gold”

Celebrating 50 Years with Music Under the Stars

On Sunday, July 7, Sam Szor will kick off the 2002 season of Music Under the Stars at The Toledo Zoo Amphitheatre, his 50th year to do so. Gordon Ward, another Toledo tradition, will appear in his 15th year as master of ceremonies. The Toledo Concert Band, which includes Toledo Symphony musicians, performs every week. This season, there will be surprises at every concert, adding to this golden anniversary celebration.

Mr. Szor began his career playing bassoon, clarinet, and saxophone. His accomplishments include being the band director at Woodward High School, conducting the Toledo Choral Society since 1958, being a guest conductor for The Toledo Symphony, 20 years of working with the Perrysburg Symphony Orchestra, and being the music director for the First Congregational Church for 25 years.

Sam is best known as the beloved conductor of the ever-popular Music Under the Stars. His engaging personality, extensive musical knowledge, and sensitivity to musical interpretation have endeared him to thousands and expanded the love of music in Toledo for more than 50 years.

The Toledo Concert Band, under Sam's direction, plays to standing-room-only crowds year after year. Sam considers these musicians to be “the best in the area,” and notes that the band that plays for Music Under the Stars is known world wide as “the Zoo Band.” He says, “Even though the name may sound comical, when you hear the Zoo Band mentioned in other countries, it tugs at your heart strings.”

Music Under the Stars is a much-awaited summer phenomenon in Toledo. It began in 1953 under the management of the Toledo Department of Recreation and Welfare. The Toledo Symphony has managed these concerts since the 1970's.

Sam says, “Music Under the Stars appeals to a cross section of our community. The music is targeted to each of these audiences – young people, young adults, parents, and grandparents.” Throughout the season, guest singers, dancers, and other musicians add to the audience's enjoyment. This summer's programs are on Sunday evenings at 7:30, beginning July 7, and concluding on August 25. Thanks to major sponsors, which include Dana, Sunoco, Meijer, and FirstEnergy, these concerts remain free to the public.

June 26, 2001

**Contact: Ellen Critchley 419.535.0068
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Music Under the Stars – 2002 Season Highlights
Sam Szor, Conductor
Celebrating 50 Years with Music Under the Stars

Dates & Time: Sunday evenings, in July and August, at 7:30 p.m.
Location: Toledo Zoo Amphitheatre
Admission price: FREE

Sunday, July 7	Broadway: Sam Gets the Gold Kick-off of <i>Celebrating Sam Szor's 50 Years with Music Under the Stars</i>
Sunday, July 14	Rodgers and Hammerstein: You Must Remember This
Sunday, July 21	Disney: Happy 100th, Walt!
Sunday, July 28	Andrew Lloyd Webber: The Phantom of Broadway
Sunday, August 4	Big Band: Kickin' Out the Jams!
Sunday, August 11	The Music of Hollywood
Sunday, August 18	Kids Night: Make Time for Kids
Sunday, August 25	Sousa: Old Glory

Please check out toledosymphony.com for more detailed program information.

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