

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

1:15 Pre-concert – (in foyer):
House opens

1:55 Pre-concert – (in auditorium, while audience is being seated):

Narration:

Ladies and gentlemen, please take your seats. The concert will begin in 5 minutes.

Audio:

(after narration)

(Guy Haynes talking about music keeping him young) - :40

(Doug Erickson talking about teachers) – 1:00

(Cindy Raver talking about concerts) – :40

(Tim Nelson talking about joining RCB) - :35

(Bruce Kittilson talking about harmonica) - :45

(Audrey Johnson talking about starting up again) - :45

(Wes Woelfle talking about passing down music to son) – 1:00

(Bev Regehr talking about recital) – 1:00

(Denny Huston talking about last chair) - :30

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)

Segment Time:

7:00

2:03 Concert Band comes on stage

Note: band will not tune on stage

Lights:

(dim house lights, keep stage lights dim)

Segment Time:

3:00

2:06 Concert Opening:

Video:

(historic video showing band pictures with “old-sounding” music, ending with “old-sounding” version of National Emblem, fades into current band playing live version of National Emblem)

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Music:

National Emblem (“live” band fades in at 2nd time through 1st strain, takes over on the 2nd strain)

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Lights:

(stage lights come on as “live” band takes over)

Segment Time:

7:00

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2:13 Emcee Introduction/Poet and Peasant Overture

Video:

(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - 1:45

Good afternoon and welcome to the 100th anniversary Centennial Celebration Concert of the Robbinsdale City Band.

My name is John Reger of WCCO TV.

As many of you know, I'm normally working right now, so I'd like to thank you for giving me a good excuse to "play hooky" for this wonderful occasion.

I'm proud to have grown up in Robbinsdale, home of one the oldest and finest community bands in the state of Minnesota.

I can remember as a young boy listening to the band play at Sanborn Park, etc.....(or if John has a particular memory of listening to RCB at some point during his childhood, we'd like to have him share that at this point.)

So, ... the Robbinsdale City Band is 100 years old.

Isn't that amazing?

How has this band been able to survive one hundred years of change?

Today, we'll not only learn the answer to this question, but also we'll learn about the history of this remarkable band and go beyond to explore how we have been able to remain such a vital contributor to our community's quality of life.

We'll hear some of the personal stories of band members, honor our former directors and others associated with the band and together experience the magic of music.

We'll discover how the band got its start, what has changed in all those years, and what has stayed the same.

You'll discover just how important you are to each performance.

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And, we'll witness the birth of two brand new musical compositions, written especially for all of us.

There's a lot to do, so, let's get going!

Video:

(1909 picture of the band)

Narration: - 1:15

According to the band's new Centennial book, "Our Whiz Bang Century", written by Kay Anderson, it all started with community service.

In 1906, a group of about a dozen musicians, led by William Henry Grenell, performed a concert to raise funds for the creation of a new community band to help celebrate special occasions and encourage people to move to the area.

This was the beginning of what was to become the Robbinsdale City Band.

Back in the early 1900s, this new band played marches and other popular music of the day.

The band also played orchestra music arranged for band, music such as the Poet and Peasant Overture by von Suppe.

Listen now as the band recreates a performance of this famous overture.

Lights:

(dim spotlight on John)

Music:

Poet and Peasant Overture – **10:00 + :30**

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Action:

(at end, Mike asks Sheldon to stand, then the entire band to stand)

Segment Time:

13:30

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Clock Time

2:26 Adagio

Audio:

(Sara Stoughton talking about courage) – **1:15**

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - 1:00

Along with community service, it's also the power of music itself that has sustained the popularity of the Robbinsdale City Band.

Throughout its history, we've realized music's power to evoke strong emotions and to move us in ways not possible through any other means.

Take our next selection, for example.

This piece started out as a string quartet, was transcribed into an orchestral piece and eventually into an arrangement for band.

In ways that words alone cannot express, this beautiful piece has the power to evoke an amazing range of emotions.

Through its harmonies, intertwining phrases, a variety of tone colors, and the skillful use of dramatic tension and release, the music conjures up tension, relief, joy, sorrow, and a whole spectrum of other emotions that only music can express.

We invite you to sit back and create your own images as you listen to Samuel Barber's beautiful Adagio for Strings.

Music:

Adagio (Adagio for Strings) – **6:15 + :30**

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Segment Time:

9:00

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2:35 America's Finest

Audio:

(Robin Larson talking about her father and his clarinet) – **1:10**

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - 1:15

Music also has the ability to evoke memories – to transport us to our past, to take us back to life-changing moments and events.

Is there a song that reminds you of a special event or time in your life?

Like your first dance, the first time you drove your car, ... something specific that John did (or that night in 1982 when you snuck out of the house well after 9 o'clock curfew and it was a school night and you picked up Scott and Francie and the three of us tipped over old man Peterson's garbage can and, honest officer, I didn't mean to do it, but I just ... oh, excuse me.)

We flash back to the same emotions we felt, the familiar people we were with, the sights, smells, and experiences of the past.

This next piece may bring back memories of a time in our lives that helped mold us into who we are today.

Many of us or our loved ones have served or are currently serving our country in the armed forces, helping to preserve our freedoms.

Our next selection is a medley of songs associated with each branch of our armed forces.

When you hear your song, we invite you to stand and be recognized.

Lights:

(keep spotlight on John, turn on house lights)

Video:

(waving American flag, Mt. Rushmore, Golden Gate Bridge, St. Louis Arch, images of each branch)

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Music:

America's Finest – **6:45 + :30**

Narration:

(As each tune is introduced):

Army...

Coast Guard...

Air Force...

Marines...

Navy...

Segment Time:

9:30

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2:45 Bob Mendenhall/In The Mood

Audio:

(Harvey Moral talking about World War II) – :45

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Narration: - 1:00

It's not just community service, the power of music itself and music's ability to evoke emotions and memories that has kept the band going for 100 years.

It's also the outstanding leadership of the band throughout its history.

Throughout our history, we have been blessed with strong, dedicated and extremely competent leadership to enable the band to develop into a top-notch musical and marching organization.

In 1947, the baton of outstanding leadership was passed to a young University of Minnesota student who also played clarinet in the band, Bob Mendenhall.

During Mr. Mendenhall's 17-year tenure, the band staged several spectacular concerts with scripts written and produced by Mendenhall, including "The Story of America", "The Story of Jazz", and "The Story of Minnesota".

Music:

trio of RCB Centennial March - :30

Action:

(Bob Mendenhall walks up on stage (audience right), escorted by Miss Robbinsdale)

Video:

(live feed of Bob Mendenhall walking to the stage – audience right)

Narration:

(over music)

Mr. Mendenhall also led the band to great marching honors and accomplishments.

In 1948, the band received a perfect score at the Minnesota State Fair competition.

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Under his direction, the band traveled to Milwaukee for national band competitions and took home top marching honors.

The band competed in the Aquatennial parades and amassed an unmatched record of accomplishment, including 15 consecutive Torchlight Parade Grand Championships.

Please help me welcome Mr. Bob Mendenhall.

Action:

(when Bob Mendenhall reaches podium, Mike shakes his hand and exits stage left)

Lights:

(dim spotlight on John)

Music:

In The Mood – **4:00**

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Action:

(Bob Mendenhall exits to steps on stage left, escorted down steps by Miss Robbinsdale)

Segment Time:

7:00

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2:52 On The Mall

Audio:

(Penny Buck talking about Adagio) – :45

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - 1:00

It's also the enthusiasm and support of our audience that has enabled the band to celebrate this historic occasion today.

Do you know the biggest difference between a rehearsal and a performance?

Video:

(Uncle Sam wants YOU!)

Narration:

You!

Talk to any band member and they will tell you it's more fun to perform for a large, enthusiastic audience.

And, we love to get the audience involved in our performances.

So, today, we invite you to join with us as we make music together.

Video:

(live feed of John Reger)

During our next selection, On The Mall, you'll have the opportunity to sing along.

Don't worry, we'll cue you.

Now, listen very carefully, here are the words ... "La, la, la."

Video:

("La, la, la...")

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And the last time, we all sing again.

Are you ready? Maestro, if you please!

Music:

On The Mall (through 1st time through the Trio only) – **2:00**

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Narration:

(over music, at the beginning of the trio)
Listen carefully, here's the tune.

(after one chorus of the trio, band stops playing)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - :15

OK, there's the tune.

Now, we'll serve up another introduction and then it's your turn to sing.

What are the words? ... "La, la, la." (John directs the audience)

Maestro, one more time.

Lights:

(turn house lights on)

Music:

On The Mall (trio) – **1:30**

Video:

(live feed of the band playing and audience singing and whistling)

Segment Time:

6:00

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2:58 The RCB Cell Phone Symphony

Video:

(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John, keep house lights on)

Narration: - 2:30

OK, give yourselves a hand!

But, hey, we're just warming up.

In the 1700s and 1800s, a grand evening's entertainment was to invite a few friends over for supper and then break out the instruments to jam through some tunes.

Composers wrote music, not so much to be listened to, but to be performed by the public.

There were no iPods, CDs, cassettes, let alone 8-tracks, LPs or even 78s.

But, with the advent of recorded sound, the last hundred years has seen a transformation in the way we experience music.

We've transformed from musical participants to music consumers, from performers to observers.

We're more likely to go listen to a concert than to get the gang together to jam in the basement.

We're more likely to pick up a CD at the store than to buy some new sheet music to try out on our own.

In fact, with all the advances in technology that have allowed sound to be synthesized and digitized, live instrumentalists are not even necessary to create a musical output.

People have indeed been replaced by machines!

How does the band respond to these developments?

We say, "Hold the phone!"

Action:

(band members hold up their phones)

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Narration:

The band takes great pride in the fact that we are not merely consumers of music, but producers of music.

And, we feel our audience is a critical component.

That's why we're grateful to have all of you here today to help us perform for the first time on any stage ... The RCB Cell Phone Symphony.

Here's how it's going to work...

Video:

(slide to request audience to turn ON their cell phones)

Narration:

If you have a cell phone, we want you to turn it ON.

That's right, turn it ON! Go ahead, right now.

Now, we want you to figure out how to get a sound out of it – play around a bit to find a great ring tone. Go ahead, right now.

(pause to allow audience to experiment with their phones)

OK, ready?

Now, we need to “rehearse”.

Maestro Serber, show us what to do.

(Mike cues each section of the audience)

Gorgeous!

OK, let's make some beautiful music together!

And to lead us in “The RCB Cell Phone Symphony”, please welcome our very own vocal soloist, Mr. Tim Almen.

Video:

(live feed of Tim Almen, words to “Till There Was You, band and audience “playing” their cell phones)

Music:

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Till There Was You, from The Music Man – **2:00**
(Tim Almen sings, band plays)

There were bells (band pauses, cell phones)
On the hill,
But I never heard them ringing (band pauses, cell phones)
No, I never heard them at all
Till there was you.

There were birds
In the sky,
But I never saw them winging
No, I never saw them at all
Till there was you.

And there was music (band pauses, cell phones)
And there were wonderful roses,
They tell me,
In sweet fragrant meadows
Of dawn and dew. (band pauses, cell phones)

There was love
All around,
But I never heard it singing (cell phones)
No, I never heard it at all
Till there was you. (cell phones)

Video:

(Slide to request audience to turn off their cell phones)

Segment Time:
5:00

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3:03 Roy Olson/Rondo

Lights:

(dim house lights, dim spotlight on John)

Audio:

(Del Peters talking about striving for excellence) - :20

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - :15

Throughout our history, the goal has been to perform at our highest level.

We have focused on excellence to achieve outstanding performances.

It's now time to introduce you to another in the long line of outstanding leaders.

Music:

trio of RCB Centennial March - :30

Action:

(Roy Olson walks up on stage (audience right), escorted by Robbinsdale Princess)

Video:

(live feed of Roy Olson walking to the stage – audience right)

Narration:

(over music)

In 1964, Roy Olson, who had been the assistant director under Bob Mendenhall, took over the directorship of the band.

Mr. Olson directed the band until 1966, and led the band to continued high honors in marching competitions throughout the state.

Mr. Olson was well-known and well-loved for his infectious enthusiasm and could always be counted on to produce smiles and warm feelings.

Please help me welcome Mr. Roy Olson.

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Action:

(when Roy Olson reaches podium, Mike shakes his hand and exits stage left)

Music:

Rondo, from Prelude, Siciliano, and Rondo – **2:15**

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Action:

(Roy Olson exits to steps on stage left, escorted down steps by Robbinsdale Princess)

Segment Time:

4:00

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3:07 Roger Thompson/March of the Steel Men

Audio:

(Dave Schaupp talking about Roy Olson and marching) – :45

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - 1:00

Our ability to adapt to changing needs and changing times has kept us going.

Our next former director, Roger Thompson, exemplifies this adaptability.

In 1969, Thompson took over the reins of the City Band from Don Schiermer, and would hold that post for the next 22 years.

Under his direction, the Robbinsdale City Band continued to win marching competitions, including several Aquatennial Grand and Open championships.

Seeing a need to adapt to changing needs, Dr. Thompson reorganized the City Band into its current structure of two groups – the Marching Band, open to high school students and adults, and the all-adult Concert Band.

Dr. Thompson loved to travel with the bands, taking them all over the state as Robbinsdale's goodwill ambassadors.

And, under his direction, the Marching Band gained national exposure.

Music:

trio of RCB Centennial March - :30

Action:

(Roger Thompson walks up on stage (audience right), escorted by Robbinsdale Princess)

Video:

(live feed of Roger Thompson walking to the stage – audience right)

Narration:

(over music)

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In 1981, Dr. Thompson took the band to El Paso, to march in the Sun Bowl parade and to march at Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm.

In 1989, the band traveled to Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, D.C., where they placed 2nd in the National Independence Day parade.

Joining us especially for today's Centennial Celebration, all the way from his home in North Carolina, please help me welcome Dr. Roger Thompson.

Lights:

(dim spotlight on John)

Action:

(when Roger Thompson reaches podium, Mike shakes his hand and exits stage left)

Music:

March of the Steel Men – **4:00**

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Action:

(Roger Thompson exits to steps on stage left, escorted down steps by Robbinsdale Princess)

Segment Time:

7:00

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3:14 Whiz Bang

Audio:

(Sheldon Silberman talking about Roger Thompson) – 1:00

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - 1:45

It's not just community service, the power of music itself, music's ability to evoke emotions and memories, outstanding leadership, audience support, our focus on excellence and our adaptability that has enabled the band to flourish during its 100 years.

It's also the huge variety of music the band plays.

Did you know the Robbinsdale City Band has a library of close to 2,000 pieces of music?

And, that the band has ready to play at any time over 150 selections?

Action:

(Becky Haapanen's music folder falls over and her music goes flying)

Narration:

Marches, show tunes, patriotic numbers, popular songs, light classics – it's in there.

We're very proud today to introduce one more selection into the RCB repertoire.

In honor of our 100-year anniversary, we commissioned local and nationally-renowned composer, Shelley Hanson to write a special piece of music just for us.

We wanted this piece to capture the variety of music we play.

We wanted this piece to capture our own special style, our unique sense of humor and the pure joy that we get from performing for our audiences.

Shelley's piece, called "Whiz Bang", captures all that and more.

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This piece has come to life due in large part to the generous contributions of many of you who are here with us today.

We hope that this new piece will be published and made available for other bands to play around the world, giving our City of Robbinsdale worldwide attention and fame.

And now, here's the World Premier of Shelley Hanson's Whiz Bang.

Music:

Whiz Bang – 5:00

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

(at end, live feed of Shelley Hanson standing up and acknowledging applause, receiving bouquet from a Robbinsdale Ambassador)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration:

We invite you to take a 15 minute intermission and join us in the foyer to enjoy our exciting display of RCB history and memorabilia.

Also, we have on sale our 100th anniversary logowear as well as copies of our brand new Centennial book.

Written by long-time band member, Kay Anderson, this amazing book, entitled "Our Whiz Bang Century", not only chronicles the illustrious history of the RCB, but also it tells in words and hundreds of beautiful photographs the fascinating musical stories of our current and former band members, directors, and audience members.

In fact, all the stories you're hearing today can be found inside the pages of this remarkable book.

Also on sale is our latest CD which includes the music from today's concert, including Shelley Hanson's Whiz Bang.

See you back in 15 minutes.

Lights:

(dim spotlight on John, turn on house lights, dim stage lights)

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Segment Time:
9:00

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3:23 Intermission
Segment Time:
9:00

3:32 Intermission

Audio:

(George Runyan talking about variety of instruments) – **1:00**
(Jenny Harris talking about playing clarinet) - **:40**
(Dick Post talking about horn and trumpet) - **:50**
(Kurt Partoll talking about regaining embouchure) - **:30**
(Warren Kaari talking about audience support) – **:45**
(Michelle Hienz talking about Brookview concert and playing with kids) –
:45
(Wolfgang Boss talking about variety of music and stress relief) – **:45**
(Robb Mayer talking about loving music) - **:40**
(Doug Reimann talking about Shriner’s Hospital) – **1:15**
(Jean Olson talking about Roger Thompson) – **:50**
(Scott Horbal talking about teachers and marching) – **:40**
(John Roll and Mary Hovden talking about Betty Frey) – **1:55**

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)

Segment Time:
11:00

3:43 Concert Band comes on stage

Note: band will not tune on stage

Lights:

(dim house lights, bring up stage lights)

Segment Time:
3:00

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Clock Time

3:46 2nd Half Beginning

Music:

Emperata Overture – 8:00

Video:

(montage showing historical pictures and video)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration:

(0:00 – elapsed time) Beginning

(0:17) Letter A

The year - 1904.

Robbinsdale resident, Mrs. William Henry Grenell, volunteers her husband, a musician, to provide a band to perform a benefit concert to raise funds for a new public library.

(0:32) Letter B

That concert, by a group of about a dozen musicians known as The Grenell Family Minstrels, nets 57 dollars and 80 cents for the new library.

Two years later, in 1906, these musicians are again called upon for another benefit concert.

(0:46) Letter C

This time, the group performs to raise money for a new group - the Robbinsdale Civic Club Band. Tickets go for as little as a quarter.

This benefit concert, on November 16, 1906, marks the birth of the band that will eventually be known as ... the Robbinsdale City Band.

(1:08) Letter D

(collage of photos and videos of the band marching through the years)

(1:24) 3 measures after Letter E

The Robbinsdale City Band – proud to be one of the only community bands in the State of Minnesota to have both a concert and a marching band – is justifiably proud of its history of musical and marching excellence.

During its 100-year history, this amazing band has racked up awards and honors too numerous to count and has thrilled millions with their magnificent marching and musical mastery.

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Let's take a look at how it all started.

(1:56) Letter F

In the early 1900s, Robbinsdale was a fast-growing, thriving community and had a strong, cohesive community spirit. (slight pause)

The people of Robbinsdale desired to have their own community band to help celebrate special occasions and to foster Robbinsdale's growth by attracting new people to live there. (slight pause)

The band was often called upon to play for community picnics and civic events.

By 1917, the band was such an important part of the community that a band stand was erected at 42nd and Broadway.

Audiences loved to gather around the gazebo stage to hear the beautiful music.

(2:52) 3 measures after Letter G

On the worldwide stage, the year 1917 was a year of great conflict and upheaval as America declared war on Germany and officially entered the world-wide conflict – World War I.

(3:10) Letter H

In Robbinsdale, people showed their support for the war effort.

The first contingent of six men left for the war in a truck with a huge banner proclaiming "Robbinsdale to Berlin."

And, the Robbinsdale Civic Club Band was there to help send the soldiers off to war.

(3:28) Letter I

Yes, the band was an important part of the life of the community, not only helping to raise money to buy war bonds, but also serving as a focal point for the emotions of the Robbinsdale people.

(3:40) Letter J

And, when the war was over, the band was right there, helping the community to welcome the troops back home to a great feeling of relief and optimism for the future.

(4:01) Letter K

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With the war over, things were looking up all over.

The 1920s saw the population of Robbinsdale almost triple to 5000 residents.

In 1926, the band became known as the Robbinsdale Concert Band, under the direction of William F. Grenell.

In 1927, the band won its first championship trophy, at a state contest in Hutchinson.

But in 1929, a resounding...

(4:29) Letter L

... crash on Wall Street shattered the dreams of a decade.

The Great Depression had begun.

(4:54) 5 measures after Letter L

Despite the nationwide sense of despair, the 1930s saw Robbinsdale's band develop into a top marching unit.

With the help of drillmaster Leon Chelmosky, the band won the title of State Champion 7 consecutive years and appeared as the featured attraction at the State Fair Grandstand show.

Under directors Miles Sery and Clarence Hegg, the band established its tradition of marching and musical excellence.

(5:24) Letter M

1938 - the Village of Robbinsdale officially becomes incorporated as a city and the band immediately votes to change its name to the Robbinsdale City Band.

Paul Larson becomes the director and continues to develop the band's musical ability.

The band continues to earn awards and honors and is named "The Governor's Own Band" by Governor Harold Stassen.

With membership limited to 50, the competition to get in is stiff.

(5:55) Letter N

In 1940, the first Minneapolis Aquatennial parade marches down Nicollet Avenue.

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The Robbinsdale City Band is there and has been there every year since, the only band to claim that distinction.

The band also continues to perform at dozens of regional festivals and community celebrations.

(6:11) Letter O

In 1947, Bob Mendenhall takes over as director, a post he holds for the next 17 years. During this time, the band continues its winning ways, including 15 consecutive Aquatennial Grand Champion awards.

(6:26) Letter P

In 1964, assistant director Roy Olson becomes the new director, followed by Don Schiermer in 1967. During this time, the band is led on the street by the tall and commanding Drum Major, Mike Sanko.

(6:40) Letter Q

1969 sees another change in the leadership. Roger Thompson, band director at Robbinsdale High School, becomes the new director of the band, holding that position for 22 years.

Foreseeing the booming popularity of all-adult concert bands nationwide,...

(6:55) Letter R

...Thompson splits the band into 2 groups, the marching band, for high school and older and the concert band for post high school adults.

Thompson also expands the band's ambassadorship nationwide, taking the marching band to the El Paso Sun Bowl Parade and Disneyland in '81 and to Washington, Philly and Baltimore in '89.

(7:17) Letter S

For these tours, the band is led on the street by Drum Major, Michael Serber, who joined the band in 1970, became Drum Major in '76, concert band director in '91 and continues in those roles today.

(7:30) Letter T

In 2004, Serber totally revamps the Marching Band, creating a marching combo with a new entertaining style, popular music and fun uniforms.

Throughout its 100-year history, the Robbinsdale City Band has seen lots of changes.

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What hasn't changed, though, is its commitment to serving the community and its tradition of marching and musical excellence.

Segment Time:

9:00

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3:54 Marching Band/Build Me Up, Buttercup

Music:

Marching Band swing-style cadence, band marches in from back of auditorium down the center aisle and up the right steps – **1:00**

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration:

(over swing-style drum cadence)

It's not just community service, the power of music itself, music's ability to evoke emotions and memories, outstanding leadership, audience support, our focus on excellence, our adaptability and the variety of music the band plays that has the band marching into its second century.

It's also the band's creativity and personality.

(just before the marching band reaches the stage)

Presenting ... the popular look and sound of the Robbinsdale City Marching Band ... and check out those shoes!

Lights:

(dim spotlight on John)

Music:

Build Me Up, Buttercup – **1:45**

(When complete...band marches off stage – audience left – funk-style cadence)

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Segment Time:

4:00

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

3:58 VIP Introductions

Audio:

(Doug Andress talking about Aquatennial) – **1:00**

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - :30

Throughout the years, the band has had a special relationship with the Minneapolis Aquatennial.

Since the summer festival began in 1940, the Robbinsdale City Band has marched in every single Aquatennial parade.

Lights:

(turn on house lights)

This year, we're especially proud, since our very own former Miss Robbinsdale, Jessica Gaulke, has been chosen the 2007 Queen of the Lakes.

Please help me welcome home Jessica, accompanied by Aquatennial Commodore, Ted Zweig.

Video:

(live feed of Jessica Gaulke and Ted Zweig standing up and acknowledging applause)

(live feed of John Reger)

Narration: - 2:00

We're proud to be one of the oldest community bands in the state.

We know that this distinction does not happen by accident.

Another key ingredient to our longevity and success is Community Support.

Since Robbinsdale became incorporated as a city in 1938, the band has been largely funded by the City of Robbinsdale, and also, more recently, through the kindness and generosity of our business, civic and individual supporters.

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

We are grateful to the people of the Robbinsdale community for their support over all these years.

Today, we'd like to recognize our city representatives who are in our audience.

Please stand as I call your name.

Video:

(live feed of VIPs standing up and acknowledging applause)

Narration:

Please welcome from the City of Robbinsdale:
Council Member **Bill Blonigan** and his family
Council Member **Dan Rogan**.
City Manager **Marcia Glick**
And Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry, **Russ Fawbush** and his wife

Also please welcome:
State Senator **Ann Rest** and her husband...
New Hope Mayor **Martin Opem** and his wife...
Hennepin County Commissioner, **Mike Opat** and his family
And from the Robbinsdale Historical Society, **Rolland Heywood**...

Thank you all for all of your support.

During the past 100 years, the Robbinsdale City Band has served as goodwill ambassadors for the City of Robbinsdale.

We are very fortunate to have some other goodwill ambassadors to help spread the good word about our community.

The Robbinsdale Ambassadors make appearances all over the state and are always on hand to celebrate special events such as this one.

Video:

(live feed of VIPs standing up and acknowledging applause)

Narration:

Please help me welcome: Miss Robbinsdale, **Gena Norton**, Princess, **Ashley DeMorett**, Princess, **Joohie Han**, and the Junior Ambassadors: **Bryan Huynh**, **Jakar Johnson**, **Abbie LaDuke**, and **Lillee Couture**

Video:

Robbinsdale City Band
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Clock Time

(live feed of Ambassadors standing up and acknowledging applause)

Narration:

And there's one final group of very important people we'd like to recognize today.

These are among the most important VIPs here today – our Robbinsdale City Band Alumni.

Some of these former member live in the area, but many have come from all over the state and all over the country, even as far as Atlanta, Georgia, and Phoenix, Arizona to join us for this weekend's celebrations.

RCB Alumni – please stand and allow us to show you our appreciation.

Video:

(live feed of Alumni standing up and acknowledging applause)

Segment Time:

6:00

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

4:04 Michael Serber/The RCB Centennial March

Lights:

(dim house lights)

Audio:

(Dorothy Hanle talking about fun) – :30

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - :30

In 1970, a 13 year old junior high student, Michael Serber, joined the marching band.

For 6 years, he played trumpet, bass drum and served in the Color Guard.

Then, in 1976, he took over from long-time leader, Mike Sanko, as Drum Major and has served there for the past 30 years.

In 1991, he took over leadership of the concert band when Roger Thompson retired.

Music:

trio of RCB Centennial March - :30

Video:

(live feed of Michael Serber walking to the stage – audience left)

Narration:

(over music)

Under Mr. Serber's leadership, the marching band has continued to entertain audiences and represent the City of Robbinsdale in parades all around the state.

The concert band performs about 20 concerts a year, including appearances at Lake Harriet, Como Park, the Twin Cities Marathon, community parks, and area nursing homes and care centers.

Please help me welcome the current director of the Robbinsdale City Band, Mr. Michael Serber.

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

Narration: - :30

(after applause):

In honor of our Centennial year, Mr. Serber has composed a march especially for the band.

“The RCB Centennial March” celebrates the traditions of the Robbinsdale City Band.

Many of you who have been associated with the band and/or Robbinsdale High School may recognize a familiar phrase or two.

Here, now, is the world premier of “The RCB Centennial March”.

Lights:

(dim spotlight on John)

Music:

The RCB Centennial March – **5:00**

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Segment Time:

8:00

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

4:12 Proclamation/West Side Story

Audio:

(Irene Kaplan talking about focus and concentration and lifelong learning) –
:50

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - 2:00

Today, indeed, is a very special and historic occasion for the Robbinsdale City Band.

This momentous occasion has been recognized by the Governor's Office.

I have here a special proclamation issued by Governor Tim Pawlenty.

It reads:

WHEREAS: Throughout its history, the Robbinsdale City Band has served admirably and with distinction as a musical ambassador for the City of Robbinsdale and for the State of Minnesota through its local and national performances, and

WHEREAS: The Robbinsdale City Band is celebrating its 100th anniversary - a Century of Music, and

WHEREAS: The Robbinsdale City Band is culminating its 100th anniversary festivities with "A Centennial Celebration" concert on Sunday, November 19.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM PAWLENTY, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Sunday, November, 19, 2006, as:

ROBBINSDALE CITY BAND DAY

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this third day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and six, and of the State the one hundred forty-eighth.

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

(after applause)

Narration: :30

What's a Robbinsdale City Band concert without a medley of showtunes?

Our audience members love to listen to music from their favorite musicals.

It's a way we can relive "the good old days" and remember those special people, places and events in our lives.

We hope our next selection will take you back, with music that evokes strong memories and feelings.

Here's Selections from West Side Story.

Lights:

(dim spotlight on John)

Music:

West Side Story Selections – **8:30**

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Segment Time:

12:00

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

4:24 America, The Beautiful

Audio:

(Deb Anderson talking about America, The Beautiful) – :45

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - 1:00

Honoring the traditions developed through our first century has been another key to the band's success.

It's also been the stability of the band itself through uncertain times.

Through wars, depression, turmoil, good times and bad, the band has been there for us all.

Throughout its 100-year history, the band has been a focal point for the community, a rock, a stable presence in an uncertain world, a tangible sign that we're still OK in spite of all the turmoil around us.

And one traditional component of City Band performances throughout its history has been beautiful music to lift our spirits, stir our souls and fill our imagination.

One of the most beautiful musical selections and a true audience favorite is the incomparable Carmen Dragon arrangement of America, The Beautiful.

Lights:

(dim spotlight on John)

Music:

America, The Beautiful – 3:30

Video:

(live feed of the band playing)

Segment Time:

6:00

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

4:30 Happy Birthday

Audio:

(Jim and Sue Weinacht talking about support) – **1:15**

Video:

(pictures of each band member as they tell their story)
(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - :30

The band is not only a community feature but a community itself.

We celebrate special occasions and support each other during life events.

One of our longtime traditions is to play our own unique version of Happy Birthday for our members celebrating their birthdays.

In honor of our 100th birthday, we'd like to share this special version with you.

Please join along, ... if you can.

Music???:

(as birthday cake is rolled out on stage)
Happy Birthday, RCB-style – **1:00**

Video:

(live feed of stagehands rolling the birthday cake out on stage)

(Note: after applause, stagehands look like they are daydreaming)

Narration: - :30

Hey guys...Let's get this cake to the cafeteria for the post-concert reception, on the double.

These things don't cut themselves, you know!

Segment Time:

3:00

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

4:33 Closing/The Stars and Stripes Forever

Video:

(live feed of John Reger)

Lights:

(spotlight on John)

Narration: - 1:45

Something else that doesn't happen by itself is putting together a Centennial Celebration such as this.

The work to organize the concert, put together the Centennial book, arrange last night's alumni banquet, handle the publicity, the memorabilia, the fund-raising, and all the countless other details is the work of a dedicated group of volunteers – people who have unselfishly donated their time and talents to enable everything to run smoothly and efficiently.

Without these wonderful people, none of this would have been possible.

I'd like to have all the members of the Centennial Committee and all the other volunteers stand up and be recognized.

Let's all show them our appreciation.

(after applause)

Some of you may be wondering, "How can I join this great band?"

Actually, it's very easy – if you play a band instrument, just show up for rehearsal and play along with us.

The Concert Band rehearses on Thursday evenings, right here at Robbinsdale Middle School from 7 to 9 o'clock.

The Marching Band rehearses Tuesday evenings starting in April through July, also right here from 7 to 9.

So, exactly what is it that has enabled this band, the Robbinsdale City Band, to thrive through a century of change?

Hopefully, we have discovered today the answers to that important question and at the same time discovered how the band will continue to thrive for another century and beyond.

We have seen today that it's a combination of a lot of different things:

Robbinsdale City Band
A Centennial Celebration – Detailed Concert Script

Clock Time

Community service
The power of music itself
The ability of music to evoke emotions and memories within us
Outstanding leadership
Audience support
Our focus on excellence
Our ability to adapt to a changing world
The variety of music we play
Our unique creativity and personality
Community support
And honoring our tradition

Before we close today's concert, I'd like to invite all of you to a special reception in the cafeteria honoring the band.

I'd also like to invite you take advantage of the opportunity to take home a piece of the Robbinsdale City Band by visiting our memorabilia table.

And I'd like to remind you of our special Centennial book, "Our Whiz Bang Century", full of stories and pictures and also of our commemorative CD with music of today's concert, including Shelley Hanson's "Whiz Bang" and "The RCB Centennial March".

And now, as we resolutely head into our second century, we'd like to honor our past

Lights:

(turn on house lights)

We invite all of our alumni, many of whom have traveled hundreds of miles just to take part in our celebration this weekend, to join with us as we perform John Philip Sousa's immortal, Stars and Stripes Forever.

Video:

(live feed of band performing)

Music:

The Stars and Stripes Forever – **3:45**

Video:

(at Grandioso - fireworks)

Segment Time:

7:00

Robbinsdale City Band
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Clock Time

Note: flag drop at the Grandioso

All former directors and John Reger come out on stage for curtain call

4:40 Concert Ends/Reception