

## THE LONDON NEW YEAR'S DAY PARADE

London's New Year's Day Parade is supported by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and boasts a list of active patrons and supporters including the Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, The Prime Minister of Great Britain and the Lord Mayor of the City of Westminster. The New Year's Day Parade is the largest event of its kind on the world with over 8000 participants performing for a street audience of well over half a million people and a worldwide television audience approaching three hundred million.

The first New Year's Day Parade in London was on January 1st 1987, and it was called 'The Lord Mayor of Westminster's Big Parade'. The event featured about 2,000 performers, mostly marching bands, and meandered its way from Berkeley Street to Portland Place via Piccadilly Circus, Regent Street, and Oxford's Circus. London had not seen anything like it before, and did not really quite know what to make of it. The hundred thousand or so spectators, though a bit puzzled, certainly seemed to enjoy themselves. Not surprising really when you consider that pre 1987 London on January 1st was a pretty gloomy place. If the shops opened it was only for half a day, most restaurants did not bother to open at all, and even many of the theatres could not see much point in presenting a performance.

By 1994 the Parade had become so big, so important, and so popular to London that the City of Westminster gave up sole ownership of the event, and it became truly 'London's New Year's Day Parade and Festival' with all of London's Boroughs taking an active role in the event. To mark the arrival of all of London's Boroughs into the Parade the 1994 event featured no fewer than 32 horse drawn carriages each one dedicated to the Mayor of a London Borough with, of course, a special one for the Lord Mayor of Westminster! With all of London's Boroughs involved, and the huge international participation burgeoning 'London's New Year's Day Parade' went from strength to strength. In 1996 by combining all of the musicians in the Parade we narrowly missed out on joining the Guinness Book of Records for having the largest marching band ever recorded. There has always been a charity element associated with the Parade, but it really took off with the creation of 'The Let's Help London Challenge', in 1996, when all of London's Boroughs entering into the Parade started to compete for a more than worthwhile charity prize fund.

To date 'London's New Year's Day Parade and Festival' has raised or donated more than one and a half million pounds to London charities. Understandably audience figures for the event went through the roof for the Millennium Parade. This is the only Parade so far that has actually started a little late — all the fault of Prime Minister Blair who suddenly decided that he did not want to miss the greatest show in town!

London's New Year's Day Parade' now regularly attracts a worldwide TV audience, a terrific audience on the streets of London, and boasts twice as many participants as Macy's in New York City on Thanksgiving Day!



## THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA PANTHER MARCHING BAND

A FORMAL VISIT WITH  
THE LORD MAYOR  
OF THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER,  
COUNCILLOR DUNCAN SANDYS

CEDAR FALLS, IOWA



# SPECIAL GUESTS

The Lord Mayor of The City of Westminster - The Right Worshipful Cllr. Duncan Sandys  
Mr. Robert C. Bone - Executive Director - The London Parade Festival

President William Ruud — President, University of Northern Iowa  
Dr. Gloria Gibson — Provost, University of Northern Iowa  
Dean Joel Haack — Dean, College of Humanities, Arts, and Sciences  
Dr. John Vallentine — Director, School of Music  
Dr. Danny Galyen — Director, UNI Panther Marching Band  
Honorable Jon Crews — Mayor of Cedar Falls  
Dr. Patricia Geadelmann — Assistant to the President for Board and Governmental Relations

## PROGRAM

Welcome and Introduction of Special Guests - Dr. John Vallentine

Playing of the National Anthems of Great Britain and the United States  
University of Northern Iowa Symphonic Band

Introduction of Mr. Robert Bone and Cllr. Duncan Sandys - Dr. Danny Galyen

Mr. Robert Bone, Executive Director, London's New Year's Day Parade  
and Festival

The Lord Mayor of The City of Westminster - The Right Worshipful Cllr.  
Duncan Sandys

Presentation of the Invitation

Introduction of President William Ruud - Dr. Danny Galyen

President William Ruud

Reception, GBPAC lobby

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA PANTHER MARCHING BAND - THE PRIDE OF PANTHER NATION -

The University of Northern Iowa Panther Marching Band is the largest student organization on campus, and is currently the largest band in university history with 280 members, after experiencing 6 straight years of growth in enrollment. The students of the Panther Marching Band come from 79 different majors on campus and perform five energetic field shows each season for audiences in the UNI Dome and across the region. With a history beginning in 1892, the band's tradition of excellence has spanned 122 years and generations of dedicated band members to make the UNI Band one of the most exciting bands in the Midwestern United States.

