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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**26th North Carolina Regimental Band concert at Pamplin Historical Park
Saturday, June 20, 2009, 2:00 pm**

The 26th North Carolina Regimental Band will present a public performance at Pamplin Historical Park at 2:00 pm on Saturday, June 20, 2009. This program offers music lovers and Civil War history aficionados a unique opportunity to hear music that was actually played by the original 26th NC Regimental Band in this very area during the Petersburg campaign, performed on original instruments of the era, and interspersed with narration taken from actual personal diaries and letters of the original bandmen.

This special concert by the 26th NC Regimental Band is included in the regular admission fee to the Park. The concert is being offered in conjunction with the National Civil War Field Music School being held at the Park the weekend of June 19-21. Demonstrations of Civil War era military drill and skirmish tactics will also be presented at 1:00 and 3:00 pm on Saturday, and the closing ceremony and dress parade at 1:00 pm on Sunday, June 21 is also open to the public.

For more information about the 26th North Carolina Regimental Band concert, the infantry demonstrations, or the National Civil War Field Music School, please visit www.nationalcivilwarfieldmusicschool.com. For more information about Pamplin Historical Park, please visit www.pamplinpark.org.

The 26th NC Regimental Band recreates the music and the story of the original 26th NC Regimental Band who enlisted from Salem, NC in 1862 and served until the end of the Civil War in April 1865. Concerts by the 26th NC Regimental Band include narration taken from the personal diaries and letters of the original bandmen, telling the story of the band and its famous regiment throughout the war, including the Gettysburg and Petersburg campaigns and Lee's retreat towards Appomattox. The instruments used by the 26th NC Regimental Band are originals dating to the mid 19th century, and music is taken from the original band books of the 26th NC band, the only complete set of Confederate band books known to have survived.

Reproduction uniforms worn by the 26th NC Regimental Band are meticulously based on the only known photograph of the band during the War, taken in July, 1862, using contemporary descriptions of the band and museum examples of original Confederate uniforms as additional references. Uniforms are custom built for the band out of jean cloth fabric produced by Ben Tart of North Carolina using natural vegetable dyes and actual recipes from the Fries Mill of Salem, where the band's original fabric was produced in 1862.

The 26th NC Regimental Band operates under the auspices of **The National Association for Civil War Brass Music, Inc.**, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization which presents the music and the instruments of American brass bands of the mid-19th century, particularly military bands and bugles of the Civil War, for the purpose of educating the general public and furthering public awareness and understanding of this important part of our American cultural heritage.

Band members include professional and volunteer musicians, music educators, historians and re-enactors, and collectively represent some of the finest brass and percussion players in the Civil War and historic brass music field today. Members travel from Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Florida, and Kentucky as well as from the greater Baltimore/Washington area to rehearse and perform. The band also performs as The Federal City Brass Band, presenting the sound and appearance of a regular US Army regimental brass band of the 1860s.

Past performances by the Federal City Brass Band/26th NC Regimental Band have included the Smithsonian Museum of American History, Ford's Theatre, Library of Congress, Kennedy Center, Historic Brass Society, Vintage Band Music Festival, North Carolina Museum of History, American Bandmasters Association, Moravian Music Festival, Army Heritage Museum, Maryland Early Brass Festival, National Civil War Band Festival, Great American Brass Band Festival, New Bern (NC) Historical Society, MD Dept. of Tourism, Old Salem (NC), several National Park Service battlefield sites, battle re-enactments, living history programs, balls, preservation efforts, church services, school programs, parades, ceremonies, documentary films, and two period wedding ceremonies.

Pride of the Regiment, the first CD by the Federal City Brass Band/26th NC Regimental Band, was released in 2003. A second CD, *Better Than Rations or Medicine*, was released in 2006. A third album will be released in fall 2009 and will feature music of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War, in commemoration of the Lincoln Bicentennial. The band has also recorded selections for a Civil War album by Douglas Jimerson and for the 2008 CD *Remembering Carlisle Barracks: A Musical and Pictorial Journey* through the 250 year history of Carlisle Barracks. More information and a complete schedule of upcoming performances can be found at www.nationalcivilwarbrassmusic.org.

CONTACT

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