



ACTIVITIES & PURPOSE OF THE APOL

The year 2009 marks the 31st Anniversary of the Association of Professional Orchestra Leaders. Founded as a Not-For-Profit Corporation in 1978, its membership—whose musical groups are heard annually at hundreds of social, corporate, and charity events—includes some of Chicagoland's most prominent and successful band and orchestra leaders. Guided by the APOL Code of Ethics and Professional Standards, the organization encourages the highest values of professionalism and musical excellence.

The APOL's monthly meetings serve as forums for the free exchange of matters of mutual concern to its members, including; music and musicianship, business practices, client and employee relations, sales and marketing, and new technology. A mix of ethnic luncheon venues adds to the variety of these meetings.

The organization strives to educate the public and businesses as to the value of live musical entertainment. The APOL booklet, *How To Hire The Perfect Musical Group*, is available to the public free of charge. It includes *Ten Tips for a Musically Exceptional Affair* and the APOL Code of Ethics and Professional Standards.

In 1998 the APOL established its Musical Scholarship Fund. Each year, a committee attempts to select one or more qualified college or high school senior music students (budget permitting) to receive an unrestricted cash award of \$1,000 (to be paid in two, \$500 installments over two years).

Each year the APOL hosts an elegant spring dinner dance that is open to its members, the musical community and the general public. Past events have featured the big bands of Glenn Miller, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Maynard Ferguson, Woody Herman, Count Basie, Les Elgart and Harry James. Occasional music-based cultural outings and an annual St. Pat's corned beef and cabbage luncheon add to the variety of our social outings.