

**PRESS RELEASE
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Popular Czech Bands of the Past To Be Honored
Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center 2011 Gala
NOVEMBER 12, 2011

You are invited to honor popular Czech Bands of the Past at the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center 2011 Gala to be held on November 12, 2011, in the Fair Pavilion in LaGrange, Texas.

An exciting evening is planned with special guest, Petr Gandalovic, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States. "We are very pleased and honored to have the newly appointed Czech Ambassador as our guest and we will do our best to show him a Texas welcome", said Honorary Consul General of the Czech Republic for the state of Texas, Raymond Snokhous of West.

Lovers of polka, waltz, and country music remember the many Texas Czech Bands that shared their talents and played their particular style of music to appreciative listening and dancing audiences. Dances on Saturday nights in the community wooden halls such as the Fair Pavilion were gathering places for the whole family. Many of these bands have disbanded or retired, however a new generation of musicians is continuing the tradition. Not to forget the bands of the past, this year TCHCC will honor four of those bands. They are the Henry Brosch Orchestra, the Lee Roy Matocha Orchestra, Johnny Mensik and the Playboys, and the Frank Migl Orchestra.

Music during the evening will be provided by young talented musicians and members of currently popular Czech Bands who have taken up the call to play for the current generation. They are David Slovak, who plays with “Czech and Then Some of Ennis”; Andy Mikula of Ennis and Mike Marek of Cameron. Both play with the “Jodie Mikula Orchestra” also of Ennis.

“Sharing traditions and telling the history to each new generation is a goal of TCHCC”, said Bill Schovajsa, 2011 Gala chairman and TCHCC Board Member. This gala is a very important moment in TCHCC history. It marks the beginning of a three-year funding effort toward establishing a permanent endowment fund for the Center. TCHCC strives to preserve the traditions and artifacts of the early settlers to Texas

TCHCC is located on Hwy 77 North of La Grange, Texas. The statewide Czech Center campus contains the main TCHCC building with a library, a museum, and a banquet hall, the Texas Czech Music Museum, the TCHCC amphitheater and restored houses and buildings.

For more information, contact TCHCC at 1-888-785-4500 or view the website WWW.CZECHTEXAS.ORG.