

# THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "SUMMER OF LOVE" 2007 PROCLAMATION

There are moments in time when a word or thought has such power it changes history; a generation so involved in the moment it becomes unstoppable; a spiritual awaking so profound that its very conception shatters perceptions, halts the world and makes people from all nations take notice.

It began with a simple four letter word – LOVE! - In the 1960's this word became synonymous with a generation and a city called San Francisco. It was a concept, a belief deep in the hearts of all who were there (and those who wished they were). It began with Ken Kesey, the Merry Pranksters and their bus "Furthur", Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, and the "Beat Generation". They gathered in places like, North Beach, Haight Ashbury, Palo Alto, Berkeley, Seattle, Portland, New York, and L.A. These pockets of anti-social, anti-establishment individuals questioned authority and their surroundings while searching for the real meaning of life and the deeper truths. These small communities of like-minded individuals and "families" of communal creativity focused on poetry, art, folk music, jazz, and rock'n roll, demanding to be free of societal restrictions, restraints and hang-up's.

Then one summer it happened! "We Were Everywhere". The pureness of thought exploded exponentially and there were now millions of us. This event, this historical moment which included most of 1967, became known as the "SUMMER OF LOVE".

During this period the Peace Movement was born with the "Human Be-Ins" in San Francisco and then the "Love-Ins" in New York. Anti-war demonstrations occurred everywhere and college campuses erupted with thousands of people refusing the draft. This startled the government; presidents were impeached, wars were stopped, and an entire generation stood up and said "Hell No".

Social change was occurring and continued on multiple levels. Out of this orderly chaos came the "Movements": The Free Speech Movement, Free Love Movement, the Farm Workers Movement, the Women's Movement, the Gay Rights Movement, the Environmental Movement, the Ecology Movement, the Animal Rights Movement, the Sexual Revolution, the Spiritual Movement, the Student Movements, the Civil Rights Movement and the Anti-War Movement.

The message was clear the world was uniting behind one principle and one thought– LOVE! and its affirmation of PEACE, COMPASSION, and UNDERSTANDING. The word was brought forth by musicians such as Peter Paul and Mary, The Mamas and the Papas, Donovan, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, the Grateful Dead, and Jefferson Airplane and then carried on by many of the English musicians like Eric Clapton, the Beatles and the Rolling Stones.

Because of this free thinking environment a renaissance of gifted genius' occurred with the likes of John Coltrane, Miles Davis, Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Jim Morrison. New concepts and inventions touched every segment of society. The transistor, the calculator, the computer and the internet all had their inception in the 1960's. A whole new creative sector of the economy developed within, took hold and became Silicon Valley. The international community was in awe of this explosion of creativity, even Olympic athletes showed their solidarity by uniting with the winds of change. All this started with a simple word, a simple thought – LOVE! and a generation of free thinking people willing to stand up and be counted and their willingness to be different.

**This period of change is commemorated by celebrating the  
"SUMMER OF LOVE"**

It stands for:

Truth and individual freedom. Freedom of expression.  
Freedom for an individual to make a choice - sexually, spiritually and socially.  
Our rights to be different and still belong.  
Honor in refusing to fight without judging those who did.  
Creativity, love and respect for all things. Our right to make a difference.  
Our right to think independently. Our willingness to share with others.

In 2007 The 40th Anniversary of the SUMMER OF LOVE will be celebrated with a  
FREE concert in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, Sunday 10am to 6pm  
(September 2, 2007).

All are welcome to attend and be involved.

For information 415-861-1520,

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