



Composer Performer Historian  
**WILLIAM ZEITLER**  
Presents the Glass Armonica

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## For Immediate Release-

### February 21, 2007

On Monday, February 19, 2007, after **approval by the National Committee**, William Zeitler, classically trained musician, historian and the only full-time player of **Benjamin Franklin's** rare Glass Armonica, was presented with the **DAR Medal of Honor** from the Mojave Chapter for his commitment and efforts to bring back the heritage contained in this endangered instrument. California State Regent, Anne Lampman and the State Americanism Chairman, Kathryn McCall, presented William with the Medal and Certificate on behalf of the **N.S.D.A.R.**



The Glass Armonica is an ethereal sounding instrument consisting of 44 glass bowls turning on a motor-driven spindle. It was invented by Benjamin Franklin in 1761. It had nearly disappeared from the music world before Mr. Zeitler took on the job of resurrecting this beautiful instrument.

His book on the history of the Glass Armonica will be released this year and will be the only book in English on the subject. The compilation of research will make it the authoritative resource for information regarding the history of the Glass Armonica, Benjamin Franklin, and the people surrounding it.



William Zeitler earned his music degree from the California Institute of the Arts. After six years of developing a modern process, his company, Glassical Music, will begin production of new instruments in 2007 allowing William Zeitler to increase public awareness through performances and educational programs.

William appeared last year at the Annual Tea for the Mojave Chapter to honor the winners of the American History Essay Contest, at the District Twelve Meeting last May, and most recently at the Christmas Tea for the El Camino Real Chapter in San Jose, CA.

William's educational concert presentation and lecture regarding this rare historic instrument creates an experience that helps us to relive our ancestry through Dr. Franklin, and speaks of his influence on our present day. The presentation includes compositions by Mozart, Beethoven and Tchaikovsky for the Glass Armonica. William Zeitler plays at a virtuoso level He has composed and recorded extensively for the Armonica and his original music, like the instrument itself, has a joyous and magical quality.

Keith Richmond, Manager

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