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**WANTED: ENGAGED MILITARY COUPLES TO WED AT
2008 HAWAII ROMANCE FESTIVAL**

****Couples To Be Part of *Back To Romance* Concert at Waikiki Shell, May 9****

HONOLULU (February 27, 2008) – Are you a U.S. Army soldier that’s engaged and ready to be “married strong?” Or a sailor stationed at Pearl Harbor ready to “experience the adventure of a lifetime” with the love of your life? Or maybe a U.S. Marine who’s ready to become one of “the few, the proud, the married.” Then the 2008 Hawaii Romance Festival wants you!

The Matt Catingub Orchestra of Hawaii is looking for a few good military couples to wed during the 2008 Hawaii Romance Festival. As part of the *Back To Romance* concert at the Waikiki Shell on Friday, May 9, one engaged couple from each military branch – U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, and U.S. Coast Guard – will be selected to get married on stage in front of the audience.

“Our military service men and women dedicate their lives to protecting our country; and since the Hawaii Romance Festival is taking place during May, which is Military Appreciation Month, we wanted to create a special event that paid tribute to romance in our armed services,” said Allen Sviridoff, founding partner of the Hawaii Romance Festival. “What could be more romantic than a wedding to remember?”

As part of their *Back to Romance* wedding, couples will receive one night’s hotel accommodations in Waikiki; private car service to and from the concert; on-stage wedding ceremony; flowers, photography and video for the ceremony; preferred seating during the concert; and a champagne breakfast in their room the following morning. In addition, the Matt Catingub Orchestra of Hawaii will serenade the couples on stage with special music arranged by the maestro just for this occasion.

To be considered, couples should submit their love stories, in 300 words or less, describing their military romance. At least one member of the couple must be an active military member stationed in Hawaii. One entry per couple. Entries will be received through April 11. Stories can be submitted via email to teambecker@beckercommunications.com or faxed to (808) 537-4990.

(more)

A select panel of judges, including Matt Catingub, will choose one couple from each of the 5 military branches to be a part of this special evening. Judging will be based on the romantic appeal of their love story. Winning couples must be available to attend the ceremony on May 9, 2008.

The *Back to Romance* concert will feature the legendary and incomparable icon of Motown: Mr. **Smokey Robinson**, who is returning to Hawaii for the first time in two decades. This poetically romantic evening will also celebrate Hawaii's best selling **Matt Catingub Orchestra of Hawaii's *Back To Romance* CD**, which features some of the greatest male vocalists from Hawaii. Joining **Maestro Matt Catingub** on stage will be: **Robert Cazimero; Cecilio & Kaponu; Eric Gilliom; Nathan Aweau** and **Barry Flanagan of HAPA; Kaukahi; Afatia**; – with more to come – for an unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime music experience.

The Hawaii Romance Festival is hosted by the Matt Catingub Orchestra of Hawaii and is sponsored in part by: Starwood Hotels & Resorts, the official hotel provider of the Hawaii Romance Festival; the Hawaii Tourism Authority; Hawaiian Electric Company; Pleasant Holidays; The House of Harry Winston; `Iolani Palace; KGMB-TV; and Paul Brown Salon & Spa. For more information about the 2008 Hawaii Romance Festival, visit www.HawaiiRomanceFestival.com.

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