

Louisville, KY - Seven years ago today our nation suffered one of its greatest tragedies. Many attendees of the 2008 National Quartet Convention are in the same location as they were on that dreadful Tuesday in 2001. When all national programming was interrupted by special news reports indicating that a plane had struck one of the Twin Towers in New York, the days musical festivities were about to begin.

Since that historical day seven years ago, the National Quartet Convention, just like our entire nation, has experienced lots of change. That year the NQC was experiencing one of its biggest ever; however, over the past seven years, the Convention, like so many other events, has struggled to reach the attendance figures it enjoyed prior to 9/11; however, fortunately, NQC organizers have announced that advance sales for this years event, coupled with this weeks ticket purchases and an all-time record setting year in the exposition will possibly make this years event the best attended since 9/11.

The most well attended of the afternoon showcases will take place at noon on Thursday in Freedom Hall, as Gospel Musics legendary singer/songwriter and Hall of Fame member, Bill Gaither and his popular quartet, The Gaither Vocal Band (pictured in attached jpg), along with multi-award winning quartet, Ernie Haase & Signature Sound will be featured in the Together Showcase event in Freedom Hall. This performance marks one of only two for these two popular quartet at this years NQC. Both will also be featured during Friday nights concert event in Freedom Hall. In addition to the much anticipated Together Showecase, several of bluegrass Gospel musics most talented recording artists will be featured also on Thursday afternoon at the Bluegrass Pickin Showcase, followed by the Dino Extravaganza , featuring one of Americas premier pianist, Dino Kartsonakis. Tickets are still available for these exciting musical showcase events and may be purchased at the Kentucky Fair & Expo Center.

Thursday nights concert line-up will include performances by nearly 20 of Southern Gospel Musics most popular names, as well as a brief guest appearance by one of the nations premier speakers, Dr David Jeremiah. Jeremiah serves as Senior Pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, CA, and his radio program is heard on stations worldwide through his Turning Point Ministries. Another special highlight to Thursday nights concert in Freedom Hall will be the appearance of Louisvilles own Patrick Henry Hughes. A member of the University of Louisville Music Marching and Pep Bands, Hughes was born without eyes and without the ability to fully straighten his arms and legs, making him unable to walk. Despite unfathomable circumstances, Hughes overcame many physical adversities and has excelled as a musician and student, appearing on ABCs Extreame Make Over Home Addition and ESPN.

Tickets for Thursday nights event may be purchased at Freedom Hall. A complete schedule of the activities taking place through Saturday evening, as well as a complete line-up of talent is available online at www.natqc.com .