**Media Alert**

**The Hamilton Arts Foundation of Marin is celebrating Hamilton Field’s 94th Birthday!   
February 18, 2023 noon-2pm**

**WHAT: Roaring 20’s Party.** Fun for the Whole Family. Join in the Roaring 20’s Celebration of Hamilton Field’s 94th birthday on February 18, 2023, Saturday, from noon-2 pm-ish. Enjoy swing / big band sounds, games, birthday cake and lemon-lime soda to honor this exciting day. This iconic moment is the reason we have our Hamilton homes and the Hamilton Theater in this amazing neighborhood!

**WHEN:** February 18, 2023, Saturday, noon-2pm

**WHERE:** Hamilton Field Museum, 555 Hangar Ave, Novato, CA 94949.

**HOW:** All are welcome to join in the celebration. Complimentary Cake & Lemon-Lime Soda

**DID YOU KNOW?:** 1929: The Howdy Company debuted its new drink "Bib-Label Lithiated Lemon-Lime Sodas" (later renamed 7•up). Sheet music, hot chocolate, and cookies will be shared with everyone at the Hamilton Field Museum stop over.

**THE BACK STORY:** On February 20, 1929, Lt.Col. Brant, Commander of Crissy Air Field in San Francisco, made a survey of three possible sites for a new airfield in Marin County. (Crissy Field suffered from poor weather conditions.) One week later, a squadron of five planes from Crissy Field landed at Marin Meadows (now our Hamilton Field).

**WHY THIS MATTERS:** Our vision is to save the historic Hamilton Theater, restoring this classic 1930s 320 seat Spanish Revival gem to its original splendor. The restored Hamilton Theater will become home to live music, live theater, as well as cinema and is the centerpiece of a new music & arts center vision. We plan to expand our efforts by rebuilding the historic Hamilton NCO building as well to create a new place to share artistic ideas and history as building an experiential music museum. The ground floor will be a music showcase and coffee shop, gift shop, sound booths, and hall of fame dedicated to Marin’s long history of musical innovation. The second story may include archival storage, recording studios, meeting rooms, and offices. In the tradition of the old NCO Club, this will be a great place for music and art appreciation, education and collaboration.

**FEATURED SINGERS:** Pending swing/big band performer details.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSOR & KEY VOLUNTEERS FOR THIS EVENT:  
Ray Dwelly and The Novato Historic Guild**: The Novato Historical Guild is a membership nonprofit organization founded in 1976.

Mission: To collect, preserve and make reasonably available to the public exhibits and information related to the history of the Novato area.

The focus is on the greater Novato area from the land grant days of the early 1800’s to the present. The Marin Museum of the American Indian in Novato focuses on the history of the Coast Miwoks.

Guild volunteers staff and support the Novato History Museum and the Hamilton Field History Museum in a partnership agreement with the City of Novato: the City owns the museum buildings and the historical collections, and the Guild ensures that the Museums are open to the public for educational exhibits and historical research.

**ABOUT THE EFFORT TO SAVE HAMILTON THEATER:**  
This a *PASSION* project to preserve and grow the historic Hamilton Music & Arts Town Center, by building up its music and arts roots as well as adding to it. Tap the original intended use by the early inhabitants of the Hamilton Air Force Base occupation as well as bring expanded perspective.

The Hamilton Theater is an original structure, erected at the beginning of Hamilton Field’s pre-World War II development. The Theater was in operation as late as 1994 and has a newer cinema screen. The building itself has become the symbol of the new Hamilton Field community, part of Novato, California, about 25 miles north of the Golden Gate Bridge.

Built in 1938, the Hamilton Theater is a charming, 320-seat, Spanish-styled Theater that served the armed forces that were stationed at Hamilton Field. The Theatre building has cast-in-place Churrigueresque concrete medallion serving as attic vent - and is a very unique design effect to this structure, and other buildings in the Hamilton Field area. Churrigueresque refers to a [Spanish Baroque](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_Baroque_architecture) style of elaborate sculptural [architectural ornament](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ornament_(architecture)) which emerged as a manner of [stucco](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stucco) decoration in [Spain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spain) in the late 17th century and was used up to about 1750, marked by extreme, expressive and florid decorative detailing, normally found above the entrance on the main facade of a building.

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**LEARN MORE:** www.savehamiltontheater.org/bday

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