

Frank Mancini

2009

Modesto HS

California

Frank Mancini (1886-1964) studied the clarinet while growing up in Italy. He came to the United States in 1907 to play as a soloist with Ellery's Royal Italian Band. Between 1908 and 1915, he played with both Sousa's and Conway's bands, as well as numerous opera companies. Mancini settled in Modesto, California in 1921 to lead the Stanislaus County Boys Band.

He became an important educator and conductor in the area for the next four decades, directing the band programs in the Modesto Public Schools and Modesto Junior College. His bands won many awards, and Mancini was very active as a guest conductor and adjudicator. Mancini was elected into ABA in 1940 at the convention in Hagerstown, MD.

Mancini had a close relationship with the community of Modesto. In their wills, Mancini and his wife left cash, stocks, and other investments for a considerable music scholarship fund for music students at Modesto High School. They also left their 23-acre ranch to the City of Modesto, later dedicated Mancini Park.

**Life Chronology:**

1886	Born in Serramonacesca, Italy
1898-1906	Music studies in Italy
1907-1909	Comes to U.S., plays with Ellery's Band
1908-1915	Plays with professional bands
1911-1915	Plays for numerous opera companies
1915	Comes to San Francisco with Sousa for Panama-Pacific Exposition

1915-1921 Plays with many ensembles in and around San Francisco  
1921 Settles in Modesto  
1921 Begins direction of Stanislaus County Boys Band  
1922 Appointed Director of Instrumental Music at Modesto HS  
1923 Wins first state band championship  
1927 Appointed Director of Modesto Jr. Coll. Band and Orch.  
1930 Named Director of Modesto Symphony Orchestra  
1940 Elected into membership of the ABA  
1964 Died in Modesto, California