

DETROIT CONCERT BAND, INC.

Dr. LEONARD B. SMITH, Music Director

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June 18, 1974

Ruth Alford Bottoms
2619 No. Pocomoke
Arlington, Va. 22207

Helen Rowe
Director of Public Relations

Dear Ms. Bottoms:

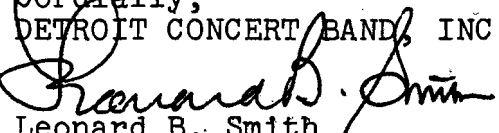
I have tried, without success, to locate the data about your late father, Harry L. Alford, which I would very much like to have. I would like to use it in the published programs of the Detroit Concert Band inasmuch as I am featuring a number of his fine compositions.

There is nothing available in the ASCAP files which I have, nor at the Detroit Public Library. I cannot find anything on any of the music which is of help to me. I have just called my friend Neil Kjos in Chicago and they have no information, other than your address which they kindly gave me.

I knew Mr. Alford in the 30's and admired him very much. I have a number of his fine marches and play them frequently. I should like to have facts about where and when he was born, his musical background and other accomplishments. I know, for example that he died in 1939, was active in all the various Masonic orders, Commandery, Jesters etc. I know that he wrote much of the musical arrangements for vaudeville acts for years.

As a further thought, you might want to prepare a brief summary for me, but it would be my suggestion that you prepare a more detailed story and submit it to a musical trade publication. Certainly, his talents and abilities should be a part of the musical American heritage and should be brought to the attention of all musicians especially.

I will wait to hear from you further. Thank you.

Cordially,
DETROIT CONCERT BAND, INC.

Leonard B. Smith
Music Director

LBS:mlh

* I might be able to assist you in getting it published