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16 PAGES

THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2012 ♦ PACIFIC PALISADES, CALIFORNIA

75¢

## Donovan and Randy Open the Concert

By SUE PASCOE  
Staff Writer

The acoustic duo of Donovan Lyman and Randy Coleman has been described as a melodic and harmonic treat for the senses.

"We chose Donovan and Randy because they are the best," said Fourth of July concert organizer Keith Turner. "I have seen Donovan perform, including in the Palisades, and I know he has the talent to put on a great show.

"Randy has an even stronger Palisades connection because he grew up here and attended St. Matthew's," Turner said. "Many opening acts that contacted us did not have a Palisades' connection, which is a requirement to perform."

Turner also felt that an acoustic guitar duo would be a nice contrast between the Palisades High Concert Band and The English Beat.

For their July 4 pre-fireworks performance, Donovan and Randy will be playing music of the Beatles, the Everly Brothers and Simon and Garfunkel, plus a few original tunes.

As acoustic artists, Donovan and Randy have performed more than 2,000 shows at nearly every notable venue in Los Angeles, cities across the United States and in Japan, the UK, Rome and Paris.

They have performed both



*Randy Coleman (left) and Donovan Lyman will perform at 7:15 p.m. at the pre-fireworks concert at Palisades High.*

as headliners and in support of bands such as Styx, The Cult, Def Leppard, The Wallflowers, Bryan Adams, Stone Temple Pilots, The Smithereens, The Fixx, Missing Persons and The English Beat.

Coleman has one of those rare, inimitable high-pitched tenor voices that keeps him in demand in the industry. He was the longtime front man

(singer/songwriter) for Zoo Story and has opened for The Who at the Hollywood Bowl. His music and talent has been compared to Freddie Mercury, Otis Redding and Jeff Buckley.

His original music has been featured in the movies "Crash" and "Dragonfly" and on the television series "Scrubs."

Lyman, who has a raspy

baritone, has been the front man for celebrated rock band Blue Meridian for 18 years. The band released its sixth studio album "Skint & Shattered" in December.

He will begin work on his second solo album this fall, and his rock style has been compared to early Neil Diamond, Eddie Vedder of Pearl Jam and Glen Phillips of Toad The Wet Sprocket.