

## **Michael Franti – Press Release for Universal Smile Award.**

On Saturday, Oct. 11, 2014, Bay Area musician and Do It For the Love Foundation Founder Michael Franti will receive the Universal Smile Award by Operation Smile, at the San Francisco Operation Smile Gala at the Marines' Memorial Club & Hotel in San Francisco. Shab Farzaneh and Shirin Gonili will co-chair and Lisa Lori, Founders' Circle member, will serve as honorary chair. Liam Mayclem Host of CBS 5TV's Eye on the Bay will serve as the evening's emcee. After accepting the award, Michael Franti will also perform an exclusive short acoustic set to guests there at the Gala.

Michael Franti along with E.R. nurse Sara Agah started the Do It For The Love Foundation in April 2013 with the mission to inspire joy, hope, and lasting powerful, family-centered memories through the healing power of music. The Foundation grants live concert music wishes for people living with life-threatening illnesses, children with severe challenges, and wounded veterans. Altogether the Do It For The Love Foundation has fulfilled more than 175 wish grants with most of them being meet-and-greet experiences and have even included such big-name artists as Beyonce, Jay-Z, and Pink.

Operation Smile is an international children's medical charity, which provides free surgeries for children worldwide suffering from facial deformities - healing their smiles and transforming their lives. The Universal Smile Award recognizes individuals who exemplify an extraordinary commitment to helping others in need who are facing medical challenges. "We are proud to present the Universal Smile Award to Michael Franti in recognition of his foundation's work to better the lives of others through the healing power of music," said Operation Smile Co-Founder, Kathy Magee who will be presenting the award to him.

The location of the Marines' Memorial Club & Hotel is at 609 Sutter Street in San Francisco. The event starts at 6:30 p.m. and tickets cost \$150. For more information on this event, please visit [www.operationssmile.org/sfgala](http://www.operationssmile.org/sfgala). There will also be a live auction during the event to help raise money to provide life-changing surgeries for children located all around the world. For \$240, a child will receive a smile surgery, and both the donor and an Operation Smile patient will receive one of the Three Little Bears ([www.operationssmile.org/bears](http://www.operationssmile.org/bears)), named after Lisa Lori's three sons. For more information on Operation Smile, please visit <http://www.operationssmile.org/>. For information on Do It For The Love Foundation visit [www.doitfortheLove.org](http://www.doitfortheLove.org).