

**San Francisco Music Box**

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**GREAT AMERICAN GROUP COMMENCES STORE CLOSINGS  
FOR**

**SAN FRANCISCO MUSIC BOX**

CHICAGO, IL – June 17, 2003 – **Great American Group**, one of the nation's leading asset management firms, has launched store-closing sales for more than 90 **San Francisco Music Box** stores across the country.

**Details:**

In a partnership created to sustain San Francisco Music Box as one of America's best-known and best-loved giftware brands, Great American Group has teamed up with **Calendar Club LLC**, in a global acquisition of SFMB's assets. Calendar Club, a division of Barnes & Noble, Inc. and a leading seasonal retailer in five countries, intends to continue operating SFMB stores-- both on a permanent basis and during the Christmas season; SFMB's Internet site, <http://www.sfmusicbox.com>; and its wholesale business, which sells to more than 1500 independent gift stores throughout the country.

The sale began Friday, June 13, 2003 and is expected to run over the next few weeks. An estimated \$15 million of inventory will be liquidated during the sale period. Customers will be able to take advantage of great discounts off music boxes, porcelain musical gifts, and an array of musical collectibles.

"We are extremely pleased that Great American Group and Calendar Club have come together to help San Francisco Music Box continue as a going concern. The extensive knowledge and experience Great American Group has in performing retail liquidation sales will ensure maximum results," stated Brian Yellen, Vice President of Great American Group.

Great American Group provides financial services to North America's most successful retailers, distributors, and manufacturers. Their well-established services center on turning excess assets into immediate cash through strategic store closings and wholesale and industrial liquidations and auctions. In the past several years, they have converted over \$16 billion of problem inventories into cash. With over 30 years of liquidation experience, Great American Group has successfully completed over 1,000 transactions. Headquartered in Los Angeles, Great American Group also has offices in

Chicago, Boston, New York, and Atlanta. For more information, please visit the Great American Group website at <http://www.greatamerican.com> or call Sandy Feldman at 1-800-85-GREAT.