

Sax Quartet Bio
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The United States Army Field Band

The Musical Ambassadors of the Army
Washington, DC

THE U.S. ARMY FIELD BAND SAXOPHONE QUARTET

The United States Army Field Band Saxophone Quartet is an official ensemble of the Musical Ambassadors of the Army. Comprised of members of the Army Field Band's Concert Band saxophone section, the quartet performs for a variety of school recitals, community outreach, and military functions. The Saxophone Quartet also presents educational clinics and masterclasses for students ranging from elementary school to college.

Sergeant First Class Christopher Blossom, soprano saxophone, holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan and a Bachelor of Music degree from Bowling Green State University. He has studied saxophone with Jason Berckley, John Sampen, Don Sinta, and bassoon with Richard Beene. As a freelance musician, SFC Blossom performs regularly in the Baltimore/DC area as a woodwind doubler. Outside of music, SFC Blossom enjoys honing his skills on the basketball court and spending time at home with his wife, Anne and two sons, Desmond and Julian.

Sergeant First Class Brian Sacawa, alto saxophone, is originally from Schenectady, New York and currently serves as Saxophone Section Leader and Saxophone Quartet Group Leader. Called "an inventive musician" (The New York Times), "inspired" (The Washington Post), and "brilliant" (Baltimore Sun), his versatile career has led to performances with ensembles such as the Detroit Symphony, New World Symphony, St. Petersburg Philharmonic, and International Contemporary Ensemble. Additionally, SFC Sacawa is a frequent performer with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and appears on their upcoming recording of Leonard Bernstein's Symphony No. 3. He holds degrees from the University of Michigan, the Peabody Conservatory, and the University of Massachusetts - Amherst, where he studied with Donald Sinta, Gary Louie, and Lynn Klock.

Hailing from sunny Arizona, **Staff Sergeant David Parks, tenor saxophone**, joined The U.S. Army Field Band after 2 years of doctoral study at Indiana University. He holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Southern Mississippi, and a Bachelor of Music degree from Whitworth College. In 2006, he was featured at the Integrales New Music Festival, and has presented guest recitals throughout the United States, Europe, and Australia. SSG Parks is also a past winner of the Music Teachers National Association Competition and the IBLA International Performance Competition. SSG Parks's teachers include Otis Murphy, Lawrence Gwozdz, and Sylvia Baker.

Staff Sergeant Daniel Goff, baritone saxophone, is originally from Morgantown, West Virginia. Prior to joining The U.S. Army Field Band in 2009, SSG Goff served for six years in the 249th Army Band of the West Virginia Army National Guard. He holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan and a Bachelor of Music degree from West Virginia University. His primary teachers include Curtis Johnson, David Wright, James Houlik, and Donald Sinta. SSG Goff has performed with the Moon River Big Band, the Maestros of Swing, Rick K and the Allnighters, the Morgantown Municipal Band, and the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra.