



ENCORE!

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE SPONSORS AND FRIENDS
OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY FIELD BAND



Captain Leonel Peña waves to the audience during the Soldiers' Chorus performance with the Nashville Symphony.

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Veterans Day at Schermerhorn Center

Music City concertgoers were recently treated to a rare collaboration between the Soldiers' Chorus and the Nashville Symphony. The Band and Chorus spent an event-filled week in the Tennessee capital during their most recent Fall Tour. While the Concert Band performed in nearby communities, the Soldiers' Chorus enjoyed three nights in the Nashville Symphony's exquisite Schermerhorn Symphony Center, named for former Music Director and Army bands veteran Kenneth Schermerhorn. Veterans Day presented the perfect occasion for the first performance of the Soldiers' Chorus in this world-class venue.

The Nashville Symphony's Resident Conductor, Albert-George Schram, first met the Soldiers' Chorus in 2008 when he conducted the Charlotte Symphony. For this second encounter, Schram shared the podium with the conductor of the Soldiers' Chorus, Captain Leonel Peña. To begin each concert, the orchestra performed John Williams' arrangement of *The Star Spangled Banner*—an indication of the heartfelt and patriotic spirit of the evening. Next, Captain Peña introduced the Soldiers' Chorus to the audience with a stirring set of a cappella pieces.

Maestro Schram then roused the combined forces in a brilliant parade of opera, Broadway, and jazz that featured the impressive talent of the orchestra, as well as the versatile soloists that comprise the Soldiers' Chorus.

Musical reflections celebrating America's military veterans enriched the evening's performance. The meaning of the holiday was evident as the orchestra softly accompanied MSG Janet Hjelmgren on *A Letter From Mom*, a narrated letter to the American people



"These men and women never fail to inspire their audiences with their love for our Country. They convey such passion and joy!"

—Maestro Albert-George Schram

from the mother of a Soldier awaiting deployment to Afghanistan. Finally, the true stars of the evening were honored as Captain Peña led the audience in the songs of the Armed Forces. Cheers rose from all sides as veterans and their loved ones, both in the audience and onstage, rose from their seats to commemorate the service and sacrifice given by so many for their country.



“The fact that we care enough to make these materials available to students is a wonderful thing.”

—Marcus Roberts

An American Legacy

The Marcus Roberts Trio Joins The U.S. Army Field Band

As one of the leading concert bands in the country, The United States Army Field Band has a responsibility to the next generation of musicians. It is a responsibility the band has proudly lived up to for decades. With the Legacy recording series, the Instructional Video Series, and hundreds of live chamber recitals and clinics across the country each year, the Army Field Band offers as many educational resources as any musical group in America.

The Army Field Band's Legacy recording series pays tribute to some of the most influential composers in history. Recent additions to the series have been *The Legacy of Aaron Copland*, *The Legacy of Nadia Boulanger*, and *The Legacy of Benny Carter*. The latest installment of the Legacy recording series promises to be the Army Field Band's finest work ever. In 2010, the Concert Band & Soldiers' Chorus will record *The Legacy of George Gershwin*.

The Field Band's aforementioned commitment to education has led to an exciting new partnership. For *The Legacy of George Gershwin*, the Concert Band will be joined by the world-renowned Marcus Roberts Trio.

Since winning the 1987 Thelonious Monk Competition, touring and recording with Wynton Marsalis, and serving as pianist and musical director of the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, Marcus Roberts' reputation as a jazz pioneer has only continued to grow. Joined by bassist Rodney Jordan and drummer Jason Marsalis, the Marcus Roberts Trio has been one of the most exciting combos in jazz for nearly 15 years. In addition to their original compositions, Roberts, Jordan, and Marsalis have a knack for instilling time-honored jazz standards with new life, making age-old repertoire sound new. Their many recordings have been met with abundant universal praise, and Roberts also happens to be one of the world's foremost performers of the music of George Gershwin.

"Nobody really remembers when they first heard *Rhapsody in Blue*," said Roberts, "it's become so ingrained in our national identity. But I do remember the first music of Gershwin's I ever heard. When I was 13 or 14, I heard his *Piano Concerto in F*... the slow movement. I didn't know what it was at the time, but I recognized it later, and I still remember it."

Roberts' interpretations of *Rhapsody in Blue*, *I Got Rhythm* Variations, and *Concerto in F* are unlike any other. Not only do they incorporate the jazz trio; they rely heavily on improvisation, using Gershwin's piano parts as a departure. "When I play these pieces," said Roberts, "I'm exploring the jazz side of them, bringing them into the 21st Century. A lot has happened since 1924, and we can still apply all we've learned in Gershwin's music. I think the music leans more in the jazz direction than otherwise."

Marcus Roberts' accomplishments as a performer and recording artist are met only by his devotion to jazz education. It was this like-mindedness that drew the Roberts Trio and the Army Field Band together for this project. "100 years from now, I won't be here," said Roberts. "We need to make it easy for kids to learn jazz. Most young people that hear this music, even if they never play it themselves, maybe one day they'll come to a concert, teach others about it, or in some other way support it. The fact that we care enough to make these materials available to students is a wonderful thing."

Trombone: A Player's Guide

The Field Band's Newest Educational Resource

Educating the next generation of musicians remains a priority of The U.S. Army Field Band. This steadfast commitment is evident from the band's vast educational discography: 11 instructional DVDs, 15 reference recordings, and seven online resources, including lesson plans. Each is available for free to educators nationwide. Now the Field Band is proud to announce our newest educational DVD, *Trombone: A Player's Guide*.

A Player's Guide aims to accommodate the needs of all students of the trombone, from the day-one beginner to the college student to the music educator. In the early chapters of the DVD, novice students will learn the basics that address instrument assembly, embouchure, grip, sound production, and instrument maintenance. Experienced players are encouraged to skip ahead to chapters focusing on more advanced concepts like intonation and multiple tonguing.

The many examples performed by the Army Field Band trombone section connect each instructional segment to the instrument. "The best tools are good demonstrations," says trombonist Sergeant First Class Todd Sturniolo. A wide variety of music is showcased throughout the DVD. The performances include music from the orchestral, jazz, and chamber music repertoires, along with a few original compositions written by the Field Band's arranging staff.

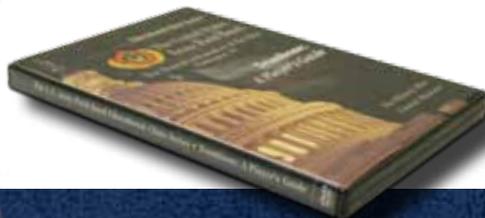
The Field Band trombone section



enjoyed all aspects of creating the video. The camaraderie on and off camera enabled the product to be professional yet relaxed, as you can see when the section goes for the occasional laugh. Bass

trombonist Staff Sergeant Wesley Ballenger affirmed, "Playing together and building the repertoire improved our ensemble playing, and we had fun in the studio."

Trombone: A Player's Guide is now available to educators and is an effective supplement to any music curriculum. For a free copy of the DVD, or any other educational materials by The U.S. Army Field Band, visit www.ArmyFieldBand.com and follow the Education link.





Chamber Week 2010

A New Kind of Tour for the Field Band

Millions of Americans are accustomed to seeing the Soldier-Musicians of The U.S. Army Field Band perform with their touring components: the Concert Band, the Soldiers' Chorus, America's Big Band—the Jazz Ambassadors, or The Volunteers. However, the members of The Musical Ambassadors of the Army are also gifted educators, skilled soloists, and chamber musicians. This February, chamber ensembles from several of the Field Band's components showcased their talents during a week of performances throughout the country, aimed at connecting with students and young Americans in smaller, more intimate settings than is possible at a typical large ensemble concert.

The purpose of these small ensemble performances and outreach activities is not only to showcase the extremely high level of music making taking place in Army bands, but also the many opportunities available to aspiring musicians in America's

small ensemble performances occurred in all areas of the nation at once. From the Pentagon Winds in Los Angeles, to the Jazztet in New York City, and other groups in between, "presenting these masterclasses and recitals allows The Musical Ambassadors of the Army to have a positive impact in many places at once," said Colonel Thomas H. Palmatier, Commander of The U.S. Army Field Band.

While many of the Field Band's ensembles traveled far from their home base at Fort Meade, the Saxophone Quartet stayed closer to home, spending the week performing at schools in the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. metro areas. "Because we spend so much of our time performing for the American public away from home, we rarely



Army. "Though we put a lot of time and effort into our musical preparation, our performances are not just about playing great music," said MSG Alan White of the Pentagon Winds, who performed several concerts throughout the Los Angeles metro area. "We aim to open audience members' eyes, many of them aspiring musicians, to the tremendous wealth of professional opportunities the Army has to offer qualified musicians."

The potential recruitment opportunity of the small group mission is central to the Jazztet, a six-piece jazz combo made up of members of the Jazz Ambassadors. Over the course of a week, the Jazztet presented a series of performances in and around New York City, a traditional hub for budding jazz artists.

While each long tour by The Musical Ambassadors of the Army typically covers just a portion of the country, the series of

have an opportunity to share what we do with people in our own backyard," said SFC Brian Sacawa of the Saxophone Quartet. "We felt this week was an excellent opportunity for us to connect with students and educators right here in the National Capitol Region."

For many of the Field Band's chamber ensembles, these concerts are also an opportunity to "stretch out" musically. By digging into chamber music that requires an intense amount of individual and ensemble preparation and mastery, the Field Band's musicians continue to develop their own musicianship and capabilities. "The time spent in rehearsing and performing small ensemble music further refines the artistic ability of our Soldier-Musicians," said Colonel Palmatier, "making our large group performances even better."

2010

23 JUNE

THE JAZZ AMBASSADORS PROVIDE THE SPOTLIGHT PERFORMANCE AT THIS ORGANIZATION'S ANNUAL SUMMER SYMPOSIUM IN NORMAL, ILLINOIS. THIS CONCERT WILL REACH MUSIC EDUCATORS AS WELL AS THOUSANDS OF HIGH SCHOOL BAND MUSICIANS FROM ACROSS THE NATION.



26 JUNE

THE VOLUNTEERS WILL SHARE THE STAGE WITH COUNTRY MUSIC'S BIGGEST STARS FOR THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COUNTRY USA MUSIC FESTIVAL IN OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN.



4 JULY

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR INDEPENDENCE DAY CONCERT BAND: PITTSBURGH, PA SOLDIERS' CHORUS: JOINING THE ATLANTA SYMPHONY JAZZ AMBASSADORS: FARMINGVILLE, NY THE VOLUNTEERS: SUMMERFEST 2010 • MILWAUKEE, WI



THE MUSICAL AMBASSADORS OF

Sponsor a Concert in Your Area

As we plan our tours for 2010 and 2011 (see the proposed list of states below), we encourage you to consider sponsoring a concert in your area. We ask that a sponsor provide us with a location to perform and to effectively publicize our performance. We strive to make these tasks as easy as possible by providing a wide range of support for our sponsors. Our tours are booked as many as eighteen months in advance, so please contact us as soon as possible. We attempt to fulfill all requests as we schedule our travels throughout the country.

For more information
about how to sponsor a concert:

Phone: (301) 677-6586 • Fax: (301) 677-6533

E-mail: darrin.e.blume@us.army.mil

or visit our website:

www.ArmyFieldBand.com

Fall Tour 2010

Alabama, Florida, Georgia,
North Carolina, South
Carolina, and Virginia

Spring Tour 2011

Arizona, California,
Colorado, Idaho, Illinois,
Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky,
Maryland, Missouri, Nevada,
Oregon, Utah, Washington,
and West Virginia

Fall Tour 2011

Connecticut, Delaware, Maine,
Maryland, Massachusetts,
New Hampshire, New Jersey,
New York, Pennsylvania,
Rhode Island, and Vermont



THE ARMY

Concert Band & Soldiers' Chorus

April 5 Somerset, PA
 April 6 Youngstown, OH
 April 7 Marion, OH
 April 8 Anderson, IN
 April 9 Indianapolis, IN
 April 10 St. Marys, OH
 April 11 Wabash, IN
 April 12 Lafayette, IN
 April 13 .. Arlington Heights, IL
 April 15 University Park, IL
 April 16 Watseka, IL
 April 17 Moline, IL
 April 18 Dubuque, IA
 April 19 Iowa Falls, IA
 April 20 Boys Town, NE
 April 21 Norfolk, NE
 April 22 Fairmont, MN
 April 23 St. Paul, MN
 April 25 Chippewa Falls, WI
 April 26 Iron Mountain, MI
 April 27 Petoskey, MI
 April 28 Scottville, MI
 April 29 Galesburg, MI
 April 30 Toledo, OH
 May 2 Independence, OH
 May 3 Zanesville, OH
 May 4 Beckley, WV
 May 5 Hopewell, VA
 May 6 Virginia Beach, VA

Jazz Ambassadors

March 23..... Lambertton, MN
 March 24, 4:30PM....New Ulm, MN
 March 24, 7:30PM....New Ulm, MN
 March 25..... Windom, MN
 March 26..... Stillwater, MN
 March 27..... Red Wing, MN
 March 28..... Rice Lake, WI
 March 29..... Eagle River, WI
 March 30..... Houghton, WI
 March 31..... Superior, MI
 April 1 Brainerd, MN
 April 2 Bemidji, MN
 April 3 Fargo, ND
 April 6 Bismarck, ND
 April 7 Dickinson, ND
 April 8 Miles City, MT
 April 10 Powell, WY
 April 11 Riverton, WY
 April 12 Glenrock, WY
 April 13 Spearfish, SD
 April 16 Aberdeen, SD
 April 17 Watertown, SD
 April 18 Brookings, SD
 April 19 Mitchell, SD
 April 20 Yankton, SD

The Volunteers

April 24Scottsbluff, NE
 April 25 North Platte, NE
 April 26 North Platte, NE
 April 27 Grand Island, NE
 April 28 Omaha, NE
 April 29 Lennox, SD
 April 30 Spencer, IA
 May 2 Marshalltown, IA
 May 3 Cedar Rapids, IA
 May 4 Owatonna, MN
 May 5 Holmen, WI
 May 6 Cannon Falls, MN
 May 7 Bloomington, MN
 May 8 Fergus Falls, MN
 May 10 Moorhead, MN
 May 11 Grand Forks, ND
 May 12 Minot, ND
 May 14 Glasgow, MT
 May 15 Havre, MT
 May 16 Great Falls, MT
 May 17 Lewiston, MT
 May 19 Sheridan, WY
 May 20 Gillette, WY
 May 21 Spearfish, SD
 May 23 Keystone, SD
 May 24 Torrington, WY

www.ArmyFieldBand.com
 for more details



8 Sponsor

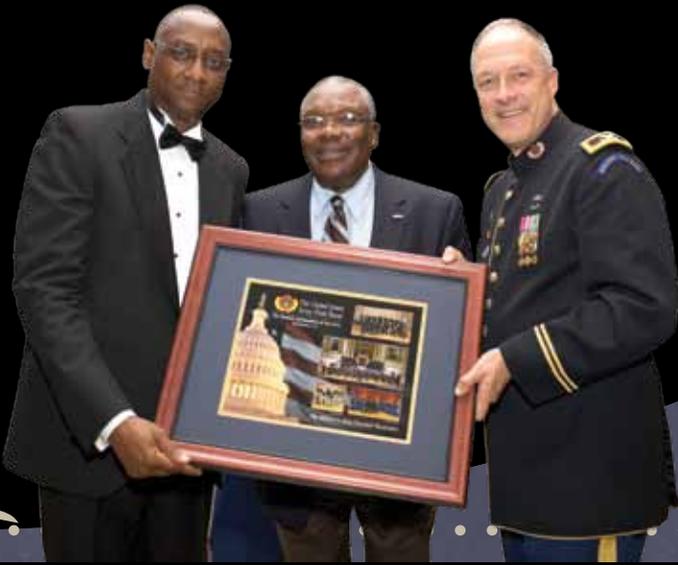
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Becoming a sponsor for The United States Army Field Band is easier than ever! All we ask a sponsor to provide is:

- CONCERT VENUE
- MEDIA MARKETING CAMPAIGN
- PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION OF FREE TICKETS
- PRINTING OF PROGRAMS

The Field Band Tour Coordinators provide sponsors with a guide that outlines logistical requirements, including stage/lighting specifications and a promotion timetable. We also provide:

- PUBLICITY PHOTOGRAPHS
- ARTWORK
- FEATURE NEWS STORIES
- POSTERS
- OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASES
- ADVERTISING
- PRE-RECORDED PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS



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www.ArmyFieldBand.com

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2010

Clip and send this ad to:

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Attention: Tour Director
4214 Field Band Drive Ste. 5330
Fort Meade, MD 20755-7055

or email your information to:
darrin.e.blume@us.army.mil



The Field Band Returns to The Army All-American Bowl



In January, members of The U.S. Army Field Band spent four days in San Antonio, Texas mentoring 97 talented high school seniors who were selected from across the nation for musical and academic excellence. These exceptional students were brought together to present a halftime show for the U.S. Army All-American Bowl. Field Band members worked closely with them as they raced against the clock to learn a complicated routine in just a few days.

While the All-Americans worked tirelessly with a team of world-class educators to put together a phenomenal show, the mission of the Field Band was twofold: provide professional musical feedback to the budding instrumentalists, and help students understand how the Army Values can help them achieve their goals for the future.

Each day, the group was separated into instrument sections and given the opportunity to work with members of the Field Band. These clinics focused on music performance and allowed the seniors to get to know individual Soldier-Musicians. Many of these young people plan to pursue music degrees, and were very interested in hearing the stories and advice of bandsmen who were in their shoes not so long ago.

Many Soldiers of the Army Field Band were featured as performers at this great event. The Volunteers provided high-energy entertainment at the football game, and they treated the All-American Band to a private performance earlier in the week. A handful of exuberant teens even jumped on stage to join SFC April Boucher for her rendition of Taylor Swift's *You Belong With Me*.

Braving freezing temperatures and long rehearsals alongside the high school all-stars, four members of the Jazz Ambassadors provided integral rhythm section backup for the half-time show. Keyboardist Sergeant First Class Tim Young, guitarist Staff Sergeant Steve Lesche, drummer Sergeant First Class Todd Harrison, and bassist Master Sergeant Jeff Lopez gave the show a true "rock-n-roll" edge.



The newest Army Field Band brass quintet, Brass 5, performed for the students during a special Army-style breakfast held at the dining facilities on Fort Sam Houston. During this and other events throughout the week, Field Band members were able to represent another side of America's Army to a new generation of young leaders. As the stunning halftime show came to an end with a thunderous cry of "Hooah" filling the Alamodome, Field Band members were proud to perform with these All-Americans, who carried home the many lessons of this extraordinary week.

ARMYFIELDBAND.COM GETS A NEW LOOK

THE FIELD BAND WILL SOON BE UNVEILING A BRAND NEW WEBSITE FOR OUR FANS AND SPONSORS. IN ADDITION TO GIVING OUR WEB HOME A FRESH NEW LOOK, THE NEW SITE WILL ALLOW US TO PROVIDE BETTER SUPPORT TO OUR SPONSORS AND MORE WAYS FOR OUR FANS TO ACCESS OUR MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE.

IN THE PAST YEAR WE'VE BEEN EXPANDING OUR WEB PRESENCE THROUGH THE ADDITION OF BOTH FACEBOOK PAGES AND TWITTER ACCOUNTS FOR EACH OF OUR TOURING COMPONENTS. THESE FEATURES WILL BE MORE FULLY INTEGRATED INTO THE NEW SITE AND WE'LL BE INCLUDING A "MEMBERS ONLY" AREA THAT WILL ALLOW MEMBERS ACCESS TO OUR ENTIRE CATALOG OF RECORDINGS THAT WILL BE DOWNLOADABLE AT NO COST.

FOR OUR SPONSORS, THE NEW SITE WILL ALLOW EASIER ACCESS TO OUR PROMOTIONAL TOOLS AND MARKETING MATERIALS, AND MOST EXCITING OF ALL, WE'LL BE ADDING THE ABILITY TO FURTHER SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS' EFFORTS BY OFFERING ONLINE TICKETING DIRECTLY THROUGH OUR SITE.

STAY TUNED TO ARMYFIELDBAND.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION!



America's Big Band Plays The Kennedy Center

KENNEDY
CENTERS
HONORS

On December 6, 2009, the Jazz Ambassadors performed for the 32nd Annual Kennedy Center Honors, which pays tribute to our nation's most preeminent artists. The 2009 honorees were Bruce Springsteen, Mel Brooks, Robert De Niro, Grace Bumbry, and jazz pianist Dave Brubeck. The Jazz Ambassadors were invited to take part in the tribute to Mr. Brubeck, who was an Army Bandsman during World War II.

During the tribute, the Jazz Ambassadors performed with some of the finest musicians in jazz, including Herbie Hancock, Bill Charlap, Jon Faddis, Christian McBride, and, as a surprise to Mr. Brubeck, four of his sons.

Some of Mr. Brubeck's most famous compositions were performed, including *Blue Rondo A La Turk*, *The Duke*, *In Your Own Sweet Way*, and saxophonist Paul Desmond's *Take Five*, for which

Dave Brubeck is best known.

Attending the gala event were a who's who of the entertainment world, including Meryl Streep, Ed Norton, Ben Stiller, and Sting. Also in attendance were President Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, Vice President Biden, and Mrs. Jill Biden, who hosted a White House luncheon for the honorees earlier that day.

On May 21, the Jazz Ambassadors will take part in the Kennedy Center's centennial celebration of the birth of pianist Mary Lou Williams. The ensemble recorded their latest CD, entitled *The Legacy of Mary Lou Williams*, in 2008 to help ensure lasting recognition of the most influential female musician in jazz history.



The Jazz Ambassadors, joined by Herbie Hancock, Bill Charlap, Jon Faddis, and Christian McBride, perform during the 32nd Annual Kennedy Center Honors.

ENCORE!

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Houston's Salute to the Military

The Field Band Represented at Reliant Stadium

On Fall Tour 2009, one member of The U.S. Army Field Band got an opportunity to serve not only her nation, but her hometown as well. When the Houston Texans were

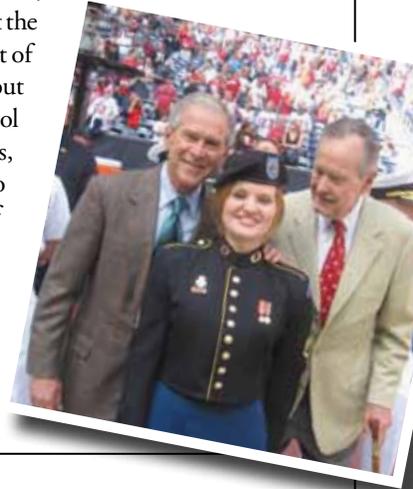
planning their annual Salute to the Military, they asked the Field Band for a Soldier-Musician to sing the National Anthem, and the Field Band had the perfect candidate.

Staff Sergeant Tracy Labrecque joined The U.S. Army Field Band in November of 2008. As a Houston native and one of the newest sopranos in the Soldiers' Chorus, she was the obvious choice to perform during the tribute. "I got lucky," said Labrecque. "They asked for a singer, and I happened to be from the area. It worked out really well."

In addition to Staff Sergeant Labrecque's *National Anthem*, the Golden Knights Army Parachute Team and Presidents George H.W. and George W. Bush contributed to the Texans' Tribute to the Military. "As the Bushes gave the coin toss, George Senior asked if

I was nervous. When the Golden Knights did their jump, the three of us stood together, surrounded by photographers, looking up in the sky, not really saying anything. It was remarkable."

In the days that followed the game, Staff Sergeant Labrecque worked with local Army recruiters, speaking to high school students about the variety of jobs the Army offers. "Most of these kids didn't know anything about what we do. I worked with a high school treble choir and spoke to three classes, and they were all really surprised to hear that the Army has these kinds of opportunities." Thanks to dedicated Soldier-Musicians like Tracy Labrecque, the message is getting out. For more information visit: www.ArmyFieldBand.com.



A New Direction for The Volunteers

The Volunteers is always looking for ways to keep a "fresh face" on their music and keep the Army's message relevant to younger audiences. Recently, The Volunteers' appearances at large concert venues like Country USA and Summerfest, both in Wisconsin, have led The Volunteers to include more music from country, rock, and pop in their shows.

According to guitarist Staff Sergeant Tom Lindsey, video games like Guitar Hero have given rise to a new popularity of the classic rock genre. "For the audience, it's uncharted territory. They recognize the songs from the video game and think of them as new and fresh tunes." According to singer Sergeant First Class April Boucher, Journey's *Don't Stop Believin'* gets the biggest reaction from students. "Everyone sings the lyrics along with us, even though the song is older than the students. They really love it."

All members of The Volunteers have been influenced by specific country and classic rock artists. For Sergeant First Class Boucher, they are Martina McBride and Nancy Wilson. Staff Sergeant Lindsey lists Brad Paisley and lesser-known, Austin-based guitarist Eric Johnson, who according to Lindsey, "mixes the best of Chet Atkins, Jerry Reed, and Jimi Hendrix, creating a bridge between country and rock."

When asked about The Volunteers' new direction, Sergeant First Class Boucher said, "I think the mix of music appeals to students and bridges the gap for all generations." The Volunteers will be at Country USA and Summerfest again in 2010. Visit us on the web at: www.ArmyFieldBand.com • www.twitter.com/armyrockband • www.facebook.com/armyrockband



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*“One of the greatest things about last evening’s concert was that I left
feeling good about our country.”*

—Steven Shadle
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

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The United States
Army Field Band

The Musical Ambassadors of the Army
Washington, DC

