



The United States Army Field Band

BC Fact Sheet
November 25, 2002

The Musical Ambassadors of the Army
Washington, DC

CONCERT BAND AND SOLDIERS' CHORUS

Fact Sheet

The U.S. Army Field Band is the Army's official touring musical organization. It is comprised of four separate performing components: the Concert Band, the Soldiers' Chorus, the Jazz Ambassadors, and the Volunteers. Each component tours annually throughout the United States and travels abroad as directed by the Secretary of the Army. In approximately 400 touring days in 1995, the Field Band's components appeared before live audiences totaling over 2 million people and broadcast to more than 2 billion people.

The Concert Band and Soldiers' Chorus, the largest performing components, consist of a 65-piece symphonic band and a 29-voice mixed chorus. These select musicians were trained at renowned conservatories and universities throughout the country. The groups have toured for more than 50 years, and offer a varied repertoire of original and standard concert music, pop, patriotic, and show tunes in a program that appeals to all ages. In addition to the formal public performances, both the Concert Band and Soldiers' Chorus frequently present educational outreach programs at high school and colleges, and perform on local and network television.

In recent years, international touring has become an important part of the Field Band's mission. The Concert Band and Soldiers' Chorus performed in Korea, Okinawa, Japan, and Germany in 1987, and made a tour of the Republic of India in 1989. Notable domestic concerts include performances at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the 2002 Cultural Olympiad in Salt Lake City, the Myerson Symphony Hall in Dallas, joint concerts with the Boston Pops, Detroit Symphony, and Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, and participation in the 1989, 1993, and 1997 Presidential Inaugural parades.

Costs for transportation, lodging, and meals are paid by the Department of the Army. The responsibilities of the sponsor include the procurement of a performance site and managing a publicity campaign that includes the distribution of free tickets through a mail-in coupon. Field Band concerts are normally presented in concert sites with seating capacities of 1,500 or more. Also, please keep in mind that due to the wide variety of musical selections, the Band and Chorus require a 40' x 40' performance area.

Each concert must be presented on an admission-free basis as a public service. Field Band concerts consistently attract large audiences and stimulate considerable interest and praise for sponsoring organizations.

Should you elect to sponsor a Field Band performance, most of the pre-concert arrangements will be made by telephone. An advance team will visit your city several months before the concert to meet with you and finalize details. If any additional information is required regarding the concert, please call (301) 677-6586.

Thank you for your consideration and your interest in our organization.