

Palmatier, Thomas H Bio
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The United States Army Field Band

The Musical Ambassadors of the Army
Washington, DC

COLONEL THOMAS H. PALMATIER ***BIOGRAPHY***

Colonel Thomas H. Palmatier was appointed Commander and Conductor of The U.S. Army Field Band of Washington, DC, in September 2007. Prior to this he served as Commandant of the U.S. Army School of Music, responsible for the training of Army Band Soldiers, Noncommissioned Officers, Warrant Officers, and Commissioned Officers for the Army's 106 bands worldwide. His previous assignments include Commander of the U.S. Army Europe Band and Chorus, Executive Officer to The Adjutant General of the Army, and the Department of the Army Staff Bands Officer, overseeing band activities for all Active, Reserve, and National Guard bands. Earlier assignments included command and staff positions in Army bands around the world, to include service with The United States Army Band in Washington, DC. Additionally, he supervised musical support for the 1989, 1993, and 2001 Presidential Inaugural celebrations.

Colonel Palmatier holds a Bachelor of Music degree, *magna cum laude*, in Applied Music from the Crane School of Music in Potsdam, New York, and was selected to receive the Minerva Award in 2010, presented each year to an alumnus who has demonstrated outstanding lifetime professional achievement. He also has earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in Music from Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri, and a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the U.S. Army War College. A member of the Army War College Association, he also belongs to the Adjutant General Corps Regimental Association.

Colonel Palmatier is former Director of the Rochester International Tattoo and former Principal Director of Music for the Virginia International Tattoo. He was also Music Director of the Dominion Brass Band, which won the Honors Section of the North American championships in 1996. His professional affiliations include the prestigious American Bandmasters Association, the North American Brass Band Association, of which he is Past-President and an Honorary Lifetime Member, and the National Band Association.

Colonel Palmatier has received numerous military honors to include two awards of the Legion of Merit and seven awards of the Meritorious Service Medal. He was the first Army Band Officer to earn both the Parachutist and Air Assault Badges. He also earned a combat patch for service in El Salvador. His wife, Shirley, is a retired Army Medical Corps officer, and his daughter, Gabrielle, is a ballet dancer and instructor in Los Angeles.