



The United States Army Field Band

Pentagon Winds Bio
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The Musical Ambassadors of the Army
Washington, DC

THE PENTAGON WINDS

The Pentagon Winds woodwind quintet was originally formed in 1989 as part of the Field Band's College Clinic Team. This ensemble, reestablished as the Pentagon Winds in 1999, performs in colleges and universities throughout the nation. In addition to recital performances, its members present master classes on their individual instruments and offer coaching in ensemble playing techniques. The quintet was featured in a Millennium Stage recital at the Kennedy Center in 2001 and performed at the 2003 International Double Reed Society Conference. As part of the Field Band's continuing educational outreach program, the Pentagon Winds presented chamber music clinics at professional music conferences across the nation in 2002 and 2003.

Staff Sergeant Gina Leija, flute, earned a Bachelor of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music. She previously held substitute positions with the New World Symphony, the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra, and was awarded a fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival. As a soloist, she was a prize winner at the Rochester Flute Association's Young Artist Competition and the Kingsville International Young Performers' Competition. She was also a finalist in the Coleman National Chamber Ensemble Competition. SSG Leija will be a featured soloist with the Field Band in Fall 2011, performing Borne's Carmen Fantasy. Her teachers include Bonita Boyd, Anne Harrow, Jonathan Keeble, Martha Aarons, and Julianna Nickel.

Sergeant First Class Daniel Brimhall, oboe, earned a Master of Music degree from Yale University and a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Hartford. He has performed with the Hartford Symphony and the Connecticut Opera. His primary teachers include Richard Killmer and Humbert Lucarelli.

Sergeant First Class Matthew Kanowith, clarinet, earned a Bachelor of Music Education from Indiana University. Soon after he was appointed second clarinet of the Florida West Coast Symphony, and performed with the Florida Orchestra, Tampa Bay Opera, and the Venice Symphony. SFC Kanowith received a Master of Music in Clarinet Performance from the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University. He has performed at the Sarasota Music Festival, Bowdoin Summer Music Festival, and the Chautauqua Music Festival. SFC Kanowith joined the Field Band in 2000 and has been a regularly featured soloist with the Concert Band. His teachers include Anthony Gigliotti, Eli Eban, and Yehuda Gilad.

Master Sergeant J. Daniel Bowlds, bassoon, a native of Lexington, Kentucky, earned his Bachelor of Arts in Bassoon Performance from Missouri Western State College. While there, he was the principal bassoonist for the Missouri All-Collegiate Band and the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia National Assembly. MSG Bowlds received a graduate assistantship at Kent State University where he earned a Master of Music in Bassoon Performance and won the university's concerto competition. His graduate woodwind quintet, Aeolus V, was a 1997 finalist in the Coleman Chamber Ensemble Competition. MSG Bowlds' instructors include Richard Yeager, David Debolt, and Linda Harwell. He currently serves as saxophone and bassoon section leader.

Master Sergeant Alan White, horn, earned a Bachelor of Music in Education from the Peabody Conservatory and a Master of Music in Horn Performance from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music. After touring with the American Wind Symphony, he spent a year performing with La Orquesta Sinfonica del Estado de México in Toluca, Mexico. In 1994, MSG White performed with the Cape Philharmonic Orchestra in Cape Town, South Africa. Since joining the Field Band in 1989, he has performed frequently on the Field Band's Chamber Music Series, been featured in the educational video *Horn Playing: Past and Present*, and served as a horn clinician. MSG White's teachers include Robert Pierce, Peter Landgren, and Michael Hatfield.