

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 U.S. Army Field Band Saxophone Quartet is an official ensemble of the Musical Ambassadors of the Army. The quartet performs a wide range of repertoire including transcriptions, standard saxophone quartet literature, jazz and popular arrangements, and contemporary and avant-garde music. The ensemble seeks to present a program that displays the numerous stylistic and musical capabilities of the saxophone. Since forming in 1999, the quartet has performed frequently on the Field Band's Chamber Music Series, and presented recitals and master classes at the University of Georgia, Kansas State University, Marshall University, the Peabody Conservatory, the New England Saxophone Symposium, and the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference.

Staff Sergeant Christopher Blossom, soprano saxophone, is from Canton, Michigan. He holds a Bachelor of Music in Performance from Bowling Green State University and a Master of Music from the University of Michigan. In 2000, he won the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition as a member of the Lithium Saxophone Quartet. As a founding member of the Larry Teal Saxophone Quartet, he received an honorable mention at the Coleman Chamber Music competition and is featured on *Collaborations*, the newest recording of the University of Michigan's Symphony Band. In 2001, as a member of the saxophone duo *Bicinia*, SSG Blossom completed a nine-month residency in Selma, Alabama, through Chamber Music America's Rural Residency program, funded through the National Endowment of the Arts.

Sergeant First Class Brian Sacawa, alto saxophone, is from Schenectady, New York. He holds degrees from the University of Michigan, Peabody Conservatory of Music, and University of Massachusetts–Amherst. His teachers include Donald Sinta, Gary Louie, and Lynn Klock. SFC Sacawa has performed with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic and the Detroit and New World Symphonies, and at music festivals internationally. He has also recorded for the Equilibrium, Innova, and ES Record labels. Prior to joining the Field Band, SFC Sacawa taught at the University of Arizona. He currently serves on the faculty at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Staff Sergeant David Parks, tenor saxophone, hails from Sedona, Arizona. He holds a Bachelor of Music in performance from Whitworth College and a Master of Music from the University of Southern Mississippi. In 2006, he was featured at the Integrales New Music Festival; he has also presented guest recitals at the World Saxophone Congresses in Slovenia and Minneapolis, and at the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference. SSG Parks is also a past winner of the Music Teachers National Association Competition and the IBLA International Performance Competition. SSG Parks' teachers include Otis Murphy, Lawrence Gwozdz, and Sylvia Baker. Currently, he is a doctoral candidate at Indiana University.

Staff Sergeant Daniel Goff, baritone saxophone, is originally from Morgantown, WV. Prior to joining the Army Field Band, SSG Goff served for six years in the 249th Army Band, West Virginia Army National Guard. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from West Virginia University and is currently completing a Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan.