

Trombone Ensemble 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 TROMBONE ENSEMBLE

**The United States Army Field Band Trombone Ensemble**, has been one of the most active of the Army Field Band's many chamber ensembles for nearly five years. In 2009, they produced *Trombone: A Player's Guide*, the latest in the Army Field Band's instructional video series. Performing recitals and offering brass clinics and masterclasses at colleges, universities and conservatories across the country, The U.S. Army Field Band Trombone Ensemble represents the best United States military bands have to offer.

**Sergeant Major Mark Bowling, trombone**, is soloist and brass group leader with the Concert Band. He is also a private teacher and clinician. SGM Bowling holds a M.M. from Arizona State University and a B.M. in theory and composition from Mansfield University of Pennsylvania.

**Master Sergeant Aaron Kadrmas, trombone**, is from Fargo, North Dakota, where he studied trombone with Ed Huttlin at Concordia College. In 1994, he graduated from the Interlochen Arts Academy, studying with Jeannie Little. He attended Western Michigan University on the Russell Brown Brass Quintet Scholarship as a student of Steve Wolfenbarger, before joining the Field Band in 1995.

**Sergeant First Class Todd Sturniolo, trombone**, is a native of Hagerstown, Maryland, and joined the Field Band in 2003. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance and a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Lebanon Valley College. In 2003, he received his Master of Music in Trombone Performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he studied with Stephen Witser. SFC Sturniolo has also studied with James Erdman, and has performed with the Canton Symphony and the Cleveland Orchestra Blossom Band.

**Staff Sergeant Carmen Russo, trombone**, studied with Per Brevig at the Aspen School of Music and later studied with Don Kneeburg, ultimately earning his Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance from the University of South Florida in 1997. From 1994-2004 he performed with a variety of professional organizations including: The Florida Orchestra, Florida West Coast Symphony, The Symphony of Southwest Florida, Sarasota Opera, Walt Disney World, Universal Studios, and for the Holland America and Carnival Cruise Lines. SSG Russo was also selected to play with the Grandlink World opening festival band in Qingdao, China, in addition to several traveling off-Broadway shows including The Lion King, Cinderella, 42nd St, The Producers, Chicago, and Showboat.

**Staff Sergeant Wesley Ballenger III, bass trombone**, earned a B.M. at Indiana University. His teachers include M. Dee Stewart, Peter Ellefson, and Ian Bousfield. SSG Ballenger has performed as bass trombonist with the Richmond Symphony and Columbus (Indiana) Philharmonic.