

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.

Staff Sergeant 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. SSG 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, SSG Sacawa taught at the University of Arizona. He currently serves on the faculty at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Sergeant First Class Jeffrey Price, tenor saxophone, is from Morgantown, West Virginia. Prior to joining the Field Band in 1995, he received a Bachelor of Music from West Virginia University and a Master of Music from Northwestern University. While still a student, he was the winner of both the WVU Young Artists Concerto Competition and the NU Chamber Music Competition. SFC Price has regularly been a featured performer at the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Convention, and at the U.S. Navy Band Saxophone Symposium. SFC Price's primary saxophone instructors have been David Hastings, Curtis Johnson, Jonathan Helton, and Frederick Hemke.

Sergeant Major Loran McClung, baritone saxophone, is from La Verne, California. He attended the University of Nevada–Las Vegas and California State University–Los Angeles. He studied saxophone and doubling with Charles McLean, Fred Howler, David Hawley, and Ralph Garofalo, and studied music arranging with Robert Curnow. SGM McClung performed extensively in Las Vegas and Los Angeles prior to joining The U.S. Army Field Band in 1983. He has served as lead alto saxophone with the Jazz Ambassadors from 1983–1994, as staff arranger from 1994–2000, and is currently the Noncommissioned Officer-in-Charge of the Concert Band.