



UNITED STATES MARINE BAND • MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Lieutenant Colonel Ryan Nowlin, Director

ANNOUNCES A VACANCY FOR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OBOE

Auditions for Assistant Principal Oboe will be held on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at the Marine Barracks Annex, 1053 7th Street, SE in Washington, DC. If not completed on Tuesday, auditions will continue Wednesday, September 10. Applicants should therefore be available to perform on both days.

A completed Applicant Fact Sheet and résumé must be submitted by **Wednesday, September 3**. Confirmed applicants will be placed on the audition list upon the Marine Band's receipt of these items. Applicants may request an audition time slot in either the morning or the afternoon, which will be given on a first come, first served basis. The Marine Band will attempt to honor the time frame that is requested. The audition committee reserves the right to dismiss any candidate not meeting the highest professional standards.

"The President's Own" United States Marine Band is America's oldest continuously active professional musical organization. Its mission is unique: to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. Marine Band musicians perform frequently at the White House in small ensembles, chamber orchestra, concert band, and as soloists. The Marine Band performs for a wide variety of commitments, to include public concerts, recording sessions, tours, chamber music recitals, military ceremonies, and state functions.

Today's Marine Band is composed of roughly 170 of the nation's finest musicians and support staff. Those selected for the United States Marine Band and Marine Chamber Orchestra are exempt from recruit training and are appointed to the rank of Staff Sergeant (E-6) under a contract "for duty with the United States Marine Band only." The winner of the audition will receive instructions regarding enlistment procedures.

The audition will consist of the following:

A) Solo: Oboe Concerto in C, K. 314/271k (Mozart) – 1st movement exposition, mm. 32–97

B) Excerpts from the following (enclosed):

Oboe 1

Prelude from *Le Tombeau de Couperin* (Ravel)

"Rufford Park Poachers" from *Lincolnshire Posy* (Grainger/Fennell)

Concerto for Orchestra – 3rd movement (Higdon)

Overture to *La Scala di seta* (Rossini)

Suite from *Pulcinella* (Stravinsky)

Partita – 2nd and 3rd movements (Walton/Patterson)

Symphony No. 3 in A minor, Opus 56, "Scottish" – 2nd movement (Mendelssohn)

Symphony No. 3 in E-flat, Opus 55, "Eroica" – 2nd movement (Beethoven)

Don Juan (Strauss)

Come Sunday (Thomas)

Oboe 2

*Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Opus 56a (Brahms)

*Concerto for Wind Ensemble – 4th movement (Day)

*Concerto for Orchestra – 2nd movement (Bartók)

Symphony No. 7 in D minor, Opus 70, B. 141 – 2nd movement (Dvořák)

**to be played with principal oboist*

To be played with the Marine Woodwind Quintet:

Wind Quintet in C, Op. 79 (Klughardt) – 1st movement, beginning to repeat sign – no repeat

C) Sight-reading

For further information, please write or call the following:

Marine Band Operations • 8th & I Streets, SE • Washington, DC 20390-5000

Email: marineband.operations@usmc.mil • Telephone: (202) 433-5714 • Fax: (202) 433-4752 • www.marineband.marines.mil

"The President's Own"
UNITED STATES MARINE BAND
 Lieutenant Colonel Ryan Nowlin, Director

<i>Please print or type.</i>				APPLICANT FACT SHEET		
NOTICE: Prior to submitting this form, please verify that you meet the standard basic qualifications necessary to become a member of the U. S. Marine Band. To review a list of these requirements, please visit our website at: www.marineband.marines.mil/Career_Info						
PERSONAL INFO.	First Name:		Middle Initial:		Last Name:	
	Position(s) for which you are applying:					
	Street Address:				Apartment:	
	City:			State:		Zip Code:
	Primary Phone:			Secondary Phone:		
	E-mail Address:			Are you a United States Citizen? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	Date of Birth:			Date available for enlistment:		
	How did you learn about this audition?					
MILITARY	Do you have prior U. S. Military service? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			If so, how long did you serve? Years: Months:		
	Are you now on active duty or reserve status? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			When does your contract end?		
	Please list your current rank, unit and duty station:					
REFERENCES	Name:			Name:		
	Title/Position:			Title/Position:		
	Phone:			Phone:		
	E-mail:			E-mail:		
<p>Please return this completed application and your current résumé by one of the following methods (in order of preference):</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>E-MAIL: marineband.operations@usmc.mil</p> <p>FAX: (202) 433-4752</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>MAIL: Director of Operations United States Marine Band Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, SE Washington, DC 20390-5000</p> </div> </div> <p>NOTE: Items submitted through the U. S. Mail are not delivered in a timely manner as they are diverted to an off-site security screening center before being forwarded to our facility. This process may cause a significant delay in the delivery of your materials.</p> <p>Your name will be added to the audition list upon receipt of your application materials, and you will receive an e-mail confirming your appearance at the audition. If you are unable to attend or have further questions, please call (202) 433-5714 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. eastern time on weekdays. In the event of severe weather or other events that could impact the audition, please refer to your e-mail or the U. S. Marine Band's website for updates.</p>						
PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT FOR U.S. MARINE BAND APPLICANTS						
<p>This statement is provided in compliance with the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) which requires Federal agencies to inform individuals who are requested to furnish personal information about themselves.</p> <p>1. <u>Authority.</u> 10 U.S.C. 5063, MCO P5211.2</p> <p>2. <u>Principal Purposes.</u> The information that will be requested from you in the selection process and personal interview is intended to provide a basis on which to evaluate your suitability to hold a position with the United States Marine Band.</p> <p>3. <u>Routine Uses.</u> In addition to being used by U.S. Marine Band staff in the audition and evaluation process, pertinent information will be provided to other government activities in a preliminary screening to determine your ability to obtain a security clearance, which is a requirement for duty with the United States Marine Band.</p> <p>4. Disclosure of this information is voluntary, but failure to do so could result in the inability of U.S. Marine Band staff to evaluate your suitability for a position in the United States Marine Band and could preclude further participation in the audition process.</p>						
Applicant's Signature:				Date:		



UNITED STATES MARINE BAND
MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
MARINE CHAMBER ENSEMBLES
Lieutenant Colonel Ryan Nowlin, Director

Assistant Principal Oboe Audition

Oboe 1

September 9–10, 2025

Prelude from *Le Tombeau de Couperin* (Ravel)

Vif.

pp

pp *mp*

p

2

“Rufford Park Poachers” from *Lincolnshire Posy* (Grainger/Fennell)

(♩ = 160)

Solo

pp *mp* *p*

f *p* *p*

Slow off long

ppp

Concerto for Orchestra – 3rd movement (Higdon)

Mystical

♩=92-108

5 7 12 Fl. 1

14 19 6

25 29 37 39 Trombone 1

41 SOLO

46 *mf*

51

56 *f* *mp* rit.

62 *a tempo* *mf*

68 *f* *ff*

74

78 81 85 10 95 11 106

Clarinet solo Bassoon

Used in Audition with Permission from Lawdon Press

Overture to *La scala di seta* (Rossini)

Andantino

The image displays a musical score for 'The Swan' by Camille Saint-Saëns. The score is written for a piano introduction and a solo section for the first violin. The piano introduction begins with a treble clef, a common time signature (C), and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Allegro' and the time signature changes to 15/8. The score is divided into three measures, each starting with a measure number in a box: 1, 2, and 3. The first measure is marked 'p' (piano) and 'dolce' (sweetly). The second measure is marked 'p' and 'SOLO I.'. The third measure is marked 'p' and 'SOLO I.'. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, accidentals, and dynamic markings.

Suite from *Pulcinella* (Stravinsky) – Serenata

1 *Larghetto* *Serenata*

2

3

Suite from *Pulcinella* (Stravinsky) – Gavotte complete (NO repeat)

Gavotta
con due variazioni

158 *Allegro moderato*

p

pp

Solo
dolce

mf

p

Variazione Ia

Suite from *Pulcinella* (Stravinsky) – Variation 1a complete (YES repeat)

162 *Allegretto*

mp

pp

mf

mp

Partita – 2nd movement (Walton/Patterson)

1 **Andante comodo** ♩. = c.54-56
Solo

p *grazioso, espr.*

6 *f* *p cresc.* *dim.*

10 *dolce* *ff dim.* *Pocchiss. rit.*

21 **A tempo**

13 *mp* *ff dolce*

2

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a single melodic line, likely for oboe. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The tempo is 'Andante comodo' with a metronome marking of approximately 54-56 beats per minute. The first system (measures 1-5) features a 'Solo' marking and a dynamic of 'p' (piano) with the instruction 'grazioso, espr.' (graceful, expressive). The second system (measures 6-9) shows a dynamic increase to 'f' (forte) followed by 'p cresc.' (piano, crescendo) and 'dim.' (diminuendo). The third system (measures 10-12) starts with 'dolce' (sweetly) and 'ff dim.' (fortissimo, diminuendo), followed by 'Pocchiss. rit.' (very, very ritardando). The fourth system (measures 13-15) is marked 'A tempo' and begins with 'mp' (mezzo-piano), then 'ff dolce' (fortissimo, sweetly). The piece concludes with a final measure marked with a '2' over a whole note.

Partita – 3rd movement (Walton/Patterson)

Allegro gioviale ♩ = c.144

Symphony No. 3 in A minor, Opus 56, "Scottish" – 2nd movement (Mendelssohn)

Vivace non troppo.

1 20 Clar. *mf* **A**

34 *cresc.* *f*

44 *f* *cresc.* *ff*

57 *f*

66 **B** 15 *pp* *f* *p* *f*

89 *p* *pp*

95 *pp* 11

Symphony No. 3 in E-flat, Opus 55, "Eroica" – 2nd movement (Beethoven)

MARCIA FUNEBRE.
Adagio assai.

6 Viol. I *p*

14 *cresc.* *decresc.* *p* **A** 17 Viol. I *f* *p* *sf* *p* *cresc.* *f*

41 *p* *sf* *p* 2 Ob. II **B** *p* *cresc.*

Don Juan (Strauss) – Excerpt 1

Allegro, molto con brio.

This musical excerpt consists of six staves of music in A major. The tempo is marked 'Allegro, molto con brio.' The dynamics range from *ff* (fortissimo) to *f* (forte). The music features numerous triplets, sixteenth notes, and slurs. There are two specific markings: 'A' above a triplet on the third staff and 'B' above a triplet on the sixth staff. A large bracket spans the first five staves, and another bracket is under the first staff of the sixth line.

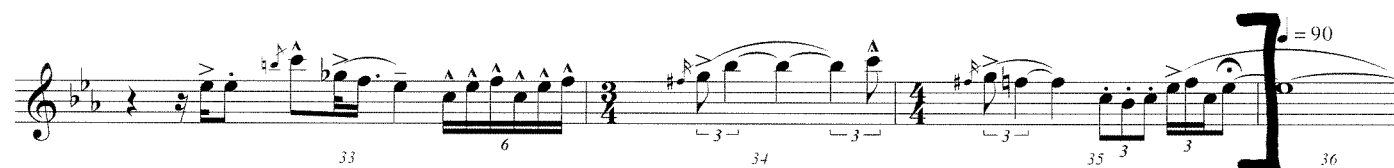
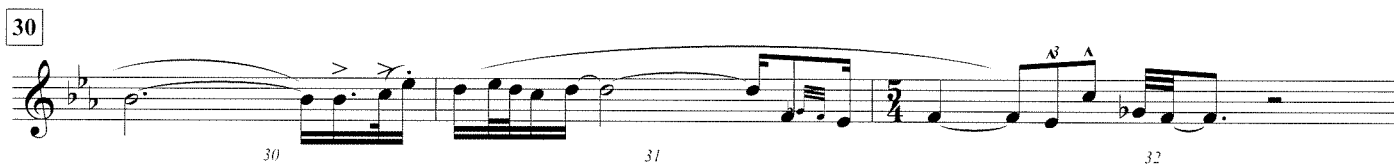
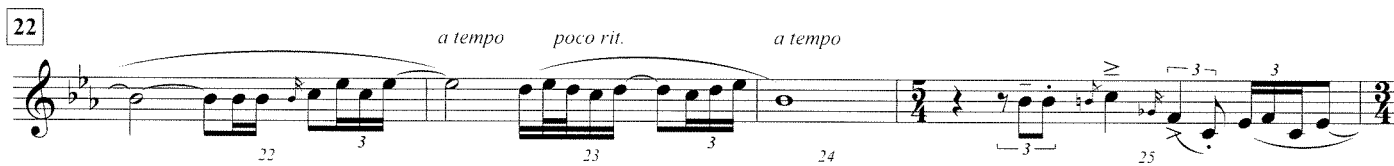
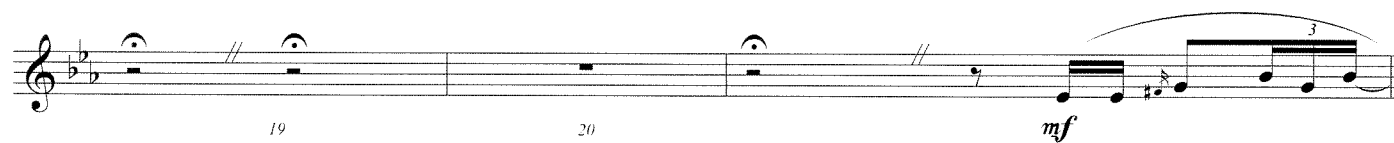
Don Juan (Strauss) – Excerpt 2

a tempo, ma tranquillo
Solo

This musical excerpt consists of four staves of music in A major. The tempo is marked 'a tempo, ma tranquillo' and 'Solo'. The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *espr.* (espressivo). The music features slurs, ties, and a crescendo leading to a 'molto espr.' section. There are two specific markings: 'L 3' above the first staff and 'M' above the second staff. A large bracket spans the first two staves, and another bracket is under the first staff of the fourth line.

Come Sunday (Thomas) – Testimony

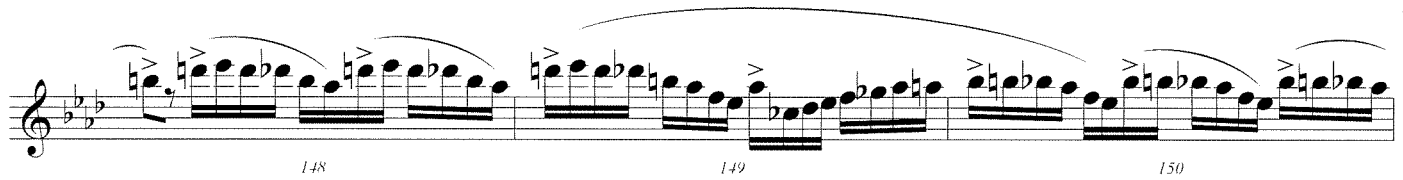
Steady ♩ = 55



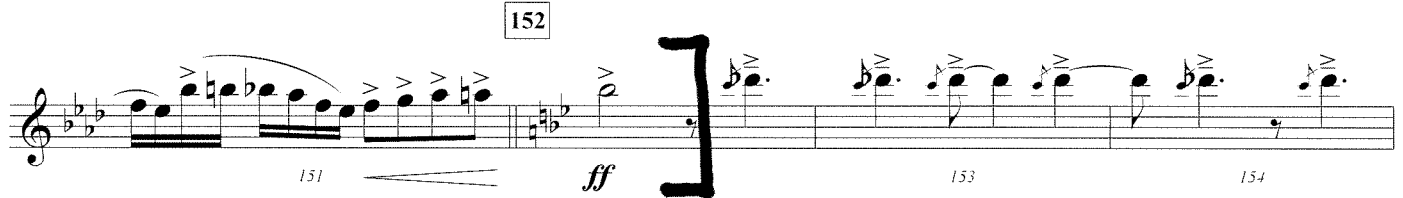
Come Sunday (Thomas) – Shout!

Turn Up! ♩ = 140+

144



152



Oboe 2

*Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Opus 56a (Brahms)

Andante.

ten. ten.

p *f* *p* *pp* *f* *dim. smorz.*

*Concerto for Wind Ensemble - 4th movement (Day)

$\text{♩} = 46$

pp *mp*

396 405 409

9 4

412

Play lower part

*to be played with principal oboist

*Concerto for Orchestra – 2nd movement (Bartók)

*to be played with principal oboist

Allegro scherzando

7 9 6 17 1 4

Ist Bsn. etc.

Ist Bsn.

25

p f

33

sempre stacc.

41

cresc. f

Symphony No. 7 in D minor, Opus 70, B. 141 – 2nd movement (Dvořák)

Poco adagio

1

p legato pp p p dim. pp

To be played with the Marine Woodwind Quintet:

Wind Quintet in C, Op. 79 (Klughardt) – 1st movement, beginning to repeat sign – no repeat

Oboe

August Klughardt, Op. 79

Allegro non troppo

p *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

p *espressivo* *p* *sempre espressivo* *p* *espressivo* *p* *espressivo* *p* *espressivo*

f *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

B *tranquillo* *p* *cresc.* *ff* *f* *dim.* *f*

C *p* *p* *espressivo* *p* *espressivo* *p* *espressivo* *p* *espressivo*

D *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

dim.



**UNITED STATES MARINE BAND
AND CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**
LIEUTENANT COLONEL RYAN NOWLIN, DIRECTOR

Marine Barracks Washington
8th & I Streets, SE
Washington, DC 20390-5000

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Communication: (202) 433-5809
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www.marineband.marines.mil

CAREER INFORMATION

AUDITIONS

Auditions for “The President’s Own” occur only in anticipation of projected vacancies and are announced through the organizational website, social media, newsletter, and by direct email to college band directors and instrumental music instructors. All auditions take place behind a screen to ensure anonymity in John Philip Sousa Band Hall at Marine Barracks Annex in Washington, D.C., and are conducted much like those of major symphony orchestras. There is no preliminary taped round.

Interested applicants should email a current résumé to marineband.operations@usmc.mil. Applicants must travel to Washington at their own expense.

MUSICAL REQUIREMENTS

No specific level of education is required, but most members hold college degrees, and many hold advanced degrees. The playing ability and expertise required are equivalent to those of any major professional musical organization.

The broad range of commitments by “The President’s Own” requires musical versatility from all band members. Typical commitments include band concerts, ceremonial events, chamber orchestra, educational outreach, small ensemble performances, touring, and recording sessions.

QUALIFICATIONS

Successful completion of an extensive background investigation is mandatory in order to obtain a Secret Security Clearance. This clearance is a requirement for the assignment of the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 5511—Member, United States Marine Band. Due to the length and scope of the security clearance process, it is initiated following the member’s enlistment onto active duty. Failure to obtain and maintain this security clearance will result in administrative separation from the U.S. Marine Corps. Current regulations authorize enlistment between ages 17 and 28. Age waivers are

normally granted; however, the maximum age for which waivers may be granted to those with no prior military service is 34. In order to successfully enlist in the United States Marine Corps, applicants must also be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident of the United States.

Applicants must pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) and a complete physical examination, which includes complying with established height/weight standards both at the time of enlistment and throughout one’s Marine Corps career (see height/weight chart on the following page).

The playing part of the audition assesses only the individual’s musical qualifications. To be offered a position in “The President’s Own,” one must also be physically qualified and capable of being granted the required security clearance. Selection as a finalist is not a determination that one is musically qualified for the position. Finalists are those the committee wishes to hear again in order to make a more complete assessment of their abilities.

Finalists are interviewed at the time of the audition in an effort to identify any potential problems that could affect the individual’s ability to be enlisted for duty with “The President’s Own,” either related to health or the security clearance. The Privacy Act notice included as part of the Applicant Fact Sheet explains that information requested in the selection process and personal interview will provide a basis on which to evaluate the applicant’s suitability to hold a position with “The President’s Own,” and will not be used for any other purpose. While disclosure of this information is voluntary, failure to do so could result in the inability of the staff to evaluate the applicant’s suitability for a position in “The President’s Own” and could preclude further participation in the audition process. Likewise, disclosure of information during the interview that is determined to be disqualifying in nature could result in the applicant’s immediate dismissal from the remainder of the audition process.

The criteria for duty with “The President’s Own” are very stringent and are established by those outside agencies responsible for granting physical qualification and security clearances. “The President’s Own” must comply with the criteria and guidance provided by these outside agencies in order to assess applicants. While each applicant is different, and each will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, the following are some issues that could affect the individual’s ability to be found fully qualified for enlistment with “The President’s Own”:

Physical Qualifications: Disqualifying conditions may include, but are not limited to, failure to meet height/weight standards at time of enlistment; serious vision and auditory problems; hypertension; diabetes; heart defects; seizure; inflammatory bowel syndrome; loss of an eye or kidney; cancer within five years; allergy immunotherapy during the past two years; and physical limitations due to injury or congenital conditions. Laser eye surgery is a potential disqualifier for enlistment. Applicants who have had laser eye surgery should contact CWO3 Sara Sheffield, Deputy Director for Administration and Production, at (202) 433-3993 or sara.sheffield@usmc.mil prior to the audition. When doing so, have a copy of your contact lens/eyeglass prescription from before surgery available.

Clearance Qualifications: Disqualifying conditions may include but are not limited to: arrest and/or conviction of a felony; frequent involvement with authorities even as a juvenile; DWI/DUI; having been a patient in an institution primarily devoted to the treatment of mental, emotional, or psychological disorders; pattern of financial irresponsibility (bankruptcy, debt or credit problems, defaulting on a student loan); membership in any organization that advocates the commission of acts of force or violence to deny other persons their rights under the Constitution of the United States; having petitioned to be declared a conscientious objector to war; moving violations with fines over \$300; illegal drug use (to include any use of cocaine, heroin, LSD, and PCP); and the illegal purchase, possession, or sale of any such narcotics. **Note:** Applicants with questions about their specific cases should contact CWO3 Sara Sheffield, Deputy Director for Administration and Production, at (202) 433-3993 or sara.sheffield@usmc.mil prior to the audition.

At the completion of the personal interview and health/security screening, if it is determined that health and/or background issues could affect an individual’s ability to be enlisted for duty with “The President’s Own,” such matters will be addressed with the respective agencies responsible for physical qualification or clearance matters. If these agencies confirm that an applicant is unequivocally disqualified for either physical or security clearance reasons, the Director reserves the right to eliminate the individual from further consideration.

Once found fully qualified and selected for a position with “The President’s Own,” applicants receive full medical and aptitude testing at the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) nearest their current residence. This testing is coordinated by “The President’s Own” in cooperation with local Marine Corps recruiters.

ABOUT THE ENLISTMENT

The enlistment process is completed at the applicant’s local MEPS. A standard four-year enlistment contract is signed “for duty with the U.S. Marine Band only.”

Marine Band musicians are permanently assigned and may not be transferred to any other unit or location. Upon enlistment, new members are appointed to the rank of Staff Sergeant (pay grade E-6) in the U.S. Marine Corps and receive all pay and benefits commensurate with that grade. They are also subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, the rules and articles of which govern the discipline of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Following enlistment, new members report directly to Washington, DC, with official travel and shipment of household goods conducted at government expense.

RECRUIT TRAINING

Members of “The President’s Own” are not required to undergo recruit training. The mission of “The President’s Own” is “to provide music and perform such other functions as are directed by the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps.” Unlike other Marine Corps musical units, “The President’s Own” has no secondary combat role, and its members are exempt from all such training. “The President’s Own” musicians report to

Marine Corps Weight Standards

Male Weight Standards:

Height (inches)	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
Weight (pounds)															
Minimum	110	114	117	121	125	128	132	136	140	144	148	152	156	160	164
Maximum	160	165	170	175	180	186	191	197	202	208	214	220	225	231	237

Female Weight Standards:

Height (inches)	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73
Weight (pounds)																
Minimum	91	94	97	100	104	107	110	114	117	121	125	128	132	136	140	144
Maximum	124	129	133	137	142	146	151	156	161	166	171	176	181	186	191	197

Washington fully trained to perform their primary duties in the accomplishment of the band's unique musical mission. Therefore, there is no requirement for "The President's Own" musicians to undergo recruit training. New members are instructed by the Assistant Drum Major in appropriate military and band-related subjects. This ongoing process of instruction gives each musician essential knowledge about his or her role in the U.S. Marine Corps.

PAY/ALLOWANCES

Military pay is divided into two categories: basic pay (which is taxable) and other allowances (housing, subsistence) which are not taxable. Federal, state, and social security taxes are deducted only from the income's taxable portion. In addition, all members of the armed forces are allowed to claim legal residence in their home state if they so desire. This may also affect their state tax status (see chart below for detailed information regarding pay and benefits).

OTHER PAY INFORMATION

Members of the armed services receive pay increases after the second year of service. These increases continue at the third and fourth year and then are given every two years after that time up to year 26. In addition, requests for military pay raises are presented to Congress each year.

The Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) is determined by rank. The BAH is recomputed periodically to ensure that it conforms with actual housing costs. The Washington area has

one of the highest BAH rates in the nation.

RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Members of "The President's Own," like all other active duty service members, are covered under the military's Blended Retirement System. Armed services members qualify for retirement at the completion of 20 years of active service at 40 percent of their base pay, with an additional 2 percent each year thereafter. This pension benefit requires no contribution from the individual.

The Blended Retirement System also includes participation in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). The TSP is a defined contribution plan that allows members to save for retirement in a tax-deferred, government sponsored retirement plan. The member will be eligible for 1% automatic and up to 4% employer matching contributions to their individual account from their basic pay. The plan consists of five different investment funds that offer diversification over a broad range of bond and equity markets. The TSP is governed by the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board. Enrollment opportunities are available to all military personnel. The program is very similar to a civilian 401k or 403b style plan but at a lower administrative cost.

NON-MONETARY BENEFITS

As active duty members of the military, "The President's Own" musicians receive all medical and dental care, x-rays, tests, and prescriptions without charge. Dependents are also authorized

Monthly Pay and Allowances for a Staff Sergeant (Pay Grade E-6)
Effective Jan. 1, 2025

Members of the U.S. Armed Forces are paid on the 1st and 15th of each month. Of the total pay and allowances due, **only the basic pay is taxable.** *Monthly deductions on this chart are estimated based upon average deductions of current members.* These amounts fluctuate based upon specific state of residence, marital, and dependent status. In addition, members are paid per diem while traveling on government business and are entitled to an annual clothing allowance used to defray the costs of uniform purchase and maintenance.

Glossary:

BAH (Basic Allowance for Housing) — a sum determined by housing costs in the geographic region in which the members are stationed; this helps defray rent or mortgage costs.
BAS (Basic Allowance for Subsistence) — the sum allocated to defray the cost of meals. (Both BAH and BAS are non-taxable income).
SGLI (Servicemember's Group Life Insurance) — a monthly deduction entitling the member to be insured for \$500,000. Spousal coverage is also available.
DENTAL — there is no cost for a member without dependents; members with one dependent pay \$11.65 monthly, more than one dependent costs \$30.28 monthly.
USN/MC RETIREMENT HOME — a mandatory deduction for all Sailors and Marines

Pay and Allowances:	Without Dependents	With Dependents
Basic Pay	\$3,276.60	\$3,276.60
BAH	2,892.00	3,459.00
BAS	465.77	465.77
Total Monthly Gross	6,634.37	7,201.37
Total Annual Gross	79,612.44	86,416.44

Monthly Deductions (estimated):

Social Security	203.15	203.15
SGLI \$500,000	30.00	30.00
TSGLI	1.00	1.00
Dental	0.00	11.65
Medicare	47.51	47.51
USN/MC Ret. Home	.50	.50
Total Monthly Deductions	282.16	293.81

Monthly Net Pay (Pre-Tax):	\$6,352.21	\$6,907.56
Annual Net Pay (Pre-Tax):	\$76,226.52	\$82,890.72

Note: *Net pay* refers to the amount taken home; *gross pay* reflects income prior to deductions.

to receive free medical care at selected military facilities. A contributory plan allows dependent dental care to be covered at a modest cost. Members who retire after 20 years of service also retain medical benefits through Tricare.

The musicians of “The President’s Own” receive full exchange and commissary privileges for themselves and their dependents. Members who retire after 20 years of service also retain full exchange and commissary privileges.

The Washington, DC, area has a wealth of government and military facilities that are available to active duty members and their families. These include swimming pools, tennis and racquetball courts, gymnasiums, and golf courses. Marine Corps Community Service offers rental of camping and athletic equipment, etc. at little or no cost. In addition, there are ample opportunities for recreational, cultural, educational, and historical pursuits throughout the Washington, DC, metropolitan area.

LEAVE (VACATION) TIME

Marines receive 30 days paid leave each year plus some federal holidays when not on duty. Special liberty may also be granted by the Director. All requests for leave are approved or disapproved based on the band’s schedule. “The President’s Own” has no “blanket leave” periods during which the entire band is on leave at the same time. To accomplish its mission, it is necessary for the Marine Band to remain operational 365 days a year.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

When funds are available, Marine Corps tuition assistance pays up to 100 percent of tuition, instructional fees, laboratory fees, computer fees, and mandatory course enrollment fees combined, not to exceed \$250 per semester hour equivalent and \$4,500 per individual per fiscal year. Tuition assistance funds are authorized for vocational-technical, undergraduate, graduate, undergraduate developmental, independent study, and distance learning programs. Courses must be offered by institutions accredited by agencies recognized by the United States Department of Education.

In addition to tuition assistance, the Veteran’s Administration offers educational assistance to all active duty service members in the form of the GI Bill. Two different GI Bill programs exist: the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post 9/11 GI Bill. These programs offer a range of benefits including the opportunity to transfer educational benefits to spouses and children. Some programs require a contribution from the service member. Information regarding the GI Bill and other educational benefits is available from the Veteran’s Administration. There are a number of colleges and universities in the Washington area, including Georgetown University, George Mason University, George Washington University, Catholic University, the University of Maryland, and the Peabody Conservatory of Music.

HOUSING

Military housing is limited in the Washington area and should not be anticipated. The majority of members live in the Washington metropolitan area, including areas of Maryland and Virginia. BAH is not paid if a member obtains military housing.

“THE PRESIDENT’S OWN” HISTORY

“The President’s Own” has been part of the events that have shaped our national heritage for more than two centuries. Its omnipresent role in events of national importance has made it part of the fabric of American life. Established by an Act of Congress in 1798, the Marine Band is America’s oldest continuously active professional musical organization. Its mission is unique—to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

It is believed that the band performed for the inaugural of Thomas Jefferson in 1801, and research suggests it has performed for every Presidential inaugural since that time. In Jefferson, the band found its most visionary advocate. An accomplished musician himself, Jefferson recognized the unique relationship between the band and the Chief Executive and he is credited with giving the Marine Band its title, “The President’s Own.”

Whether performing for South Lawn arrival ceremonies, State Dinners, or receptions, Marine Band musicians appear at the White House more than 300 times each year. These performances range from a solo harpist or chamber orchestra to a dance band or full concert band, making versatility an important requirement for band members. Additionally, the band participates in more than 500 public and official performances annually, including concerts and ceremonies throughout the Washington, DC, metropolitan area. Each fall, the band travels through a region of the United States during its concert tour, a century-old tradition started by John Philip Sousa, the band’s legendary seventeenth director.

The Marine Band’s integral role in the national culture and in the government’s official life has affirmed the importance of the arts as a bridge between people. Since 1798, “The President’s Own” has remained the only musical organization whose mission is to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. The Marine Band continues to celebrate its rich history and tradition while also breaking new ground in the organization’s third century of bringing music to the White House and to the American people.

Dear Auditionee:

In addition to “The President’s Own,” there are excellent opportunities for musicians in our ten Marine Corps field bands. Enjoy the satisfaction of becoming a member of America’s elite fighting force while serving as a member of a performance ensemble. Celebrate our nation’s most treasured traditions with others that share your passion for music and service to our country in an environment that challenges you to live up to your full potential. Positively impact the lives of appreciative audiences in concert venues, on parade fields, and in professional sports stadiums around the world.

These bands are stationed at the major commands of the Marine Corps and are located in Hawaii, southern California, the Carolinas, Virginia, Louisiana, and Okinawa, Japan. Regardless of the ensemble—ceremonial band, concert band, show band, combo, or chamber ensemble—Marine musicians enjoy the satisfaction and experience gained through full-time performance with a professional musical organization in national and international venues. As a Marine musician you may qualify for an enlistment bonus, a choice of duty station, accelerated promotion to the rank of sergeant (E-5), and 100% tuition assistance while enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program.

If you would like to learn more about these rewarding positions, please contact an audition coordinator by emailing marinemusic@marines.usmc.mil, by calling the musician recruiting coordinator at (571) 559-4631 or by visiting the website: <https://www.marines.com/music>

Thank you for your interest in Marine Music and for auditioning for this position with “The President’s Own.”

Sincerely,
Ryan Nowlin
Lieutenant Colonel, USMC
Director, United States Marine Band