The Marine Band will perform its annual Summer Blast Off! concert Memorial Day weekend at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts in Vienna, Va.

Photo credit: Teddy Wolff/Wolf Trap
Each year for the project, three young composers and three young conductors are chosen out of a pool of applicants from across the country. Each student conductor was paired with a student composer in mid-April. With the assistance of professional mentors they collaborate to rehearse, record, and present a live performance of the composers’ works. The 2015 Mentor Project will culminate with a concert by the Marine Band of the three selected works conducted by each of the young conductors. The free performance will take place at 7 p.m., Tuesday, June 16, in John Philip Sousa Band Hall at the Marine Barracks Annex in southeast Washington, D.C.

“The concert provides a culminating event for the young composers and conductors to experience a live performance of the selected compositions,” said Dr. Paula Crider, the Young Conductor Mentor Project coordinator and University of Texas professor emerita. “The resulting recordings provide a terrific boost for the careers of these talented young individuals. And having ‘The President’s Own’ serve as the performing ensemble? It just doesn’t get any better than that!”

The main purpose of the initiative is to recognize and provide encouragement to young composers and conductors who otherwise would not enjoy the opportunity to collaborate, and to work with outstanding mentors. The project originally began in 2000 under the direction of professor and composer Mark Camphouse and was only for young composers. After the second year of the project, Frank Ticheli, one of the composer mentors, recommended that young conductors be added to the initiative as they would benefit greatly from the score study and collaboration with the young composers. For the 2015 project, Charles Andersen of Crestview, Fla.; Joseph Higgins of Chicago; and Joshua Kearney of East Lansing, Mich., were selected out of a field of 72 applicants to be the conductors. The three composer candidates include Ryan Lindveit of Houston, Anthony O’Toole of Philadelphia, and Joe Krycia of Clinton Township, Mich.

The competition for selection is rigorous. In addition to sending a curriculum vitae, the conductor applicants were required to submit a DVD of themselves conducting two contrasting pieces, a written submission of a score study, a complete list of repertoire conducted, a letter stating career goals, letters of recommendation, and a three minute video clip of them teaching a musical concept. The application requirements for the young composers are similar, but instead of a conducting video, candidates had to submit a full score of an original work for wind band.

All six candidates participate in the event free of charge and all professional mentors donate their time. “I’m thrilled to join Professor Camphouse in helping to make the most out of this unique opportunity for young composers,” said Marine Band Assistant Director 1st Lt. Ryan J. Nowlin. Nowlin, who previously served as one of the Marine Band’s staff arrangers, will serve as one of three composer mentors, along with Camphouse and composer Dana Wilson. The conductor mentors are all noted experts in the wind ensemble field and include Crider, Frank Battisti, Rick Good, and Marine Band Director Lt. Col. Jason K. Fettig.

“I’m particularly excited about the students’ opportunities for growth in orchestration technique,” Nowlin continued. “It is an essential component of bringing their compositional ideas to life. Hearing one’s music with live musicians is the only way to get a good sense of direction on how to improve. With the idealized tone colors offered by the Marine Band, students will have a chance to hear what works and learn ways to alter scoring for...
WHITE HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS

Recent appearances by “The President’s Own” supporting the White House include:

- Counselor of the Year
- 2014 NHL Champions Los Angeles Kings visit
- 2014 MLS Cup Champions Los Angeles Galaxy visit
- Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act Bill Signing
- Celebrating Women of the Movement Event
- Governors’ Meeting
- Black History Month Event
- Girls Education Event
- St. Patrick’s Day Reception
- Student Film Festival
- Science Fair and Science Dinner
- Easter Egg Roll
- PBS Gospel Event
- Spring Garden Tours
- State Dinner for Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan

LET THE TRUMPETS SOUND

by Master Sgt. Kristin duBois

The Marine Band’s brass section has a long history of being among the finest and most respected in the field of professional music, a sentiment validated by an invitation to perform for the International Trumpet Guild’s (ITG) annual conference. A brass and percussion ensemble from “The President’s Own,” conducted by Assistant Director, and former Marine Band trumpet player, Maj. Michelle A. Rakers, will take part in ITG’s 40th Anniversary Conference in Columbus, Ohio, with a special performance on May 28. In addition, trumpet players Master Sgt. Susan Rider and Staff Sgt. Amy McCabe will perform with the Monarch Brass on May 27.

The program includes “Let Freedom Ring” by 1st Lt. Ryan J. Nowlin; Sång till Lotta composed by Jan Sandström and arranged by Tobias Rägle; Concerto for Trumpet by Brendan Collins and Paquito by Andy Scott, both featuring guest trumpet soloist Rex Richardson; A Requiem in Our Time by Einojuhani Rautavaara; Street Song composed by Michael Tilson Thomas; “A Hero’s Destiny” by Brian Balmages; and “Sing, Sing, Sing” composed by Louis Prima and arranged by Phil Snedecor.

“We are thrilled to be featured at this year’s ITG Conference,” Rakers said. “Playing in front of our brass colleagues is always a thrilling challenge and we are looking forward to preparing an exciting program of great repertoire for brass and percussion. I am also looking forward to working with Rex Richardson, someone who I’ve known since our days together at Northwestern University and Aspen Music Festival. He is immensely talented and I am certain his performance will be a tremendous highlight of this year’s conference.”

Richardson is an internationally known trumpet soloist and veteran of the acclaimed chamber group Rhythm & Brass, the Brass Band of Battle Creek, and jazz legend Joe Henderson’s Quintet and Sextet. He teaches trumpet, jazz improvisation, and chamber music at Northwestern University and Aspen Music Festival. He is immensely talented and I am certain his performance will be a tremendous highlight of this year’s conference.”

“ITG continued on page 6”

THE COMPLETE MARCHES OF JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

Volume 1 is now available for free download exclusively on the Marine Band website, along with full PDF scores, scrolling videos, and historical notes about each piece. Get Volume 1 now!

Visit www.marineband.marines.mil

FEATURED DOWNLOADS

MAY
March of the Month
“Independentia”
R.B. Hall

Director’s Choice
“For The President’s Own”
John Williams

JUNE
March of the Month
“The Gallant Seventh”
John Philip Sousa*

Featured Soloist
Clarinet Concerto, Opus 57
Carl Nielsen
Staff Sgt. Patrick Morgan, soloist

*Member, U.S. Marine Band

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NOTES • May | June 2015

A Marine brass and percussion ensemble, conducted by Assistant Director Maj. Michelle A. Rakers (center), will perform at ITG 2015.
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND SUMMER BLAST OFF!

by Staff Sgt. Rachel Ghadiali

Every year over Memorial Day weekend, members of “The President’s Own” pay tribute to the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice while bravely serving in the United States armed forces. Marine Band members have sounded “Taps” at cemeteries and remembrance ceremonies, performed at the National Memorial Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery, and even helped dedicate the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. But one of the band’s other traditions on this important holiday—Summer Blast Off!—is a Memorial Day weekend concert at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts’ Filene Center in Vienna, Va. This annual event is an entertaining evening of fun and patriotic music followed by a thrilling fireworks display; it is free and open to the public and will take place at 8 p.m., Sunday, May 24.

“This concert program always represents a cross-section of our great American music and works that have long been associated with our cherished holidays,” said Marine Band Director Lt. Col. Jason K. Fettig. “The concert allows us another opportunity to celebrate our national heritage and pay tribute to those who have sacrificed so much in service to our country.”

The program includes inspirational and patriotic works such as John Philip Sousa’s march “The Stars and Stripes Forever,” Frank Ticheli’s moving arrangement of Amazing Grace, Irving Berlin’s “God Bless America,” Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky’s monumental 1812 Overture, and John Williams’ Hymn to the Fallen from Saving Private Ryan and “Summon the Heroes.”

The program will also salute the men and women of our “Greatest Generation,” especially those who fought in World War II, a war that ended 70 years ago this year. Marine Band vocalists baritone Master Sgt. Kevin Bennear and mezzo-soprano Gunnery Sgt. Sara Dell’Omo will celebrate the legacy of the hard fought victory of World War II by singing Marine Band staff arranger Staff Sgt. Scott Ninmer’s new arrangement of A Journey Through South Pacific, a medley of songs by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II from their classic Broadway musical South Pacific.

“South Pacific conjures up images of World War II, both with the story and the style of the music. Such nostalgia and emotion swells up from its beautiful melodies,” said Dell’Omo. “It’s a privilege to recognize those who served in the Great War, like my grandfather who served in the Navy on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific Ocean. This concert gives us a chance to offer a musical tribute to those who bravely served and made such great sacrifices.”

For Bennear, performing the music from South Pacific reminds him of his own service in the Marine Corps.

“The Memorial Day concert at Wolf Trap was the very first concert I sang as a member of ‘The President’s Own,’” Bennear said. The date was May 24, 2000, and Bennear, the band’s third featured concert moderator since 1955, still remembers it vividly.

“I’ve never forgotten that performance,” he continued. “For that concert, I sang ‘Some Enchanted Evening’ from South Pacific, so that song is very dear to me because it was the first piece I sang in my Marine Corps uniform. I felt so proud. And now here I am, 15 years later, singing it again and still in uniform, still serving my country, and still very proud. I couldn’t be more excited because it has such a special place in my heart.”

The medley, A Journey Through South Pacific, is, according to Ninmer, “aptly titled as the characters are physically journeying through the South Pacific and going through life changes. The country is dealing with a tumultuous conflict, and, most obviously, the audience is on a journey in listening to the music.”

He continued: “I’ve always enjoyed the music, and I think the plot is engaging and deals with several social issues with which we still grapple today. I think it still speaks to the audience because of that.”

So on Memorial Day weekend, the Marine Band will convey a heartfelt appreciation for those who have served...
FEATURED PROGRAMS

MARINE BAND

2 PM | Sunday, May 3
Dekelboum Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
LtCol Jason K. Fettig, conducting

ELEMENTS

Igor Stravinsky/trans. Rogers
Fireworks, Opus 4 (1908)

Warren Benson
The Passing Bell (1974)

Jennifer Higdon
Percussion Concerto (2005)
MGySgt Christopher Rose, soloist

Darius Milhaud
La Création du monde, Opus 81a (1923)

Leonard Bernstein/trans. Bocook
Symphonic Suite from On the Waterfront (1956)

CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

2 PM | Sunday, May 10
John Philip Sousa Band Hall, Marine Barracks Annex, Washington, DC
SSgt Sheng-Tsung Wang, coordinator

Georg Philipp Telemann/ed. Haußwald
Fantasie No. 7 in E-flat, TWV 40:20

Béla Bartók
String Quartet No. 2, Opus 17 (1915-17)

Reinhold Glière/trans. Proto
Suite for Violin and Bass (1909)

Maurice Ravel
Violin Sonata No. 2 (1923-27)

MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

2 PM | Sunday, May 17
Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NOVA, Alexandria, VA
Maj Michelle A. Rakers, conducting

FROM MENTOR TO FAST FRIENDS

Johannes Brahms
Hungarian Dances Nos. 1, 3, and 10

Antonín Dvořák
Violin Concerto in A minor, Opus 53
SSgt Karen Johnson, soloist

Antonín Dvořák
Rondo in G minor, Opus 94 and Silent Woods from From Bohemia’s Forest, Opus 68
SSgt Charlaine Prescott, cello soloist

Johannes Brahms
Variations on a Theme of Haydn, Opus 56a

MARINE BAND

8 PM | Sunday, May 24
Filene Center, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, Vienna, VA
LtCol Jason K. Fettig, conducting

SUMMER BLAST OFF!

John Philip Sousa*/ed. Byrne*
March, “New York Hippodrome”

Ryan George
Firefly (2010)

Jimmy Dorsey/trans. Nestico*
“Oodles of Noodles”
MGt Steven Longoria, saxophone soloist

Frank Ticheli
“Amazing Grace”

Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II/arr. Ninmer*
A Journey Through South Pacific
MGt Sara Dell’Omo, mezzo-soprano
MGt Kevin Bennear, baritone

John Williams/arr. Lavender
“Summon the Heroes” (1995)

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky/trans. D. Patterson*
Overture Solemnelle, “1812,” Opus 49

John Williams/arr. Lavender
Hymn to the Fallen from Saving Private Ryan (1998)

John Philip Sousa*
March, “The Stars and Stripes Forever” + ‡
arranged by Thomas Knox*
A Salute to the Armed Forces of the United States of America

MARINE BRASS AND PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

4:30 PM | Thursday, May 28
ITG 40TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE
Hyatt Regency, Columbus, Ohio
*Tickets required. Details in story on page 2.
Maj Michelle A. Rakers, conducting

1stLt Ryan J. Nowlin*
“Let Freedom Ring”

Jan Sandström/arr. Rägle
Sång till Lotta

Brendan Collins
Concerto for Trumpet
Rex Richardson, guest trumpet soloist

Einojuhani Rautavaara
A Requiem in Our Time

Michael Tilson Thomas
Street Song

Andy Scott
Paquito
Rex Richardson, guest trumpet soloist

Brian Balmages
“A Hero’s Destiny”

Louis Prima/arr. Snedecor
“Sing, Sing, Sing”

CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

2 PM | Sunday, May 31
John Philip Sousa Band Hall, Marine Barracks Annex, Washington, DC
SSgt Andrew Dees, coordinator

William Walond/arr. Reynolds
Voluntary

Franz Schubert/arr. Deis
“The Shepherd on the Rock,” Opus 129

Concerts with this icon will stream live at www.marineband.marines.mil.
+ Selections available for download at www.marineband.marines.mil/AudioResources.
‡ Selections available for viewing on the Marine Band YouTube channel at youtube.com/usmarineband.
Elliot Carter  
“Espirit Rude/Espirit Doux II” (1994)

Paul Hindemith  
Sonata for Four Horns (1952)

Andrew Horwitz  
Pages from an American Cookbook (2015)  
world première

Jan Dismas Zelenka  
Trio Sonata No. 1 in F, ZWV 181

MARINE BAND  
8 pm | Wednesday, June 3  
U.S. Capitol, West Terrace

8 pm | Thursday, June 4  
Sylvan Theater

Maj Michelle A. Rakers, conducting

John Philip Sousa*  
March, “Revival” + †

Steven Bryant  
Stampede (2003)

Amilcare Ponchielli/trans. Lind  
Clarinet Duet, “Il Convegno”  
MGySgt Charles Willett and  
GySgt Tracey Paddock, soloists

Arturo Marquez/trans. Nickel  
Danzón No. 2 (1994)

Dmitri Shostakovich/trans. Righter  
Finale from Symphony No. 5, Opus 47

Herman Bellstedt/trans. Bulla*  
Carmen Fantasy  
MGySgt Andrew Schuller, trumpet soloist

Gustav Holst/trans. M. Patterson  
“Jupiter” from The Planets, Opus 32

arranged by 1stLt Ryan J. Nowlin  
“Stormy Weather” & “That Old Black Magic”  
GySgt Sara Dell’Omo, mezzo-soprano

John Philip Sousa*  
March, “The Liberty Bell” + †

Dmitri Shostakovich/trans. Singleton  
Concertino, Opus 94

MARINE JAZZ COMBO  
8 pm | Wednesday, June 17  
U.S. Capitol, West Terrace

8 pm | Thursday, June 18  
Sylvan Theater

Program will include Latin jazz standards by such artists as Tito Puente, Chick Corea, Cal Tjader, and Pat Metheny.

MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA  
7:30 pm | Saturday, June 20  
Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Maj Michelle A. Rakers, conducting

Einojuhani Rautavaara  

Felix Mendelssohn  
Concerto for Violin and Piano in D minor  
SSgt Chaerin Smith, violin soloist  
GySgt AnnaMaría Mottola, piano soloist

Béla Bartók  
Divertimento for String Orchestra (1939)

MARINE BAND  
8 pm | Wednesday, June 24  
U.S. Capitol, West Terrace

8 pm | Thursday, June 25  
Sylvan Theater

LtCol Jason K. Fettig, conducting

John Philip Sousa*  
March, “Hands Across the Sea”

Adam Gorb  
“Awayday” (1996)

Philip Sparke  
Party Piece (1986)  
GySgt Matthew Summers,  
euphonium soloist

John Mackey  
Sheltering Sky (2012)

Vasili Kalinnikov/trans. Bainum  
Finale from Symphony No. 1

John Philip Sousa*  
March, “The Stars and Stripes Forever” + †

WOLF TRAP continued from page 3
and continue to serve their country. Whether through a Sousa march, a great work of musical theater, or a medley of our prized military service songs, the band salutes the nation’s service men and women, both past and present.

Gates will open at 6:30 p.m. and will close when the park reaches maximum capacity. A fireworks viewing area will open at approximately 9:30 p.m., following the Marine Band’s performance, with the display set to start at 9:45 p.m. The Filene Center is located at 1551 Trap Road in Vienna. Patrons are welcome to bring blankets or lawn chairs for seating in the lawn area. For more information call (703) 255-1900 or visit wolf-trap.org.
Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond and is an International Tutor in Trumpet at the Royal Northern College of Music in London. He is a Yamaha Performing Artist and tours throughout the year as a clinician, recitalist, and soloist with orchestras, wind ensembles, big bands, and brass bands.

“I’m absolutely thrilled about performing with the Marine Band,” Richardson said. “Michelle Rakers has been a friend for over 25 years, but I think it’s been almost that long since we’ve worked together. I’m grateful to the Marine Band for this opportunity. It is sure to be a highlight for me both in terms of my career and my personal life, and I think it will be a blast for the audience to hear this incredible ensemble.”

He explained that he chose these two solos because he thought they would work well for the program, in terms of length and energy. In addition, he said the pieces, “would demonstrate my playing, and the Marine Band brass playing, of course, both in neoclassical and jazz settings. Both composers are good friends of mine and are very excited about this concert. Both pieces will be world premières in their form for this concert. It will also be my first chance to work with this amazing band, so I think everyone’s energy will be really top notch!”

The performance will take place at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, May 28, at St. Patrick Church, which is located at 280 North Grant Avenue in Columbus. The performance is free for the public, but tickets are required.

In addition, Rider and McCabe will perform with

**Gunnery Sgt. Ellen Dooley**

**Flute**

**JOINED THE BAND**

May 2005

**EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Music, Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore; Masters of Music, Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh

**PET**

Cat named Hendrix who thinks he’s a dog

**SELF-PORTRAIT**

Positive, energetic, generous

**FAVORITE SAYING OR MOTTO**

Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken.

**PET PEEVES**

Under tipping and oblivious drivers in the left lane

**WALTER MITTY FANTASY**

Racing in the Tour de France

**INSPIRATION**

My girlfriends. They are strong, smart, talented, and full of life.

**FAVORITE MOVIE**

“Amélie”

**BEST-KEPT SECRET**

I’m too shy to dance in public.

**FAVORITE FOODS**

Popcorn, wine, sushi, cupcakes

**HOBBIES**

Cycling, swimming, running, cooking, travel

**BAD HABIT**

Setting too many alarms because I hit snooze in my sleep

**THREE THINGS ALWAYS FOUND IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR**

Hummus, almond butter and produce at various stages of life

**MOST INFLUENTIAL TEACHERS**

Mark Sparks, principal flute with the St. Louis Symphony and Jeanne Baxtresser, former principal flute with the New York Philharmonic

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE BEFORE THE BAND**

Private flute teacher and adjunct faculty at Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania

**LUXURY DEFINED**

A fully supported cycling adventure in Europe complete with chef-prepared gourmet meals

**BOOKS AT BEDSIDE**

iPhone

**FAVORITE PIECES OF MUSIC**

Prélude à l’après-midi d’un faune by Claude Debussy and Symphony No. 7 in A by Ludwig van Beethoven

**PLACE YOU’D MOST LIKE TO BE STRANDED**

France

**LAST WORDS**

There better not be ham salad at the reception.

**GUEST SOLOIST AND YAMAHA PERFORMING ARTIST TRUMPETER REX RICHARDSON WILL PERFORM WITH THE MARINE BRASS AND PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE.**

**MUST MEMORABLE MOMENTS IN BAND**

My first inauguration (2009) and Martin Short listening intently to me play chamber music at a White House reception.

**GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Winning a job in this band and completing two Ironman Triathlons
Monarch Brass at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 27, also at St. Patrick Church.

This is the third time Rider has been invited to perform with Monarch, an all-female brass and percussion ensemble founded by Susan Slaughter, former principal trumpet of the St. Louis Symphony and founder of the International Women’s Brass Conference (IWBC). The mission of the organization is to provide opportunities that will educate, develop, support and inspire all women brass musicians who desire to pursue professional careers in music.

“I’ve been involved with the IWBC not only as a member, but I also co-edited the newsletter for 10 years, and am currently the IWBC website content manager,” Rider said. “I was also invited to be a guest artist at the 2010 IWBC Conference in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. So, I’ve been very proudly involved with this organization from the very beginning, and have been honored to be invited to perform as a member of the Monarch Brass now on three occasions.”

The concert will be dedicated to works for brass and percussion. Although the final program is still under development, Rider said she is looking forward to performing Fanfare for a Learned Man by Libby Larson, Elegy by Kevin Puts, and O Magnum Mysterium by Morton Lauridsen.

“What is unique about this performance is that it is being performed by many of the top women brass players in North America. The group represents the importance of the support that women brass players give to each other by coming together from all over, performing with each other, and showing that the performance of music is universal; that it is the music that matters the most. It is because of organizations like Monarch Brass and the IWBC that societal shifts have allowed for women to feel more equality in so many work places,” Rider said.

ITG’s 40th anniversary conference will take place at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus, Ohio. The Marine brass and percussion performance will take place at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, May 28 and the Monarch Brass concert, featuring Marine Band trumpet players Master Sgt. Susan Rider and Staff Sgt. Amy McCabe, will take place at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 27. Both concerts will be located at St. Patrick Church, 280 North Grant Avenue in Columbus. For details please visit www.itgconference.org/registration."

MENTOR continued from page 1

decidedly improved results.”

Nowlin’s interest in composition began at an early age, mainly by doing arrangements of works before completing his own original scores. However, he understands how important having a mentor can be as it was under the mentorship of composer Anne McGinty that Nowlin’s composing skills were honed and really flourished.

The three-day Mentor Project will largely take place at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., between the participants and the mentors. However, the culminating concert will take place in John Philip Sousa Band Hall at the Marine Barracks Annex in southeast Washington, D.C., at 7 p.m., Tuesday, June 16, and is free and open to the public; no tickets are required. Sousa Band Hall is located at 7th & K Streets, SE, Washington, D.C., and free parking is available under the overpass on 7th street.

“Past Young Conductor and Composer winners have gone on to distinguish themselves in the fields of composition and wind band conducting,” Crider concluded. “Participants, both young and not so young, come away from this experience energized and with an even greater passion for the art of creating and re-creating great music.”

VACANCIES

“The President’s Own” announces the following vacancies:

Recording Engineer: Résumé and audio samples must be submitted via email by June 12, 2015, to jeffrey.higgs@usmc.mil.
Trumpet/cornet: Audition Aug. 10-11

For information contact the Marine Band Operations Office at marineband.operations@usmc.mil or (202) 433-5714.

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