“THE PRESIDENT’S OWN” UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

NOTES

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Notes is a quarterly publication produced by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band’s Office of Communication.

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The 2019 Young People’s Concert on April 7, 2019, featured the Marine Big Band with a variety of music catered to teaching a young audience about the incredible versatility of the Big Band!

John Philip Sousa composed a total of 132 marches during his lifetime! The Marine Band is recording all available marches as part of its Complete Marches of John Philip Sousa Project. With the completion of Volume 5 in April 2019, the band has now recorded 95 of the 132 Sousa marches.
Number of articles or mentions in media sources such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune, The Houston Chronicle, Discovery Channel, Travel Channel, FOX & Friends, 11th Hour with Brian Williams, MSNBC Live with Craig Melvin, and Good Morning Washington-WJLA.

1,411

2.2 BILLION! Total Reach

FEATURED STORIES & MENTIONS

“...and that’s how it started. [The] Marine Band was added—and they will be setting up behind us on the balcony, a few of them are arriving. You might be able to see them behind me play some lively tunes to keep the children entertained.” - FOX & Friends at the White House Easter Egg Roll

“...party on the White House lawn, complete with a Marine Band playing the national anthem.” - The New York Times, “Women’s Championship Team at the White House”

“The White House celebrated the team in proper fashion with the Marine Corps Band playing ‘Sweet Caroline’ following the president’s remarks.” - The 11th Hour with Brian Williams, President Trump Welcomed the 2018 World Series Champion Boston Red Sox to the White House

“Hosted by the First Lady, her office has been planning the last six months. The day long event has favorites like the Marine Band, Reading Nook and Easter Bunny.” - FOX 25 News / WFXT-TV at the White House Easter Egg Roll
Communication Strategist Master Sergeant Kristin duBois joined "The President’s Own" United States Marine Band in April 1999. Master Sgt. duBois began her musical training on piano at age 9 and French horn at age 15. After graduating from Westfield High School in Massachusetts in 1993, she attended Syracuse University’s Newhouse School of Public Communications in New York where she earned a bachelor’s degree in public relations in 1997. Master Sgt. duBois retired in June after 20 years of service with "The President’s Own."

Trumpeter/Cornetist Master Gunnery Sergeant John Abbracciamento joined "The President’s Own" United States Marine Band in November 1992. He was named high brass section leader and commander in 2016. He began his musical instruction at age 8, and after graduating from Valley Stream South High School in Valley Stream, N.Y., in 1978, he attended the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. He completed his bachelor’s degree in music at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor in 1983 and also earned a master’s degree from Mannes College of Music in New York in 1985. Master Gunnery Sgt. Abbracciamento retired in June after nearly 27 years of service with "The President’s Own."

Tuba player Master Gunnery Sergeant Mark Thiele joined "The President’s Own" United States Marine Band in July 1989. He was named section leader in 2000, low brass section commander in 2003, and principal in November 2013. Master Gunnery Sgt. Thiele began his musical instruction at age 11 and graduated in 1983 from Lake Mills High School in Wisconsin. He earned a bachelor’s degree in tuba performance from the University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1987 and a master’s degree in tuba performance from the University of Akron in Ohio in 1989. Master Gunnery Sgt. Thiele retired in June after 30 years of service with "The President’s Own."

Tuba player Master Sergeant Connor Mikula joined "The President’s Own" United States Marine Band in June 1998 and was named assistant section leader in November 2013. Master Sgt. Mikula began his musical instruction at age 10. He graduated in 1991 from James Madison High School in Vienna, Va., and received a bachelor’s degree in music education from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., in 1995. In 2001, he received a master’s in music performance from the University of Michigan (U-M) in Ann Arbor. Thiele retired in June after 21 years of service with "The President’s Own."

Saxophonist Staff Sergeant Connor Mikula joined "The President’s Own" United States Marine Band in May 2019. Staff Sgt. Mikula began his musical training on piano at age 5 and saxophone at age 11. After graduating from West Ottawa High School in Holland, Mich., in 2010, he attended Michigan State University in East Lansing where he earned a bachelor’s (2015) and master’s (2017) of music in saxophone performance. His instructors include Joe Luloff and Timothy McAllister of Michigan State University. Prior to joining "The President’s Own,” Staff Sgt. Mikula was a featured soloist with the Lima Symphony Orchestra in Ohio and the University of Michigan Symphony Band.

Trumpeter/Cornetist Staff Sergeant Tyler Lindsay joined "The President’s Own" United States Marine Band in May 2019. Staff Sergeant Lindsay began his musical instruction on trumpet at age 3. After graduating high school in 2013, he earned a bachelor’s degree in trumpet performance and composition from Loyola University in New Orleans in 2017 and a master’s degree in music performance from Temple University in Philadelphia in 2019. His instructors included Dr. Nick Vols and Vance Woofill of Loyola University and Anthony Prisk of Temple University. Prior to joining the Marine Band, Staff Sgt. Lindsay performed with the Disney All-American College Band, Orchestre de la Francophonie in Montreal and was a substitute for the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, Baton Rouge Symphony, and Symphony in C in New Jersey.

"The President’s Own" United States Marine Band in Partnership with the All-Star Orchestra took home an Emmy Award Saturday at the 62nd Annual New York Emmy Awards, which took place at the Marriott Marquis Broadway Ballroom in New York City. “New England Spirit,” a program featuring William Schuman’s iconic work, New England Triptych, won in the category: Special Event Coverage (Other than News and Sports) with Gerard Schwarz, Guest Conductor, Habib Azar, Video Producer and Director, Marine Band Director Col. Jason K. Fettig as Audio Director, Andrew Mayatskiy as Video Editor and Paul Schwendener as Executive Director. In collaboration with the United States Marine Band, “New England Spirit,” is part of the multi-program All-Star Orchestra series featuring top musicians from across the country performing major symphonic masterpieces and works from leading contemporary American composers. Broadcast nationwide on public television since 2013, the acclaimed series is currently in its fourth season.

This is the first Emmy Award for the Marine Band and the seventh Emmy Award for the All-Star Orchestra. All-Star Orchestra Music Director Gerard Schwarz said, “Receiving these awards from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences is a confirmation of the importance of what we are all striving for: to make accessible for free the joy and understanding of great music to the widest possible audience through public television and the world’s largest educational website: the Khan Academy. We are so grateful to the United States Marine Band and our co-production team, to our generous sponsors, and to the dedicated public television stations in our vast country for believing in classical music.”

- Broadway World, “US Marine Band With The All-Star Orchestra Wins Emmy”

Overheard on the Web

Thank you very much for your performance in Hamamatsu of Japan. … Please also keep playing wonderfully now. Thank you very much. I never forget your wonderful performance.
• You’re singing of the National Anthem today at the White House was spot on fantastic! I have sung the Anthem around my town at sporting events and I love to do it. I also want to thank you for pronouncing “parlous” correctly. That is my pet peeve of other singers. I don’t know how they get “O” out of “???”?? You have a fabulous voice. Thank you for your service and thank your fellow musicians as well. • Spent the final night in DC sitting in front of the Capitol building watching the sunset as @marineband serenaded us all.

Overheard on the Web