

"THE PRESIDENT'S OWN" UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

NOTES

SPRING 2019 | ISSUE 5

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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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making MUSIC

142

Total number of musical performances presented by members of “The President’s Own” from January-March 2019. From solo playing to small ensembles and the full band or orchestra, members perform several times each week through multiple musical commitments, including **public concerts, White House musical support, full honors funerals, patriotic openers and other ceremonial duties.**



Sousa Season Opener
January 2019

Chamber Music Series Concert
January 2019



National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial
site dedication ceremony, February 2019



Marine Chamber Orchestra Concert
March 2019



Marine Band Gala Concert at Strathmore, featuring
The Choral Arts Society of Washington, March 2019;
*Pictured left: Dominick DiOrio, MajGen James Kessler (Marine Corps Heritage
Foundation CEO), Col. Jason K. Fetting, Scott Tucker (Choral Arts Artistic Director)*

EDUCATIONAL

engagement

SOUSA'S MARCH MANIA

>90,000

approximate number of students who participated in the 2019 competition, including elementary, middle and high school music programs from across the nation.



ALL HAIL THE MARCH KINGS!



MARCH MANIA BY THE NUMBERS

Between Dec. 12, 2018
and April 4, 2019:

224,211:

Web page visits

11,307:

Bracket downloads

5,184:

Program note downloads

3,269:

Lesson plan downloads

599:

Audio zip file downloads

124,697:

MP3s accessed

WHAT EDUCATORS ARE SAYING ABOUT MARCH MANIA

Last year we participated in Sousa's March Mania and **it was one of the highlights of the year**. My returning students are already asking me about it for this year. ... I love to see the kids get into this music. Looking forward to a great month of marches.

– *Kevin Blackstock*, THE VILLAGES CHARTER SCHOOL, FLORIDA

Last week, I gave class time for the kids to listen to as many marches as they could to finish their brackets. It was so wonderful to see kids get truly invested in this, form opinions on this music, and want to compete! **It's why my classes will participate in this every year!**

– *Dana Kettelwell*, LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL, FORT COLLINS, COLORADO

We've had a blast following the brackets and voting for our favorites. **I've loved how the process is so user-friendly and the fact that our students can explore so many high quality recordings of such great marches!** It also fit nicely into our "Music In Our Schools Month" activities! Now that we have the first year under our belts, we'll promote even more next year to try to maximize our student participation. Thank you for providing this great activity and for promoting marches!

– *Beth Lyons*, OAK LAWN-HOMETOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT 123, ILLINOIS



CONCERTO COMPETITION

104

of high school musicians who sent in applications for the Marine Band's annual Concerto Competition, presented in conjunction with the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. Only **5** students were selected as finalists, and euphonium player **PEYTON SILLS**, of Madison, Miss., was selected as the competition winner.



MUSIC IN THE HIGH SCHOOLS

2,080

of students reached through educational clinics as part of the Marine Band's Music in the High Schools program



DIGITAL FOOTPRINT



850,202

Total website hits
January-March 2019

Top page hits below:



MARCH MANIA



HOME PAGE



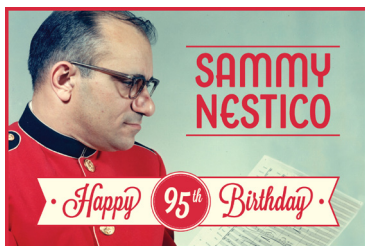
COMPLETE MARCHES OF JPS



MARCH MANIA BRACKET



MARINES' HYMN



Top Facebook posts below and their reach:



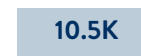
Happy Birthday Sammy Nestico!



#MusicMonday-National Anthem at WVU Men's Basketball Game



Assistant Drum Major Stacie Crowther Promotion to Master Sergeant



#NationalAnthemDay



La forza del destino performed by 8 trumpets



Top Tweet of the quarter:



Marine Band @marineband · Feb 8

Happy Birthday John Williams! Here's the amazing maestro conducting the @marineband performing his own composition "For 'The President's Own'" back in 2013. VIEW/LISTEN:



Marine Band Celebrates Anniversary with John Will...
In celebration of the Marine Band's 215th anniversary, John Williams, the Academy Award-...
youtube.com

4,210

Total reach of the top tweet.



1.8 MILLION

Total Marine Band YouTube views



Who's watching?
Top 10 countries
tuning in

IN THE NEWS

369



Number of articles or mentions in media sources, including print, web, radio and television, with mentions by media such as the **New York Times**, **Chicago Tribune**, **The Baltimore Sun**, **Fox5 Morning News San Diego**, **Stars and Stripes**, **Moth Radio Hour**, **Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!**, **The Washington Post**, and **The Houston Chronicle**.

769.5M

Total Reach

FEATURED STORY - WASHINGTON POST MUSIC REVIEW

... The band proved its seriousness with William Schuman's "American Hymn," a **tapestry of gorgeous harmonies and striking textures**. As for Berlioz, was represented by a rare performance of the "Grande symphonie funèbre et triomphale," composed for a vast military band. **The full forces of "The President's Own" gave it an authoritative performance**, from the stately opening funeral march, in which crashing fortissimos obliterated softer sections, to the heraldic finale with Choral Arts, complete with the shaken clangor of four Turkish crescents. ...

— *"In Washington's crowded choral scene, too much is just enough,"* by Charles T. Downey, *The Washington Post*, March 18, 2019



meet the BAND



STAFF LINES

SSgt Scott Nimmer

POSITION IN BAND
Staff Arranger

EDUCATION

BM in jazz trombone performance from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; MM in jazz composition from Manhattan School of Music in New York

JOINED THE BAND
2014

SELF-PORTRAIT

Quiet and shy, fun-loving, stoic, efficient, compassionate

FAVORITE SAYING OR MOTTO

"Find a job you enjoy doing, and you will never have to work a day in your life." – Mark Twain

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

Marrying my wife last summer!

PET PEEVES

Tardiness, impoliteness, using the word 'literally' incorrectly

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT IN BAND

Writing seven arrangements in a week for the National Tree Lighting in 2014-my very first assignment for the band!

INSPIRATION

Every time I hear the Marine Band rehearse, I get very inspired and want to run home to compose furiously! If only I could remember what I wanted to write when I got home...

FAVORITE MOVIE

Based on sheer number of viewings, "Home Alone"

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE

Daniel Day-Lewis

BEST-KEPT SECRET

My 250+ board game collection.

FAVORITE FOODS

Rack of lamb, duck à l'orange, pasta bolognese

HOBBIES

Chess, cooking, reading, logic puzzles

BAD HABIT

Constantly singing/humming/whistling, sitting in chairs in unusual ways.

THREE THINGS ALWAYS IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR

Spinach, blueberries, almond milk

BOOKS AT BEDSIDE

"What to Expect When You're Expecting" by Heidi Murkoff, "The Omnivore's Dilemma" by Michael Pollan, "Faust" by Goethe

MOST INFLUENTIAL TEACHERS

Jonathan Tunick, who is best known for being Stephen Sondheim's orchestrator. I had the honor and pleasure of being his student and mentee for the three years that I lived in NYC.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE BEFORE THE BAND

Freelance composer, arranger, trombonist in NYC and manager of the New York Youth Symphony Jazz Band

LUXURY DEFINED

8-day weeks

FAVORITE PIECE OF MUSIC

Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring"

PLACE YOU'D MOST LIKE TO BE STRANDED

At home!

LAST WORDS

I thought they'd have found a cure for mortality by now!



Photo courtesy the Barack Obama Presidential Library

IN MEMORIAM



Former clarinet player Staff Sgt. John Mohler of Lancaster, Pa., passed away on Feb. 6, 2019. After serving with the Marine Band from 1950-54 he went on to teach at the University of Michigan from 1962-94 and served as the wind and percussion department chair for 15 years. While there Mohler taught and mentored several clarinet players who went on to join the Marine Band. He performed regularly across the United States with several ensembles, including the Philadelphia Orchestra, and was also president of the International Clarinet Society.



Former piccolo and principal flute player Master Gunnery Sgt. Leslie (Les) Hunt III of Shirley, Mass., passed away on March 22, 2019. He joined the Marine Band in 1968, was appointed principal in 1988, and retired in 1998. Master Gunnery Sgt. Hunt participated in many historic events during his career to include the re-dedication of the Statue of Liberty in 1986. He also performed on four overseas trips with the Marine Band: Ireland in 1986, Norway in 1989, the former Soviet Union in 1990, and England in 1992.

OVERHEARD ON THE WEB

It was such an honor to have another chance to listen to you guys again. So on behalf of the city of Casper I say thank you again for coming. • **Spectacular Chamber Music Series entry today.** Thank you all! Incidentally, I'm one of the shut-ins that really values your company on Sundays - or anytime. Semper Fi to everyone! • **What a perfect way to spend a sunny Sunday afternoon! Thanks so much for the live stream. Semper Fi!** • Happy National Band Day. March Forth! • It's nice to see that the "president's own" is still doing their job so wonderful, so beautiful. • **Brilliant performance.** Col. Fettig really brings out the "spaceiality" of this piece. His handling of the percussion themes is masterful, and his handling of the percussion themes is brilliant. It is very hard to control themes that are split between percussionist. I'd never heard this piece before, and therefore, thank you for presenting it. • Look forward to a great year of music and concerts. Semper Fi. • Thank you so much for this wonderful program, and **thank you for your service to our Nation!**