



Celebrating
225 Years
of Playing America's Music

SEASON

Season Highlights

SOUSA SEASON OPENER

SUNDAY, JAN. 8 • 2 PM

Maj. Ryan J. Nowlin, conducting
Marine Band at GMU, Fairfax, VA

John Philip Sousa was only 25 years old when he was called back by the Commandant of the Marine Corps to serve as the United States Marine Band's 17th Director in 1880. During the next 12 years, Sousa simultaneously transitioned "The President's Own" from a local military band into a world-renowned musical organization and transformed himself into a national celebrity and "The March King." Sousa's musical interests were often reflected in his programmatic style, as is represented in this performance. At the helm, he brought orchestral music to the masses through wind band transcriptions, highlighted the virtuosic skill of soloists, and unabashedly inserted his own compositions into the mix, a programming style that is still used by today's Marine Band and celebrated during the Sousa Season Opener.

SOUSA • March, "Nobles of the Mystic Shrine"

DVOŘÁK / *trans. Patterson* • Carnival Overture, Opus 92
transcription world première

SIMON / *arr. Larios* • "Willow Echoes"

SSgt Chris Larios, cornet soloist

TCHAIKOVSKY / *trans. Godfrey* • Polonaise from Suite No. 3
in G, Opus 55

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS • English Folk Song Suite

TESORI & SCANLAN / *arr. Ninmer* • Music from
Thoroughly Modern Millie

MSgt Sara Sheffield, mezzo-soprano

ROSSINI • Overture to William Tell



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF WOMEN IN THE MARINE BAND

SATURDAY, MARCH 4 • 2 PM

MSgt Erika Sato, coordinator

Capital Turnaround, Washington, DC

Ruth Johnson successfully won a Marine Band French horn audition on March 7, 1973, and went on to become the first female to enlist in "The President's Own." Marine Band Director Lt. Col. Dale Harpham explained his decision to enlist Johnson: "At the time, there were no legal ramifications against admitting women. I wanted to see this happen because I wanted the Marine Band to be the best." Weeks later the Marine Corps announced job opportunities for women in each of its bands, and in 1975 many more occupational fields throughout the Corps were opened to women. In honor of 50 years of women in the Marine Band, this concert focuses on the work of female composers and arrangers, and highlights some of the band's many talented female musicians.

WAGNER / *arr. Sieff* • Ride of the Valkyries

COLEMAN • Portraits of Langston

SMYTH / *arr. Mowry* • Allegro from Quintet in E

WALLEN • Concerto Grosso for Violin, Bass, Piano, and Strings

SCHUMANN • "Liebst du um Schönheit," Opus 12

WAYNE / *arr. Prather* • It Happened in Monterey

ESMAIL • Darshan

TOWER • Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman



ASPIRE: "THE PRESIDENT'S OWN" AT 225

SUNDAY, APRIL 30 • 7:30 PM

Col. Jason K. Fettig, conductor

Featuring former Marine Band Directors Col. John R. Bourgeois, Col. Timothy W. Foley, & Col. Michael J. Colburn

Nicholas Phan, guest tenor soloist

Marine Band and Chamber Orchestra at Strathmore, North Bethesda, MD

****Free tickets required and are limited to two per request. Ticket request information will be released by April 1 on the Marine Band website.**

For 225 years "The President's Own" United States Marine Band has faithfully served its mission to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. As the oldest active professional music organization in the country, the band's storied history has left an indelible mark on the world of music, generations of Americans, and valued patriotic traditions. This gala performance celebrates a milestone anniversary and ties together the Marine Band past, present and future, with musical selections that affirm the ensemble's rich history and heritage, and also its trail-blazing efforts in commissioning new works by modern-day composers. The band will also welcome back three of its former directors to the podium, Col. John R. Bourgeois (1979-1996), Col. Timothy W. Foley (1996-2004), and Col. Michael J. Colburn (2004-2014) to take part in this momentous event. In addition, Grammy Award-nominated tenor Nicholas Phan will make his debut performance with the Marine Band performing the world première of Joel Puckett's *There Was a Child Went Forth*.



Featuring former U.S. Marine Band Directors ...



Col. John R. Bourgeois, USMC (ret.)



Col. Timothy W. Foley, USMC (ret.)



Col. Michael J. Colburn, USMC (ret.)

SOUSA • Presidential Polonaise

WALKER • Lyric for Strings

PUCKETT • *There Was a Child Went Forth*

Nicholas Phan, guest tenor soloist
world première

IVES / ed. Elkus • Symphony No. 2

HOPKINSON • Washington's March

SCALA • President Lincoln's Inaugural March
(The Union March)

SOUSA • March, "A Century of Progress"

HIGDON • *Aspire*

GERSHWIN / arr. Bulla • "Love is Here to Stay" from
The Gershwin Songbook

MSgt Sara Sheffield, mezzo-soprano
& MGySgt Kevin Bennear, baritone

COPLAND / arr. Knox • "The Dodger"

MSgt Sara Sheffield, mezzo-soprano
& MGySgt Kevin Bennear, baritone

BERNSTEIN / ad. Grundman • "Make Our Garden
Grow" from *Candide Suite*

WARREN / arr. Knox • "God of Our Fathers"

LESHNOFF • Symphony for Winds
world première

SOUSA • March, "The Stars and
Stripes Forever"

OFFENBACH / arr. Hunsberger • The
Marines' Hymn

... and Grammy Award-
nominated guest
soloist Nicholas Phan



COURTESY NICHOLAS PHAN

JOHN WILLIAMS AND "THE PRESIDENT'S OWN"

SUNDAY, JULY 16 • 2 PM

Col. Jason K. Fettig, conductor; John Williams, guest conductor

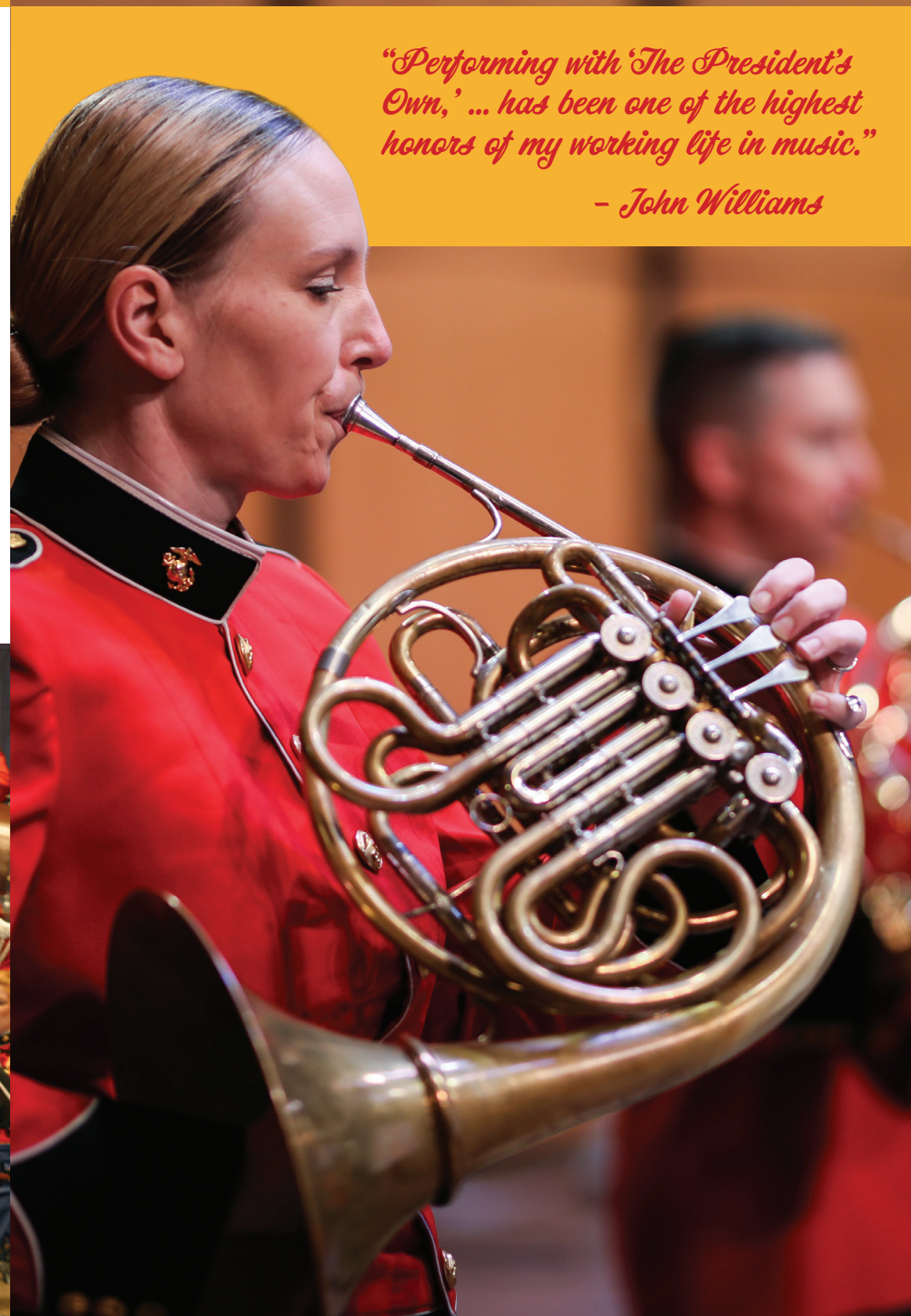
Marine Band at the Kennedy Center, Washington, DC

****Free tickets required. Ticket information will be released in late spring on the Marine Band website.**

The Marine Band's 225th anniversary celebration continues with an extraordinary concert at the Kennedy Center, conducted in part by Maestro John Williams. The composer, who turns 91-years-old this year, is best known for his instantly-recognizable scores to the *Star Wars*, *Indiana Jones* and *Harry Potter* films, as well as *Jaws*, *E. T. the Extra-Terrestrial*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, and many others. Williams first conducted the Marine Band in concert at the Kennedy Center in 2003, commemorating the band's 205th birthday. That historic occasion marked the beginning of a long friendship between Williams and "The President's Own" including additional guest appearances on the podium in 2008 and 2019, as well as the 2021 Marine Band album release of "John Williams and 'The President's Own.'" In this concert, the Marine Band pulls out all the stops, enthusiastic to perform an exciting lineup of Williams' work, once again under the direction of the composer himself.

"Performing with 'The President's Own,' ... has been one of the highest honors of my working life in music."

– John Williams



Showcase Series



MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY, JAN. 15 • 2 PM

Maj. Ryan J. Nowlin, conducting

Marine Chamber Orchestra at NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Philip Glass reimagines Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* in his second Violin Concerto. Unlike the predictable pattern of seasons in the calendar year, listeners aren't given clues as to which order the

movements and their corresponding seasons will appear in the concert. Each time it is played, the 24 possible combinations offer a surprise. In contrast, Bach's *Goldberg Variations* assume an orderly path, developing the initial Aria into 30 variations. Historians believe the piece parallels seasons of life, moving up the sequence of canons to increasing understanding of one's capabilities through bearing the unknowns of death, and eventually evoking the joy of a reunion with loved ones.

GLASS • Violin Concerto No. 2, *American Four Seasons*

MSGt Erika Sato, soloist

BACH / trans. Sitkovetsky • Goldberg Variations, BWV 988

WIND & FIRE

SUNDAY, JAN. 22 • 2 PM

Col. Jason K. Fettig, conducting

Marine Band at NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Things heat up in the band's second performance of the season: Sparks start flying with Handel's Overture to *Music from the Royal Fireworks*, a new and evocative concerto for alto saxophone and tuba titled *Alpenglow* sends the temperature rising, and a *Poème du Feu* or "Poem of Fire" sets the first half of this performance ablaze. "Wind" themed pieces in the second half fan the flame, including a Sousa march inspired by the airplane, an aria sung to the "wind and waves" from Handel's opera *Scipione* and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Michael Colgrass' pillar in band literature, *Winds of Nagual*.

HANDEL / ed. Baines & Mackerras • Overture to *Music from the Royal Fireworks*

GARROP • *Alpenglow*

MSGt Nomar Longoria, alto saxophone; MSGt Franklin Crawford, tuba

GOTKOVSKY / trans. Duthoit • *Poème du Feu*

SOUSA • March, "The Aviators"

HANDEL / trans. Barrow • "Hear Me, Ye Winds and Waves" from *Scipione*

Master Gunnery Sgt. Kevin Bennear, baritone

COLGRASS • *Winds of Nagual*

AMERICAN TRADITIONS

SUNDAY, FEB. 5 • 2 PM

1st Lt. Darren Y. Lin, conducting

Marine Band at NOVA, Alexandria, VA

It's an all-American lineup on this program. Heavy-hitters such as Leonard Bernstein's Overture to *Candide* and Morton Gould's "American Salute" kick off each half, followed by modern-day works from living American composers and patriotic marches by John Philip Sousa. Don't miss Roshanne Etezady's *Points of Departure* which has lyrics and sound effects depicting travel from several perspectives, and Katahji Copley's brand new *DOPE*, a symphonic piece based on hip hop, a genre born and bred in the U.S.A.

BERNSTEIN / arr. Grundman • Overture to *Candide*

TYZIK • Concerto for Timpani

GySgt David Constantine, soloist

SOUSA • March, "Semper Fidelis"

GOULD / trans. Lang • "American Salute"

ETEZADY • *Points of Departure*

MSGt Sara Sheffield, mezzo-soprano

COPLEY • *DOPE*

Consortium première



OUR NEW DAY BEGUN: A TRIBUTE TO BLACK HISTORY

SUNDAY, FEB. 26 • 2 PM

Col. Jason K. Fettig, conducting

Marine Band at NOVA, Alexandria, VA

The Marine Band dedicates a full concert in honor of Black History Month by presenting a collection of works old and new by contemporary Black composers. Kevin Day's exciting Euphonium Concerto brings out the impressive range and technical capabilities of the versatile instrument and soloist. Music by Valerie Coleman and Omar Thomas explore some of the collective struggles we face in modern times through a pandemic and racial unrest. Erik Santos' stunning work, *THE SEER* sets the poetry of Langston Hughes and Rainer Maria Rilke to music, and will be performed by guest tenor soloist Dr. Scott Piper of the University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, and Dance.

COLEMAN • Fanfare for Uncommon Times

DAY • Euphonium Concerto

GySgt Hiram Diaz, euphonium

HAILSTORK / *trans. D. Patterson* • Fanfare on "Amazing Grace"

COLERIDGE-TAYLOR / *trans. D. Patterson* • Ballade, Opus 33

SANTOS • *THE SEER*

Dr. Scott Piper, guest tenor soloist

THOMAS • *Of Our New Day Begun*



BRATSCHE

SUNDAY, MARCH 12 • 2 PM

Gunnery Sgt. Karen Johnson, coordinator

Marine Chamber Orchestra at NOVA, Alexandria, VA

You won't find a director on the podium at this conductorless concert. Instead you'll find the viola, or "Bratsche" as it is known in German, taking the lead. Viola-centric pieces by German composers Johann Sebastian Bach and Max Bruch anchor the performance, featuring the rich tones of lower string instruments in Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 and a viola solo in Bruch's Romanze. Contemporary works by Jessica Meyer and Sir William Walton reflect the full capabilities of the whole string family.

BACH • Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 in B-flat, BWV 1051

MEYER • *Hello*

BRUCH / *arr. Lee* • Romanze, Opus 85

GySgt Sarah Hart, viola soloist

WALTON • Sonata for String Orchestra



THE PLANETS

SUNDAY, MARCH 26 • 2 PM

Maj. Ryan J. Nowlin, conducting

Marine Band at NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Buckle up for T-minus 10 to blast off! Trajectory is set for a journey through our own solar system, admiring the range of musical character Gustav Holst imagined for Earth's celestial neighbors in his ever-popular masterpiece, *The Planets*. This musical interstellar expedition also makes stops light years away at the *North Star* by Anthony Barfield and the Andromeda Galaxy, a Magellanic Cloud and the Milky Way in David Gillingham's *Galactic Empires*. Selections from Steven Spielberg's 1977 sci-fi film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* kicks off the concert, marking just the first time this season the Marine Band's orbit will cross with Maestro John Williams' work. And as a bonus, images from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope will be on display at the event.

WILLIAMS / *arr. Bulla* • Excerpts from *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*

BARFIELD • *North Star*

GySgt Amy McCabe, trumpet soloist and SSgt Russell Sharp, trombone soloist

GILLINGHAM • *Galactic Empires*

HOLST / *arr. M. Patterson* • *The Planets*, Opus 32

SACRED HYMNS, SONGS, AND SOUNDS

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 • 2 PM

1st Lt. Darren Y. Lin, conducting

Marine Band at NOVA,

Alexandria, VA

David Maslanka described the central driving force of his Symphony No. 4 as “the spontaneous rise of the impulse to shout for the joy of life.” His piece quotes the traditional hymn *Old Hundred*, as well as brilliant chorales of Johann Sebastian Bach. The related themes of reverence and celebration echo throughout the entire concert, particularly evident in the sound of “Crown Imperial” Coronation March and in the setting of Psalm 84 in *and the swallow*.

BACH / trans. Hunsberger • Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor, BWV 582

RABAUD / trans. Gee • Solo de Concours

SSgt Parker Gaims, clarinet soloist

WALTON / trans. Duthoit • Coronation March, “Crown Imperial”

SHAW / trans. Fisher • *and the swallow*

MASLANKA • Symphony No. 4



MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY, APRIL 16 • 2 PM

Col. Jason K. Fettig, conducting

Marine Chamber Orchestra at NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Anchoring this performance are beloved works of two masters: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s “Turkish” Violin Concerto and Jean Sibelius’ dramatic and heroic Second Symphony. Featured alongside these masterpieces is the contemporary music of a young composer you likely do not yet know. Front and center in this performance is the world première of SiHyun Uhm’s *Yearning*, the winner of the Marine Band’s inaugural Call for Scores, held in 2022. Her piece was selected from more than 100 submissions for its compelling form, shimmering beauty, and remarkable use of the sound and expressive qualities of the string orchestra.

UHM • *Yearning*

world première

MOZART • Violin Concerto No. 5 in A, K. 219, “Turkish”

SSgt Ryo Usami, soloist

SIBELIUS • Symphony No. 2 in D, Opus 43

FLOURISHES AND MEDITATIONS: MUSIC OF PITH AND PASSION

SUNDAY, APRIL 23 • 2 PM

Col. Jason K. Fettig, conducting

Marine Band at NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Released on the Marine Band’s latest recording album “Monuments,” concertgoers will have their first opportunity to hear Jim Stephenson’s entire *Wooden Dimes: Ballet for Wind Ensemble*, in person. Like the ballet it was originally written for, the piece is influenced by music of the 1920s. The concert also revisits Michael Gandolfi’s classical Spanish guitar-inspired *Flourishes and Meditations on a Renaissance Theme* which was also commissioned by the Marine Band, and the namesake piece on another album released by “The President’s Own” in 2011. Additionally, the winner of the 2023 Concerto Competition for High School Musicians (to be announced Feb. 11) will give their debut performance live on stage with the Marine Band.

SOUSA • March, “La Flor de Sevilla”

ZHOU • *Petals of Fire*

GANDOLFI • *Flourishes and Meditations on a Renaissance Theme*

STEPHENSON • *Wooden Dimes: Ballet for Wind Ensemble*

SCHMITT • *Dionysiaques*, Opus 62



MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY, MAY 21 • 2 PM

1st Lt. Darren Y. Lin, conducting

Marine Chamber Orchestra at PGCC, Largo, MD

Two distinct halves present contrasting moods and styles of music. A percussion trio creates a minimalist, dreamy soundscape on Tōru Takemitsu’s *Rain Tree*, and *Absolute Ocean* by Augusta Read Thomas will challenge listeners with angular vocals paired with harp. Ludwig van Beethoven’s Symphony No. 6 then follows, grounding the performance in a more traditional and bucolic charm spread over five substantial movements that the composer described as “more an expression of feeling than painting.”

TAKEMITSU • *Rain Tree*

MSgt Steven Owen, SSgt Alexander Garde, and SSgt Michael Hopkins, percussion

THOMAS • *Absolute Ocean*

MSgt Sara Sheffield, mezzo-soprano and MGySgt Karen Grimsey, harp

BEETHOVEN • Symphony No. 6 in F, Opus 68, *Pastorale*



SUMMER BLAST OFF!

SUNDAY, MAY 28 • 8 PM

Col. Jason K. Fettig, conducting

Marine Band at Wolf Trap, Vienna, VA

The Marine Band will once again celebrate Memorial Day weekend with its annual Summer Blast Off! concert at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts with a mix of patriotic favorites, popular movie soundtracks, Sousa marches, and Broadway show tunes. As always, the program will conclude with a medley of the Armed Forces' service songs honoring all those currently serving, veterans, and their families, followed by one of the best fireworks displays of the year. Don't miss this annual family event and musical salute to our nation and its heroes!

2023 PERFORMANCE LOCATIONS

**GMU: Center for the Arts Concert Hall,
George Mason University**

Braddock Road and Route 123, Fairfax, VA
(703) 993-8888
www.gmu.edu/cfa

**NOVA: Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert
Hall and Arts Center, Northern Virginia
Community College**

4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria, VA
(703) 845-6156
www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter

The Music Center at Strathmore

5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, MD
(301) 581-5100
www.strathmore.org

Capital Turnaround

700 M Street, SE, Washington, DC
www.capitalturnaround.com

**Wolf Trap National Park for the
Performing Arts, Filene Center**

1551 Trap Road
Vienna, VA
(703) 255-1900
www.wolftrap.org

**PGCC: Center for the Performing Arts, Prince
George's Community College, Largo Campus**

301 Largo Road, Largo, MD
(301) 546-7272
www.pgcc.edu/arts

**The John F. Kennedy Center for the
Performing Arts**

2700 F Street, NW, Washington, DC
(202) 416-8000
www.kennedy-center.org

*All performances are free and no tickets are
required, unless otherwise noted.*

Chamber Music Series



Coordinated by the musicians of "The President's Own," the Chamber Music Series features a variety of ensembles performing challenging and unique works in the intimate setting of John Philip Sousa Band Hall. From string quartets and brass ensembles to percussion and woodwind ensembles, the diverse musical groups always offer familiar and eclectic chamber music. All Chamber Music Series concerts will also livestream on the Marine Band's Facebook page and YouTube channel!

CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES CONCERTS

*John Philip Sousa Band Hall, Marine Barracks Annex
1053 7th Street, SE, Washington, DC*

SUNDAY, JAN. 29 • 2 PM

GySgt Patrick Morgan, coordinator

SUNDAY, FEB. 12 • 2 PM

SSgt Jeffrey Grant, coordinator

SUNDAY, MAY 7 • 2 PM

GySgt Andrew Dees, coordinator



MARINE BAND CONCERTO COMPETITION FINAL ROUND

SATURDAY, FEB. 11 • 2 PM

Seven high school students from around the nation were selected for the final round of the Marine Band Concerto Competition, presented as a recital open to the public in John Philip Sousa Band Hall. The winner receives a \$2,500 scholarship from the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and solo opportunity with the Marine Band in concert April 23.



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