

"THE PRESIDENT'S OWN" UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

NOTES

WINTER 2019 | ISSUE 4



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REMEMBERING PRESIDENT GEORGE H. W. BUSH

MAKING MUSIC - An overview of the Marine Band's total musical commitments

MEET THE BAND - Get to know violinist Master Sgt Janet Bailey in Staff Lines

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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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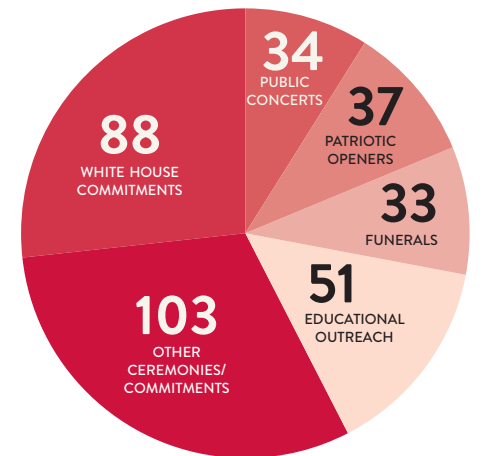
CONTENT CONTRIBUTORS
Master Sgt. Kristin duBois
Gunnery Sgt. Rachel Ghadiali



making MUSIC

346

Total number of musical performances presented by members of “The President’s Own” from October–December 2018. 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, educational initiatives, and other ceremonial duties.**



Medal of Honor flag presentation to Sgt. Maj. John Canley, USMC (Ret.)



National Tour concert at The Palladium in Carmel, Ind.



National Tour concert at Symphony Center in Chicago



Holiday concert at the National Museum of the Marine Corps



John Philip Sousa Birthday Celebration at Congressional Cemetery



Veterans Day concert at the Washington National Cathedral

EDUCATIONAL

engagement

CONCERTO COMPETITION FOR HIGH SCHOOL MUSICIANS

113

Total number of applications recieved



5

Finalists selected to compete in the final round for a \$2,500 scholarship from the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and a solo opportunity with the Marine Band.

LETTER FROM AN EDUCATOR

The woodwind quintet that performed this morning for over 400 sixth and seventh-grade band students literally changed lives! They engaged our students, took time to answer their questions, and represented the Marines and our country in heartwarming fashion. ... This visit has made a huge impact not only on our students, but also our community. I am so proud of the work these dedicated service men and women are doing. Thank you for continuing to support this important work. *As I tell my own students, "We need to go beyond the notes!" Clearly, this is what took place!!*

- Chris Gleason
Music Educator, Patrick Marsh Middle School Bands (Sun Prairie, Wis.)



TOUR EDUCATIONAL CLINICS

4,500

of students reached through educational clinics and master classes conducted by members of "The President's Own"

during 72 educational clinics conducted at schools in the Midwest during the band's National Tour in October 2018.

MUSIC IN THE SCHOOLS

Three different ensembles performed for elementary students in the Washington, D.C. region during the month of October.

6,940

total number of students

51

total number of schools



ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL RECORDING



22,029

of organizations that received the Marine Band's 2018 annual educational recording "To Make Us Proud: A Leonard Bernstein Tribute." In addition, thousands more have [listened to the music on the Marine Band's YouTube channel](#).

The year 2018 would have marked Bernstein's 100th birthday, and this unique collection of music celebrates his legacy as one of the most talented and influential musicians in history.



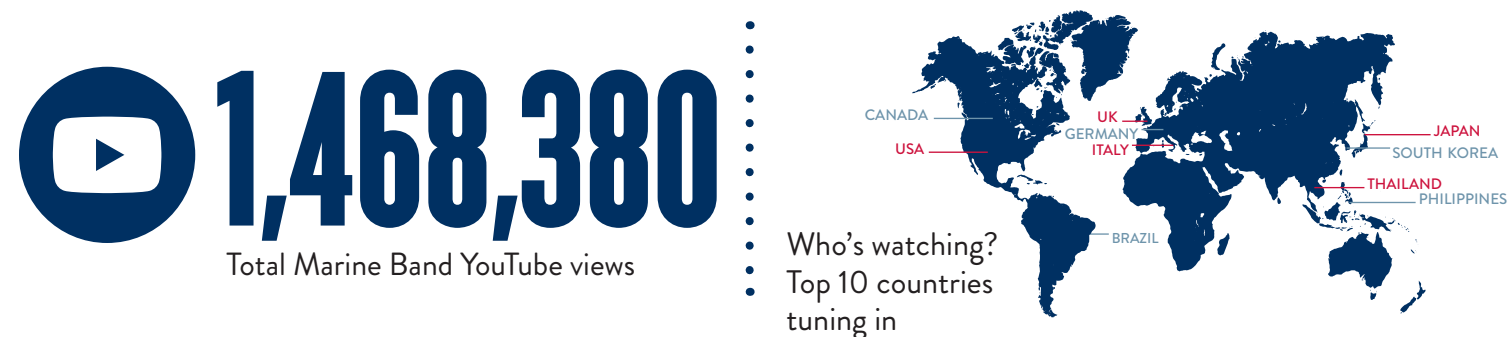
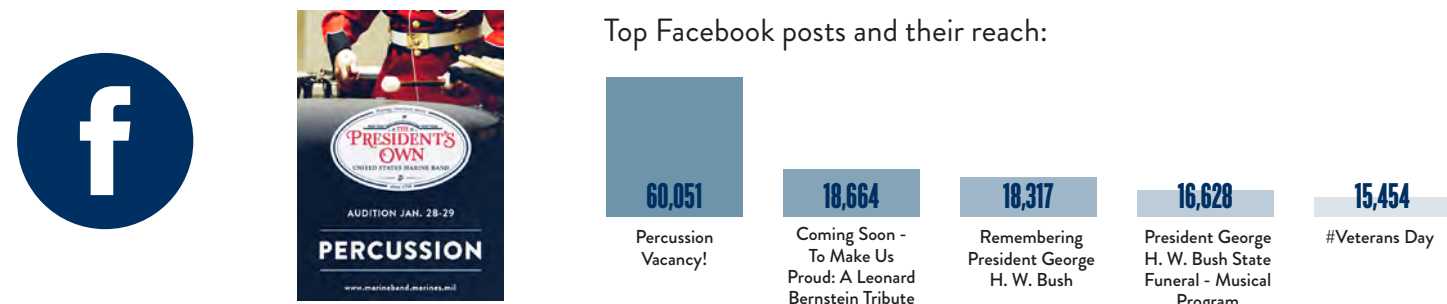
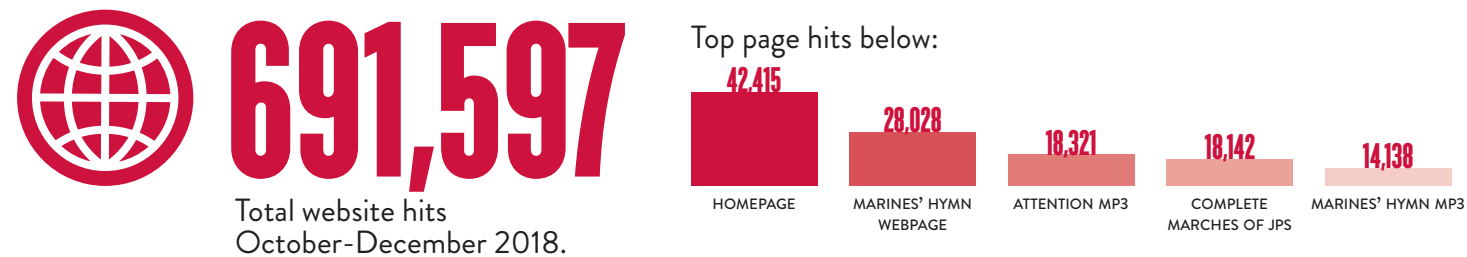
COURTESY OF THE LEONARD BERNSTEIN OFFICE, INC.



There has never been an American artist like Leonard Bernstein, and there likely never will be again. I hope this collection of music will both illuminate his legacy and appropriately celebrate his monumental influence on so many other musicians and on our American artistic identity. Bernstein passionately wished for music to be a unifying force in our country and around the globe, and he came as close to achieving that ideal as any artist in our history. As we celebrate his singular contribution to our musical life, the words he set to the powerful music at the end of this recording may now be meant for him: *Leonard Bernstein's gift to the nation and to the world was always destined 'to make us proud.'*

- Col. Jason K. Fettig
Director, "The President's Own" United States Marine Band

DIGITAL FOOTPRINT



IN THE NEWS



FEATURED STORIES & MENTIONS



A Marine Brass Ensemble performed several holiday favorites on **Fox & Friends** in New York for the program's Christmas morning broadcast.



Marine Band baritone vocalist Master Sgt. Kevin Benneer kicks off "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" on **PBSNewsHour**.



A unique collaboration: the All-Star Orchestra's **Gerard Schwarz conducts the U.S. Marine Band...** - *Broadway World*

"The year 2018 marks the Marine Band's 100th national concert tour." - *Lincoln Journal-Star, Lincoln, Neb.*

"The Marine Band Chamber Orchestra, known as the 'The President's Own' for its historical connection to the president's office, played hymns and tributes throughout the elaborate ceremony." - *The Daily Times, Maryville, Tenn.*

"President Bush's State Funeral marks the 14th such event for which 'The President's Own' United States Marine Band or Marine Chamber Orchestra has performed." - *Mineral Daily News Tribune, Keyser, W. Va.*

meet the BAND



STAFF LINES

MSgt Janet Bailey

POSITION IN BAND
Violin

EDUCATION
BM in violin performance from Boston University

PETS
3 dogs and 1 very brave cat

JOINED THE BAND
1996

SELF-PORTRAIT
I see myself as a curious, patient and empathetic person who sometimes lets a sarcastic sense of humor escape!

FAVORITE SAYING OR MOTTO
The secret of getting ahead is getting started. - Mark Twain

WALTER MITTY FANTASY
I think I might be living my Walter Mitty fantasy...

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT IN BAND
Playing the slow movement of Dvořák’s American string quartet with Yo-Yo Ma and President Obama looking on.

INSPIRATION
It might sound cliché, but my colleagues in the band are a constant source of inspiration to me.

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE
Natalie Portman

PET PEEVES
Pour grammar and incorect spelling

FAVORITE FOOD
Homemade cheese from our goats and cow

BAD HABIT
Taking on too much

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT
My two girls—they are 17 and 19 and I am so proud of the confident, capable women they’ve become!

BEST-KEPT SECRET
I’ve helped countless calves and goat kids into the world on our farm.

THREE THINGS ALWAYS IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR
Milk, yogurt and cheese!

MOST INFLUENTIAL TEACHER
After university and just before I joined the band, I studied with Ricardo Cyncynates, assistant Concertmaster of the National Symphony Orchestra, and learned how to practice effectively, prepare for an audition, and cultivate my own sound. Later I sat in on many lessons when my daughter studied with him and still consider him to be one of the best violin pedagogues of our time.

LUXURY DEFINED
More time

BOOKS AT BEDSIDE
“The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History” by Elizabeth Kolbert, “Mastering Artisan Cheesemaking” by Gianaclis Caldwell, “The Four Agreements: A Practical Guide to Personal Freedom” by Don Miguel Ruiz

FAVORITE PIECE OF MUSIC
Well... this week it’s Mahler 2...

PLACE YOU’D MOST LIKE TO BE STRANDED
My farm

HOBBY
You’ve probably guessed it—farming

LAST WORDS:
I’m glad I lived to see global warming solved.



Courtesy Barack Obama Presidential Library

NEW MEMBERS



Clarinet player Staff Sergeant Samuel Ross joined “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band in September 2018. Staff Sgt. Ross began his musical training on piano at age 8, percussion at 11, and clarinet at 15. After graduating in 2003 from Russellville High School, he attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in music performance in 2007. He continued his studies at the University of North Texas in Denton where he earned a master’s degree in clarinet performance in 2009. [Read Staff Sgt. Ross’s complete bio](#)



Communication strategist Staff Sergeant Chase Baran joined “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band in October 2018. Staff Sgt. Baran began his musical training on trumpet at age 11. Upon graduating from Archer High School in Lawrenceville in 2013, he attended the University of Georgia in Athens, where he performed with the Georgia Redcoat Band from 2013-17 and earned a bachelor’s degree in public relations in 2017. [Read Staff Sgt. Baran’s complete bio](#)



Recording engineer Staff Sgt. Ophir Paz joined “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band in November 2018. Staff Sgt. Paz began his musical training on saxophone at age 6. After graduating in 2014 from Orange High School in Pepper Pike, Ohio, he attended the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM), from which he earned a bachelor’s degree in audio recording, with a minor in saxophone performance, in 2018. He studied audio at CIM with Bruce Egre, Alan Bise, and Jack Renner, and saxophone with Greg Banaszak of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. [Read Staff Sgt. Paz’s complete bio](#)

IN MEMORIAM

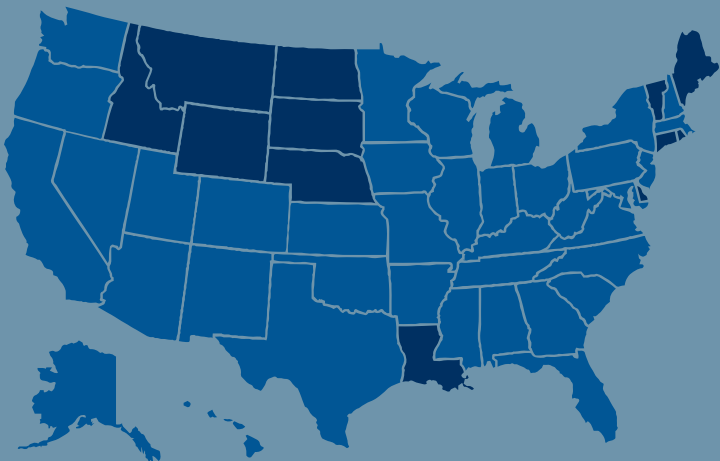
Former oboe player **Staff Sgt. Theodore Heger** of Huntington, W. Va., passed away on Oct. 14, 2018. Heger served in the Marine Band from 1954-58.

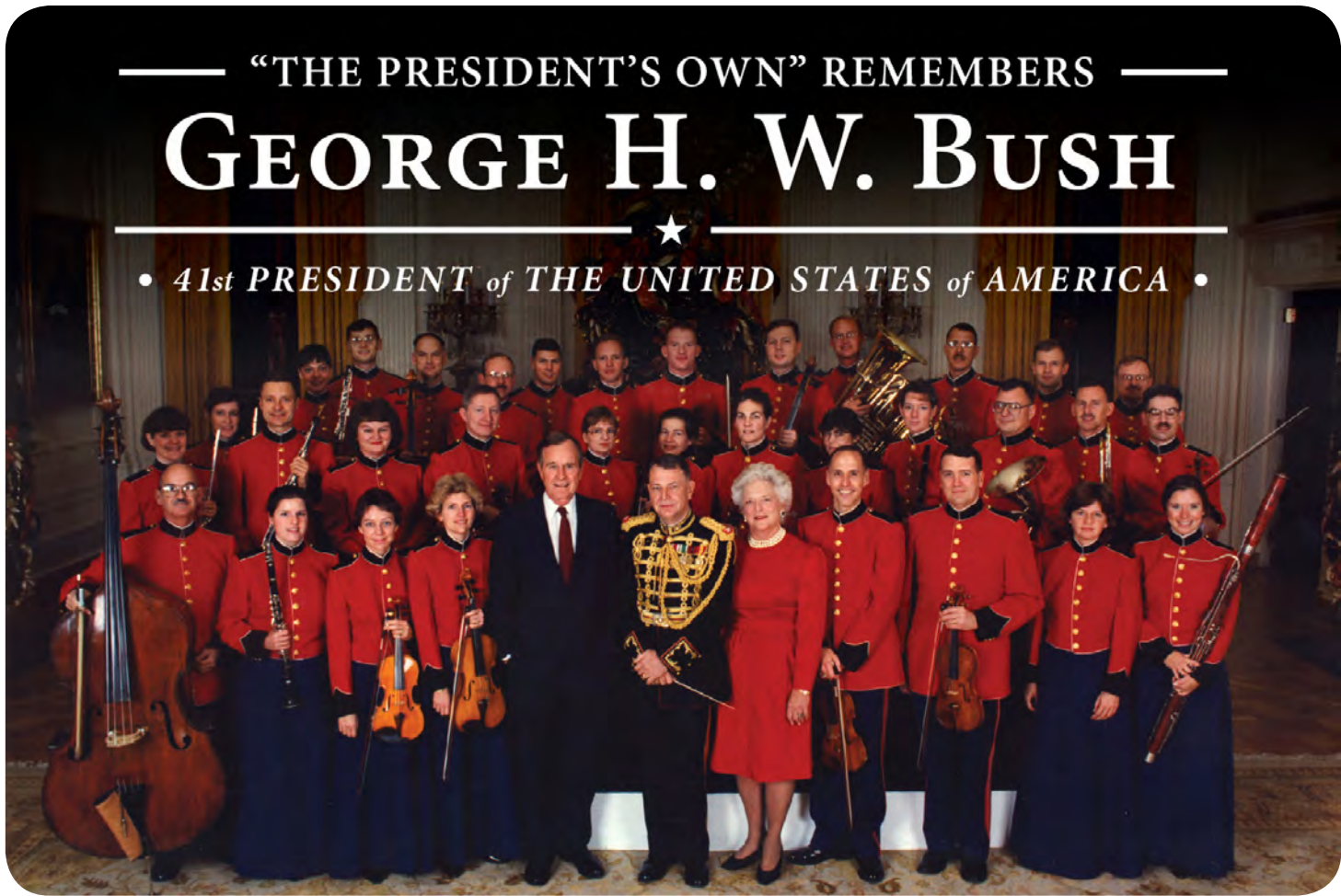
Former French horn player **Staff Sgt. Paul Avril** of San Francisco, passed away on Oct. 27, 2018. Avril served in the Marine Band from 1976-82.

DID YOU KNOW?

38

Members of “The President’s Own” hail from 38 of the 50 states, including Alaska and Hawaii. In addition, there are members from the District of Columbia and one musician who is a native of France!





— “THE PRESIDENT’S OWN” REMEMBERS —
GEORGE H. W. BUSH
★
• 41st PRESIDENT of THE UNITED STATES of AMERICA •

“The President’s Own” United States Marine Chamber Orchestra and Marine Band vocalists participated in the State Funeral for President George H. W. Bush at the Washington National Cathedral on Dec. 5, 2018. The event marked the 14th State Funeral for which “The President’s Own” has performed.

COMMENTS FROM THE STATE FUNERAL

Beautiful selections for this program, superb playing, excellent conducting and how nice to have a Joint Forces Chorus singing with Ronan Tynan and Michael W. Smith and the National Cathedral Singers and outstanding organist!
Truly a memorable, long-remembered program! Thank you!

Your performance today was simply beautiful. **Thank you for your artistry and service!**

My daughter watched the service in her class at the high school. ... Such a touching service.

Words cannot even begin to describe the experience of listening to you perform yesterday. All I can say is thank you.

Thank you Marine band for **providing an important part of President Bush’s service.** It was lovely.

This is a great remembrance of not just a distinguished President but **also an amazing American musical legacy.**

OVERHEARD ON THE WEB

Thank you all for the wonderful Semper high-Fidelity! Marvelous musicianship and wonderful selection of tunes! **OohRah from an honorary sis!** • I got to hear “The President’s Own” tonight in Lincoln, NE. **WOW! Every piece just sparkled!** • Hey Devil Dogs, thank you for a great performance this evening at Ball State University. My 6 year old Daughter was dancing in the seating while you were playing the Marches. Ooh Rah! • A gentleman behind me commented, “That’s how it should always sound” when Irish tune was complete. **Those around who heard him agreed emphatically.** • “The Presidents Own” United States Marine Band just makes me proud to be a musician • **Two hours of absolute “Band Bliss.”** • I honestly don’t remember breathing during “Irish Tune from County Derry” • It does a heart good to see an auditorium filled to capacity for wind band music. **I can’t wait for Monday rehearsals with my bands! BRAVO!** • It brought a lump to my throat when you all stood for the Marines’ Hymn. • What struck me most was that **there were no Democrats and no Republicans there that night. There were only Americans** applauding their national anthem, their excellent Marine band, and their veterans. • This visit has made a huge impact not only on our students, but also our community. **I am so proud of the work these dedicated service men and women are doing.** • Words cannot even begin to describe the experience of listening to you perform yesterday. **All I can say is thank you.** • What a wonderful reprieve from the angst of the current events in DC to have a shot of pride and patriotism from the outstanding opening of your fall concert tour in Lincoln, Nebraska. **I sat beside two people from Tajikistan, enthusiastically cheering!** • The best band in the land, and the best takes on some true classics. • Loved the clarity, and the dynamics were incredible. **The band’s unity is unsurpassed.** • **WOW, WOW, WOW!!!** My family and I attended your concert tonight, and we were completely **blown away by the performance.** • Totally unforgettable experience. #unbelievable #bandnerdsforever