



The United States Army Field Band

The Chamber Brass Bio
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The Musical Ambassadors of the Army
Washington, DC

THE U.S. ARMY FIELD BAND CHAMBER BRASS

The U.S. Army Field Band Chamber Brass is an official ensemble of The United States Army Field Band of Washington, DC. Formed in 2003 and consisting exclusively of members of the Concert Band, the quintet provides musical performances for the general public as well as serving as a component of the Field Band's educational outreach program. Members of The Chamber Brass draw upon their experiences with some of the nation's finest orchestras, concert bands, and chamber ensembles as they conduct clinics and perform recitals in middle schools and high schools.

Sergeant First Class Michael Klima, trumpet, a native of Sartell, Minnesota, joined the Field Band in 1999. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Saint Cloud State University in Minnesota, and a Master of Music degree from Kent State University in Ohio, where he was a member of the Kent Faculty Brass Quintet. SSG Klima has performed in Cleveland and Akron as a freelance artist with such groups as the Metropolitan Brass and Great Lakes Brass Quintet, and serves as the Noncommissioned Officer-in-Charge for The Chamber Brass.

Sergeant First Class John Altman, trumpet, was born and raised on Long Island, New York. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance from Centre College of Kentucky and a Master of Music in Jazz Pedagogy and Performance from Northern Illinois University, where he taught Jazz History and the All-University Jazz Ensemble from 1997 to 1999. He has studied with Vincent DiMartino, Charles Davis, William Vacciano, and Ed Hoffman, and performs with many ensembles throughout the country, including the Chicago Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra, the Rockford Symphony Orchestra, and the Washington Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra. SFC Altman joined the Field Band in December 1999.

Sergeant First Class Shawn Hagen, horn, has been a member of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra and the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, and has taught horn and theory at the University of Memphis and Rhodes College. As a soloist, he was featured at the Hot Springs Music Festival, and has performed and adjudicated at International Horn Society workshops. He joined The United States Army Field Band in 2000 and is currently completing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Memphis.

Staff Sergeant Todd Sturniolo, trombone, is a native of Hagerstown, Maryland, and joined the Field Band in 2003. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance and a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Lebanon Valley College. In 2003, he received his Master of Music in Trombone Performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he studied with Stephen Witser. SSG Sturniolo has also studied with James Erdman, and has performed with the Canton Symphony and the Cleveland Orchestra Blossom Band.

Sergeant First Class Matthew Nelson, tuba, was born and raised in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. He joined the tuba section of The United States Army Field Band in 2001. Prior to this appointment, he attended Indiana University and studied with Daniel Perantoni. He has also studied with Alan Baer of The New York Philharmonic and Anthony Kniffen of The Indianapolis Symphony. SFC Nelson freelances periodically in the Baltimore–Washington area.