

## PROGRAM NOTES



**Lieutenant Commander Bruce A. McDonald** reported for duty as Director of the United States Naval Academy Band in October of 2012. Previously, he had served as Director, U.S. Fleet Forces Band in Norfolk, VA, Fleet Bandmaster of both the Pacific Fleet Band in Pearl Harbor, HI and SIXTH Fleet Band in Naples, Italy, Associate Conductor of the United States Navy Band in Washington, DC, and as Music Program Liaison Officer to the Chief of Information, also in Washington, DC.

LCDR McDonald enlisted in the Navy in 1989 as a trombonist with the U.S. Naval Academy Band in Annapolis, Maryland. There, he performed with the "Electric Brigade" Top 40 Ensemble, the Brass Quintet, and as principal trombonist with the Wind Ensemble. After promotion to Chief Petty Officer in 1997, he transferred to the U.S. Navy School of Music in Little Creek, Virginia, where he graduated first in his class from both the Ceremonial Conductor/Drum Major and the Enlisted Bandleader/Assistant Director courses. He then transferred to the Atlantic Fleet Band in Norfolk, Virginia, where he was the ceremonial band director and assistant concert band conductor prior to his commissioning in October 2000 and subsequent assignment to the U.S. Navy Band.

LCDR McDonald holds a master's degree in instrumental conducting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**The United States Naval Academy Band**, "The Navy's Oldest and Finest," has been providing music for the Brigade of Midshipmen and surrounding community since 1852. Located at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, the band is comprised of 68 professional, Navy musicians, who have studied at some of the best music schools and conservatories in the country, and who have extensive résumés in performance and teaching.

At the Naval Academy, the USNA Band performs for dress parades, athletic events, pep rallies and other traditional events. In the community, the band presents concerts, provides music for civic events, and presents instructional clinics and performances for K-12 and university students. The band also plays for military ceremonies and funerals throughout the mid-Atlantic region.

In recent years, the band has supported the Naval Academy Admissions Department, touring throughout the country and performing at admissions forums and high schools. These events have greatly contributed to diversity initiatives and an overall increase in the number of applications to the Naval Academy.

The Naval Academy Band takes pride in representing the Naval Academy's deep heritage of excellence. Performing at the highest professional standard for the Navy, the Naval Academy, and the citizens of this great country remains our ultimate goal.

**Visit the USNA Band's Website:**  
<http://www.usna.edu/USNABand/>

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# BRASS QUINTET GOLD

## MU1 Davy DeArmond, unit leader

### TRUMPET

MU1 Christopher Buchanan - Fairfax, Virginia  
MU1 Davy DeArmond - Lenoir City, Tennessee

### FRENCH HORN

MU1 Nathaniel Willson - Lake Ann, Michigan

### TENOR TROMBONE

MU1 Clint Woltering - Richmond, Kentucky

### TUBA

MU1 Travis Siehndel - Topeka, Kansas

## BIOGRAPHIES

**MU1 Christopher Buchanan** is from Fairfax, Virginia and joined the Naval Academy Band as a trumpeter in 2007. He graduated summa cum laude with Bachelor of Music degrees in both trumpet and composition from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign in 2006. He also earned a Master of Music degree from Illinois in 2007. Currently, MU1 Buchanan is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, where he specializes in renaissance and baroque performance. His teachers have included Michael Ewald, Ronald Romm, Ed Hoffman and Joe Burgstaller.

MU1 Buchanan was featured as soloist and guest clinician at Northern Illinois University and has extensive performing and teaching experience. He has performed with the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra, Danville Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia da Camera, Baroque Artists of Champaign-Urbana, and the Avanti Orchestra.

**MU1 Davy DeArmond** is from Lenoir City, Tennessee and joined the Naval Academy Band as a trumpeter in 2006. He attended the University of Tennessee where he received a Bachelor of Music degree in trumpet performance, studying with Cathy Leach. He then went on to earn a Master of Music degree from Mannes College of Music in New York, NY, studying with Robert Sullivan. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Kentucky, with Mark Clodfelter. Additionally, he studied with Ray Mase and Kevin Cobb at the Aspen Music Festival.

MU1 DeArmond has performed with the Connecticut Ballet, Lexington Philharmonic, Knoxville Symphony, Chattanooga Symphony, Annapolis Symphony, Delaware Symphony, Richmond (IN) Symphony, and was principal trumpet of the Oak Ridge Symphony. He has played with the Signature Theatre Orchestra and Musica Viva and has toured nationally with Mr. Jack Daniel's Original Silver Cornet Band and the USAF Heartland of America Band. MU1 DeArmond was the recipient of the Performance Award from Mannes College of Music and was awarded a fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival for the 2004 season, serving as principal trumpet of the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen. He was the winner of the Columbia Bach Society Concerto Competition, the Tennessee Trumpet Competition (Solo and Duet Divisions), and the Celebration of Excellence Competition at the University of Tennessee. In 2000 he was a finalist in the National Trumpet Competition.

**MU1 Nathaniel Willson** is from Lake Ann, Michigan though he was raised overseas in Japan and India. He joined the Naval Academy Band as a hornist in 2009. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from The Juilliard School and a Master of Music degree from the University of Cincinnati. His primary teachers include Randy Gardner, Duane Dugger, Jerome Ashby, Julie Landsman, and Bryan Kennedy.

Prior to joining the Navy, MU1 Willson was a member of the Oregon Symphony Orchestra in Portland, Oregon from 2005-2008, and a member of the Sarasota Orchestra in Sarasota, Florida from 2008-2009. He has also performed with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, and the Seattle Opera.

**MU1 Clint Woltering** is originally from Cincinnati, Ohio though he attended high school in Richmond, Kentucky. He joined the Naval Academy Band as a trombonist in 2006. He received a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Kentucky in 2004. Prior to his appointment to the Naval Academy Band, he was pursuing a Master of Music degree from Indiana University where he was the graduate assistant to the brass department and studio assistant to his professor, Carl Lenthe. He has also studied with Joseph Alessi, Pete Ellefson, Dee Stewart, Tom Brantley, Scott Hartman, James Markey, Ron Barron, Charlie Vernon, Matt Neiss, John Rojak, David Henderson, and Mark Clodfelter.

MU1 Woltering's diverse background has included extensive experience in orchestras, jazz bands, wind bands, brass bands, and chamber music ensembles. He was a founding member of the MOMUS Trombone Quartet, which was a finalist in the 2002 International Trombone Association Quartet Competition, and released a CD that same year entitled, "The Lexington Project." He has also been a member of the Victory Brass Quintet and the Washington Trombone Ensemble.

**MU1 Travis Siehndel** is from Topeka, Kansas and joined the Naval Academy Band as a tubist in 2001. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree in tuba performance from the University of Kansas in 1999, performing as principal tubist with the University of Kansas' Symphony Orchestra and Symphonic Band, and studying with Scott Watson. He went on to earn a Master of Music degree in 2001 from the University of Michigan, where he performed as principal tubist with the University of Michigan's Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Band, and studied with Fritz Kaenzig. He can be heard on the live recording of University of Michigan's H. Robert Reynold's retirement celebration concert.

MU1 Siehndel has performed as principal tubist with the Topeka Symphony, Warren Symphony, and American Wind Symphony Orchestras. He has also performed with the Ann Arbor, Michigan Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet, Topeka Symphony Brass Quintet, Oread Brass Quintet, and Kansas Brass Quintet. MU1 Siehndel has performed at both regional and national music conferences and has been featured as a guest artist at the Peabody Institute of Music and the University of Kansas. MU1 Siehndel has also served as instructor of tuba at the University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus.