

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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TROMBONE QUARTET

MU1 Zac Hollister, unit leader

ALTO/TENOR TROMBONE

MU1 Russell Sharp - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

TENOR TROMBONE

MU1 Steve Tomlinson - Dayton, Ohio

MU1 Clint Woltering - Richmond, Kentucky

BASS TROMBONE

MU1 Zac Hollister - Palm Springs, California

BIOGRAPHIES

MU1 Russell Sharp is from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and joined the Naval Academy Band as a trombonist in 2007. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Central Oklahoma and a master's degree in trombone performance from the Wanda L. Bass School of Music. His primary teachers include Dr. Kent Kidwell, James Koon, Jeff Downey, and Lee Rucker. He has also studied with Dee Stewart, Chris Dudley, Tim Higgins, Craig Mulcahy, and Lee Rogers.

Prior to joining the Navy, MU1 Sharp was an active free-lance musician in Oklahoma, performing regularly with the Oklahoma City Philharmonic, the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra, the Tulsa Ballet, and the Tulsa Opera Orchestra. While in Oklahoma, he also worked as a studio musician in the Dallas Fort Worth area. His awards include winner of the 2010 National Solo Competition at the Eastern Trombone Workshop hosted by the U.S. Army Band Washington DC, semi-finalist at the 2009 New York Philharmonic Associate Principal Trombone Audition, semi-finalist at the 2009 National Symphony Orchestra Principal Trombone Audition, finalist at the 2005 International Trombone Association (ITA) Trombone Quartet Competition, first alternate at the 2005 Zellmer-Minnesota Trombone Competition, and he was the IAJE Outstanding College Musician in 2005 and 2007.

MU1 Steve Tomlinson is from Dayton, Ohio and joined the Navy in 1995 and transferred to the Naval Academy Band in 2006. He studied trombone, voice, and piano at Sinclair College in Dayton, and later studied trombone with Dee Stewart and Louis Van Haney at Indiana University. He completed a Bachelor of Music degree at Morehead State University (MSU) in 1992. At MSU, he played trombone in all the university ensembles, and was lead trombonist in the Kentucky All State Jazz Band.

After graduation, MU1 Tomlinson moved to Cincinnati where he founded and performed in the Terrace Park Brass Quintet. He also played trombone and keyboards with a local rock & roll horn band which performed in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

MU1 Tomlinson joined the Navy in 1995 as a keyboardist, and was first in his class at the Navy School of Music. Upon graduation, he reported to the Atlantic Fleet Band (now U.S. Fleet Forces Band), where he performed on keyboard and trombone in the jazz band, jazz combo, trombone quartet, rock band and showband as well as concert, ceremonial and marching bands. He transferred to the Sixth Fleet Band in Naples, Italy and toured extensively in Europe as well as Turkey, Russia, and Bahrain. His next duty station was Navy Band Southwest

where he toured with the rock band across the western United States. Additionally, he performed on several occasions with the San Diego Symphony Orchestra, as part of the NBSW jazz ensemble and concert brass section.

MU1 Clint Woltering is originally from Cincinnati, Ohio and 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 Zac Hollister is originally from Palm Springs, California and joined the Naval Academy Band as bass trombonist in 2005. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree from the New England Conservatory and a Master of Music degree from the University of Maryland. His teachers include Douglas Yeo, Matthew Guilford, Carl Jackson, and Murray Crewe.

Prior to joining the Navy, MU1 Hollister served as bass trombonist of the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra in Massachusetts from 2002-05, and appeared in performances with many New England orchestras including the Boston Pops, Rhode Island Philharmonic, Vermont Symphony, Boston Philharmonic, and Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra. Additionally he has performed with the Triton Brass Quintet, Baltimore Chamber Orchestra, Monomoy Theatre, Brass of the Potomac, Waitiki 7, McLean Orchestra, and the Callithumpian Consort. He can be heard on several recordings including the Washington Trombone Ensemble's *The Road Not Taken* as well as the *Price of Freedom: Americans at War* exhibition video, on display at the Gehring Center of the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of American History in Washington, DC.