

THE RAMPART WINDS

Rampart Winds.....	2
Fact Sheet	3
Personnel	4,5
Brief History of The United States Air Force Academy Band.....	6

THE RAMPART WINDS

As one of ten performing ensembles in The United States Air Force Academy Band, Rampart Winds is featured as the traditional woodwind quintet. Each member of the ensemble brings to the forefront a wealth of musical knowledge and experiences, having performed in numerous orchestras and music festivals around the world. Some of these locations include countries in North America, Central America, Asia, and Europe. By performing a diverse repertoire including original works, standard and contemporary compositions, and patriotic favorites, Rampart Winds superbly supports its missions of community relations, educational outreach, and Air Force recruiting. In addition to these missions, this exquisitely polished and refined ensemble is in high demand for diplomatic and military protocol events throughout the country. These events have included the *First Ladies' Dinner* hosted by former President Clinton in Denver, the opening of the D-Day Museum in New Orleans, and ceremonies for numerous U.S. and foreign dignitaries. The quintet's engaging approach to clinics and workshops makes it a favorite in academic circles, benefiting students of all ages. Upholding one of the core values of The USAF Academy Band, Rampart Winds exemplifies the highest standards of musical excellence. In recent years, members of the Rampart Winds have performed for the National Flute Association, the International Clarinet Association, and the International Double Reed Society conventions. The music of Rampart Winds has been broadcast on National Public Radio, PBS, and television stations worldwide.

The United States Air Force Academy Band is a 76-member organization that performs for millions of people each year in support of United States Air Force recruiting and community relations. As one of two premier bands in the Air Force, The Academy Band performs nearly 600 times annually from coast to coast. In addition to this impressive schedule, the band serves and upholds a demanding performance schedule for The United States Air Force Academy, Air Force Space Command, as well as other performances and duties in Colorado Springs and the Pikes Peak region. The band ensures a tradition of musical excellence through rigorous auditions. The United States Air Force Academy Band and Rampart Winds appear on behalf of the Superintendent, The USAF Academy. All performances are **free and open to the public.**

Fact Sheet

What they are	A traditional woodwind quintet, consisting of flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, and bassoon One of ten professional performing groups that comprise the 76-member United States Air Force Academy Band
What they do	Perform public concerts, civic functions, master classes for high school and college students, patriotic shows, and military functions in support of the United States Air Force
What makes them unique	Presenting a tremendous variety of musical styles performed for a broad range of audiences Providing fresh and exciting original wind quintet compositions, ingenious arrangements of popular orchestral classics, patriotic music, as well as popular and folk music from a wide spectrum of ethnic origins
Musical Director	Master Sergeant Sandra J. Tiemens

The United States Air Force Academy Band

Key Personnel	Lieutenant Colonel Steven Grimo — Commander/Conductor Captain Jeffrey B. Warner— Deputy Commander/Conductor Chief Master Sergeant Marcelle S. M. Hureau — Band Manager, Logistics Chief Master Sergeant Randall A. Doersch — Band Manager, Support Mr. Frederick C. Correll — Director of Operations
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Personnel

Master Sergeant Sandra J. Tiemens, *musical director and flute*, hails from Rochester, Minnesota. She graduated cum laude from Lawrence University with the Bachelors of Music degree in Flute Performance and the Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics. She also holds the Master of Music degree in Flute Performance from the University of North Texas. While at North Texas, she was principal flutist with the Symphony Orchestra, flutist in the Wind Symphony, and a winner of the 1997 Concerto Competition. Sandy was named an outstanding performer at the 1996 Texas Flute Society Festival and served as secretary of the Texas Flute Society from 1996 to 1997. She performed for the 2001 and 2003 National Flute Association conventions, and has participated in the Aspen Music Festival, Texas Music Festival and FAME. Sandy maintains an active teaching studio at her home. In September of 1997, she enlisted in the United States Air Force, and was stationed with The Air Force Band of Flight, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Sergeant Tiemens has been a member of The United States Air Force Academy Band since December of 2000, and performs with the Concert Band, Marching Band, and is group leader and musical director for Rampart Winds.

Technical Sergeant Sarah Balian, *oboe*, is a native of Charlottesville, Virginia. She holds the Bachelor of Music degree and the Bachelor of Arts in French Studies degree from Northwestern University, where she studied with Ray Still. She has also studied with Roger Cole and with Andre Bertheas at the Universite de Paris. Sarah was a member of the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra from 1997-1999 and the Boulder Philharmonic from 2003-2005. She has also performed with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Colorado Symphony, and the Richmond Symphony. Since 2004, Sarah has been a member of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic. Sergeant Balian joined The United States Air Force Academy Band in 1999, and plays both oboe and English horn in the Concert Band and the Rampart Winds Woodwind Quintet.

Technical Sergeant Ani A. Berberian, *clarinet*, is a native of Brookings, South Dakota. Ani holds the Doctor of Musical Arts in Clarinet Performance degree from Michigan State University, the Master of Music degree from Arizona State University and the Bachelor of Arts degree in Music/German from South Dakota State University. Her principal teachers include Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr, Robert Spring, Corliss Johnson, Kjell-Inge Stevansson and Luis Rossi. From 1999-2002, she served as Professor of Clarinet and Music Theory at Southwest Missouri State University and as Artist Faculty at the Missouri Fine Arts Academy. As an international soloist and chamber musician, Ani has appeared in Norway, Sweden, Poland and Japan, performing in such venues as the Chopin Academy and the Samtida Music Festival. She has also appeared at the 2000, 2004, and 2005 International Clarinet Association ClarinetFests and numerous US clarinet symposia. Ani has presented clinics and master classes dealing with contemporary clarinet techniques and clarinet pedagogy at colleges and high schools throughout the United States. An advocate of new music, she has collaborated closely with composers Joan Tower, Libby Larsen, Eric Mandat and Michael Murray. Sergeant Berberian joined The United States Air Force Academy Band in 2003, and performs with the Concert Band and the Rampart Winds Woodwind Quintet.

Technical Sergeant Kenneth F. Soper, *horn*, a native of Farmingdale, New York, has been a professional musician since the age of twelve. After receiving the Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University, Sergeant Soper was invited to appear as a soloist in Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Johannesburg and New York. He commenced his military service with the U.S. Navy Band in 1995, performing with its Concert/Ceremonial unit, Horn Quartet, and appearing as a soloist. After completing his naval service, he won positions with both the Maryland Symphony and the National Chamber Orchestra. As a freelance musician and recording artist, he has performed with Tony Bennett, Lorna Luft, the Taliesin Orchestra on their 1997 Billboard #1 Indie Classical Album of the Year, *Orinoco Flow*. He has also performed with the Washington Winds on over 100 albums for music publishers, including Warner Brothers and Carl Fischer. Returning to the military in 2001, Ken served as co-principal horn, Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of the Brass Quintet and staff arranger with the 257th Army Band. Sergeant Soper joined The United States Air Force Academy Band in 2004, where he performs with the Concert and Marching Bands, Rampart Winds Woodwind Quintet, and serves as a staff arranger.

Technical Sergeant Sarah E. Stewart, *bassoon*, hails from Honeoye Falls, New York. She completed the Bachelor of Music degree at the Boston University School for the Arts, and the Master of Music at The Juilliard School. Sarah has held positions with the Victoria Symphony, Princeton Chamber Symphony, National Repertory Orchestra, and the Spoleto Festival Orchestra. She has also performed with The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, San Antonio Symphony, Boulder Philharmonic, and the New World Symphony. As an avid chamber musician, Sarah co-founded Ariel winds, a New York City based woodwind quintet dedicated to educational outreach. With this group, she performed in Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, Steinway Hall, Christy's Auction House, and numerous other locations throughout the world. In addition, she was invited to play with members of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic in various chamber music recitals. As a dedicated teacher, Sarah has been on faculty at the Encore Music Studio Program in Ridgewood, New Jersey, and the Juilliard School Pre-College Division. She has also assisted the music history professor at Kean University in Union, New Jersey. Prior to joining The United States Air Force Academy Band in 2003, Sergeant Stewart was a member of The United States Air Force Band of the West, Lackland, AFB, Texas. She is currently a member of the Concert Band and is Tour Coordinator for the Rampart Winds Woodwind Quintet.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY BAND

Colorado Springs is home to The United States Air Force Academy Band, one of America's most prestigious and outstanding military band organizations. Performing nearly 600 times annually throughout America, the band presents free public concerts in support of Air Force recruiting and Air Force Academy community relations. In addition to this impressive and grueling schedule, The United States Air Force Academy Band also performs at military ceremonies and *esprit de corps* functions which benefit the men and women of our nation's armed forces.

The band's colorful history can be traced back to its inception in 1942. The band originated as an ensemble called "The Flying Yanks," which was founded by two American airmen in England. The Yanks performed for the general public, live radio broadcasts, and for the Eighth Air Force Victory Bond drives. In March of 1944, the ensemble was designated as the 739th Army Air Force Band.

The 739th Band, which became one of most outstanding military bands in Europe during WWII, was deactivated on October 20, 1945. It was reactivated on May 10, 1955 and assigned to the United States Air Force Academy at Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colorado. In order to fill positions in this newly designated Air Force Academy Band, band commanders of the other Air Force bands were asked to screen their musicians to identify their best personnel.

In 1958, The Academy Band relocated to the newly constructed Air Force Academy campus near Colorado Springs to support the cadet wing at wing parades, military ceremonies, and athletic events. From 1958 to 1993, The Air Force Academy Band contributed to the training and development of more than 26,000 cadets.

In 1993, The Air Force Academy Band was renamed The United States Air Force Band of the Rockies and was reassigned to Headquarters, Air Force Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs. On October 1, 2003, the band returned to its roots and was redesignated The United States Air Force Academy Band. The Academy Band is proud to continue its long-standing commitment to musical and military excellence in its service to the nation.



