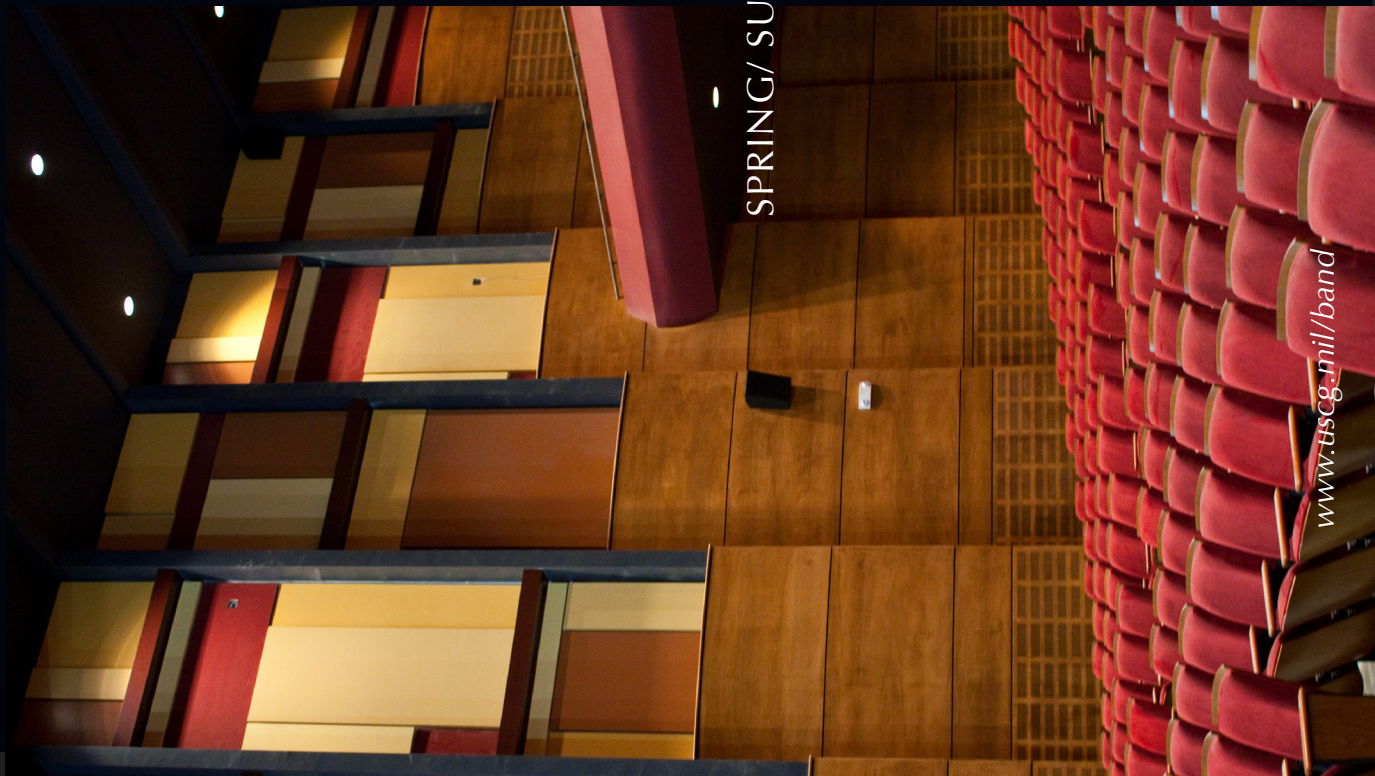




THE UNITED STATES
COAST GUARD BAND



SPRING/ SUMMER 2011

www.uscg.mil/band

BEHIND THE SCENES

U.S. Coast Guard Band (pb)
U.S. Coast Guard Academy
15 Mohegan Avenue
New London, CT 06320

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RHAPSODY IN BLUE:

Gala Performances Reopen Newly Renovated Leamy Hall

With burnished wood paneling, plush cherry red seats, and low lighting, the renovated Leamy Hall Auditorium is stunning. To celebrate the improved performance space, the US Coast Guard Band gives two special performances on Saturday, May 28 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, May 29 at 2 p.m.

The music

The program features the music of George Gershwin and includes transcriptions of two of his most beloved works, *Rhapsody in Blue*, with the pianist William Braun, and *An American in Paris*, conducted by retired Coast Guard Band Director Captain Lewis J. Buckley.

Rhapsody in Blue, originally written for piano and jazz orchestra, was premiered with Gershwin playing the piano part from memory—he had not yet scored the music for piano. An instant success, it has been played by orchestras and concert bands ever since.

Gershwin briefly visited Paris in 1926, and returned with the car horn from a French taxicab and an idea for a melody. *An American in Paris* is not strictly programmatic, but the melodies and orchestration are richly dramatic and lend themselves to imaginative episodes in the City of Light.

Cuban Overture, another work inspired by Gershwin's travels, is based on rhythms he heard during a brief visit to Havana. Originally titled *Rhumba*, the work gets its Latin pulse from maracas, bongos, claves, and a guiro. Gershwin aimed to combine Cuban rhythms with his own melodic material. The result is a Cuban dance for the concert stage.

The soprano soloist MU1 Megan Weikleeng sings two selections from the Gershwin songbook, "But Not For Me" and "The Man I Love" and returns to sing in *Catfish Row*, a symphonic suite from Gershwin's groundbreaking 1935 opera *Porgy and Bess*.

The hall

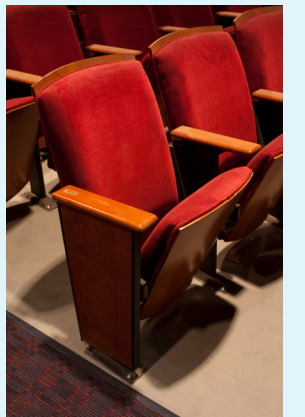
Built in 1969, Leamy Hall Auditorium has never had a major renovation. The extensive transformation of the Coast Guard Band's home includes a complete gutting and rewiring of the electrical infrastructure and brand new lighting, heating, and cooling systems. Improvements in comfort and accessibility include handicapped seating and

wider aisles. The orchestra level now has two aisles instead of three, making more room for coveted center-aisle orchestra-level seats. A state of the art sound system ensures that every seat in the hall will receive the same high quality sound from the performing ensemble. A complete renovation of the wall, ceiling, floor, and stage coverings have significantly improved the acoustics.

The hall's design was a joint venture between the firm of DuBose Associates Architects, based in Hartford, and South Norwalk based Akustiks, whose acousticians have backgrounds in music, acoustics, architecture,

and engineering. DuBose, familiar with Connecticut institutions, created the master plan and design for Constitution Plaza in Hartford. The group has also designed buildings of significant architectural note around the region, including structures at the University of Connecticut and Connecticut College. Akustiks was the consultant firm on two important projects that opened to high praise in the press as well as from performing musicians: the visually striking and acoustically responsive Nashville Symphony Concert Hall and Mixon Hall at the Cleveland Institute of Music, where a glass backdrop reveals a sunken garden.

Please join us for the gala performances to experience the new Leamy Hall—a first class performing space.



MUC Leah Abbott and MU1 Brooke Allen
Photos by MU1 Bonnie Denton

Please direct comments or questions to:

Public Affairs
U.S. Coast Guard Band
U.S. Coast Guard Academy (pb)
15 Mohegan Avenue
New London, CT 06320
(860) 701-6826

RETIREMENTS

Senior Chief Musician Gregory Martin, trumpet, retires on July 31, 2011, after 30 years with the Coast Guard Band. A native of Raleigh, North Carolina, MUCS Martin joined the ensemble in July 1981. MUCS Martin was also a member of the United States Coast Guard Brass Quintet for over twenty years, three of which were as the group leader. The Quintet performs for high profile functions around the country when the full band is not available. Memorable performances for MUCS Martin include rendering honors for President George W. Bush at the US Capitol and performing throughout in Taiwan in 2010. In addition, MUCS Martin served as audition coordinator for more than 30 auditions, recruiting some of our nation's most skilled musicians and easing their transition from civilian to military life.

He received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he performed as a member of the faculty brass quintet. MUCS Martin received a graduate assistantship at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1979 and subsequently earned a Master of Science degree in music education. He was one of four solo competition winners at the International Trumpet Guild Conference held at Ohio State University in 1980 and performed as a member of the University of Illinois Trumpet Ensemble at the 1981 ITG Conference at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Master Chief Musician Carroll Potts, trumpet and Rate Force Master Chief, retires on August 31, 2011, after 32 years of service. In addition to being the band's senior enlisted leader, Potts was the Rate Force Master Chief, making Coast Guard-wide decisions for the musician rating, including streamlining the advancement process for musicians. A native Virginian and a magna cum laude graduate of Shenandoah Conservatory of Music, MUCM Potts joined the Coast Guard Band in 1979 and was appointed principal trumpet in 1988, a position he held for twenty years. He performed as a soloist with the Band on several occasions and was a featured bugler on nationally televised broadcasts of the Memorial Day celebrations at the US Capitol. MUCM Potts recorded all bugle calls currently used in Coast Guard ceremonies on the Band's CD *Ceremonials*. In addition, in August 2010 MUCM Potts voluntarily deployed to the Gulf of Mexico in response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Potts helped to coordinate state and government agencies patrol an area in excess of 500 square miles searching for sub-surface oil and contamination.

Trumpeters **MUCS Martin** and **MUCM Potts** perform their last concert in Leamy Hall with the band on June 26.

PROMOTIONS AND ADVANCEMENTS

Chief Musician Ian Frenkel, the Band's pianist and arranger, becomes the Director of US Coast Guard Academy Instrumental Music, effective June 1. Soon-to-be **CWO Frenkel** will direct cadet instrumental ensembles, including the marching, jazz, and concert bands.

MUCS Ginny Sturm has been selected as the Band's new **Master Chief**, effective September 1. Her duties include acting as Rate Force Master Chief, responsible for decisions concerning the musician rating within the Coast Guard.

MUC Aimee Page, horn, advances to **Senior Chief Musician** on August 1 and trumpeter **MUC Joel Flunker** advances to **Senior Chief Musician** on September 1.

The Band's harpist, **MU1 Megan Sesma**, advances to **Chief Musician** on June 1. Also advancing to **Chief Musician** are principal clarinetist **MU1 Kelly Hurrell**, on August 1, and bassoonist **MU1 Brooke Allen** on September 1.

AWARDS

In December 2010 **Senior Chief Musician Andrew Greci** was awarded the Sam Hasty Award for Service in the Coast Guard Band. This award is presented to the enlisted band member who demonstrates outstanding musical contributions in the service of the US Coast Guard Band and promotes growth in the organization by fostering enjoyment, pride, purpose, community, and achievement. Originally from Washington, PA, Greci enlisted in the United States Coast Guard in August 1994. He serves as bass clarinetist and chief of the Band's public relations office.

The Sam Hasty Award is presented in tribute to Musician 1st Class Sam Hasty, who joined the United States Coast Guard Band in 1995. In February 2000 he was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia and passed away on October 10, 2001, at the age of 34 after a courageous battle with the disease. As a member of the Coast Guard Band, he performed in the trumpet section and his creative jazz styling was heard with the Dixieland Band and the Masters of Swing. Sam was a dedicated musician who had a gentle, unassuming manner. He loved to laugh, and his ability to see the humor in even the most serious circumstances put others at ease. He radiated a love of life and cared deeply for his family and friends.

Musician 1st Class Bonnie Denton, euphonium, received the Finley R. Hamilton Outstanding Military Musician Award in February 2011. This prestigious award acknowledges US military musicians who show outstanding musical excellence and leadership distinction and honors Colonel Finley R. Hamilton, US Army (Ret), who succumbed to cancer while serving as president of the National Band Association. Denton's citation lists her numerous nationwide and international solo performances, including the Coast Guard Band's tour through Utah, Nevada, Arizona, and California, at the US Army Band Tuba-Euphonium Conference, and at the esteemed International Women's Brass Conference in Toronto. She is also a first line mentor to cadets in the Coast Guard Academy Mentoring Program and an essential member of the Band's public relations office.

Concert Band

Gala Performances to Reopen Leamy Hall

Saturday, May 28, 7 p.m.
Sunday, May 29, 2 p.m.

Music by George Gershwin is presented in the newly refurbished Leamy Hall. William Braun is the piano soloist in *Rhapsody in Blue*. *An American in Paris* and *Cuban Overture* are among other Gershwin favorites on the program.

Bon Voyage! The USCG Band in Taiwan

Sunday, June 26, 2 p.m.
Leamy Hall Auditorium



The USCG Band has accepted an invitation to perform at the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) Conference in Chiayi City, Taiwan, in July! Hear a preview of the WASBE performance, with music by Donald Grantham, Gordon Jacob, Steven Stucky, and Morton Gould.

USCG Barque *Eagle* Celebrates 75 Years!

Sunday, September 4, 3 p.m.
Fort Trumbull, New London, CT

The Coast Guard's training vessel *Eagle* celebrates 75 years of service and will be docked at Fort Trumbull, setting the backdrop for the Band's annual Labor Day program. The Band honors the *Eagle's* birthday with music inspired by the sea. Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture* signals the unofficial end of summer.



All performances are free and open to the public. Unless otherwise noted, no tickets are required. For more information about the Coast Guard Band, call our Concert Information Line, 860.701.6826, or visit www.uscg.mil/band.

Chamber Players

Taiwan Previews

Sunday, June 12, 2 p.m.
Leamy Hall Auditorium
Tuesday, June 14, 7 p.m.
Katherine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center
300 Main Street
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

The US Coast Guard Chamber Players also perform at the WASBE conference. Preview the selections to be played in Chiayi City in either New London or Old Saybrook: Richard Strauss' *Serenade in E-flat, op. 7*, W.A. Mozart's *Serenade in C Minor, K. 388*, John Harbison's *Music for Eighteen Winds*, and Robert Kurka's *Good Soldier Schweik Suite*.

Both Recitals are free and open to the public. However, tickets are required at the Kate. For ticket information, visit www.katherinehepburntheater.org or call the box office at 877-503-1286.

THE RAVAGES OF TIME

MUCM Carroll Potts

MUCS Greg Martin



1981

2010