

WRIGHT NOTES



Maj. R. Michael Mench - Commander

News from the Band of Flight

January-March 2012

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Welcome to the ninth edition of Wright Notes and to the exciting performances of the United States Air Force Band of Flight. The Band and its members are proud to serve our nation and Air Force through the numerous concerts, ceremonies, and educational outreach missions we perform throughout the year. On behalf of our parent organization, Air Force Materiel Command, provider of leading edge technology that furnishes war-winning systems for our front line Airmen, we are honored to represent the world class excellence of the command's military and civilian members. In this issue of Wright Notes you will find a feature on "Night Flight" the band's premier jazz ensemble as well as the impact of our educational outreach through our smaller ensembles. Additionally, our coalition with the National Museum of the United States Air Force continues with our Annual "Hearts Heroes and Heritage" concert. The Band of Flight has had numerous changes in personnel in the past year and you will see some of our latest additions to the storied history of our band in this issue. We hope you enjoy reading and have an opportunity to come see us in a venue near you!



Hearts, Heroes, and Heritage

The U.S. Air Force Band of Flight Concert Band will perform its annual "Hearts, Heroes and Heritage" concert Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the National Museum of the United States Air Force. This concert is part of an annual series presented by the Band of Flight at the National Museum of the United States Air Force. The program will celebrate Valentine's Day, while simultaneously paying tribute to Black History Month and Presidents Day.

Audience members who attended the Band of Flight's Veterans Day Concert last November and remember a performance by James "Kimo" Williams will be treated to another composition by this composer.

Please join the Band of Flight in the Modern Flight Gallery for "Hearts, Heroes and Heritage." Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for this free event. No tickets are required, but seating is limited to the first 1,200 people.

The same program will also be presented at Franklin County High School in Brookville, Ind., on Feb. 14 at 7 p.m.



Major Mench takes flight as he conducts the Band of Flight on their tour of Indiana. (U.S. Air Force photo/TSgt Dan Bentley) [Download High-Res](#)



TSgt Felita Rowe wows the audience with a patriotic favorite. (U.S. Air Force photo/TSgt Dan Bentley) [Download High-Res](#)

Click for Audition Information

Night Flight Jazz Ensemble

The Night Flight Jazz Ensemble is back together and on the road! On February 4th and 5th they will join forces with the Evansville Philharmonic for two concerts, featuring the familiar sounds of the legendary Major Glenn Miller. In celebration of Black History Month, the group will also feature TSgt Felita Rowe in a moving tribute to the Tuskegee Airmen with the philharmonic. The brass players will also get a special treat, as they augment the philharmonic brass section for Tchaikovsky's thunderous 1812 Overture. Further combining the groups, the Orchestra's music director, Alfred Savia will join in on clarinet for some well known Glenn Miller features. Prior to this collaboration, the ensemble will perform a show at Louisville's Youth Performing Arts High School on February 3rd, featuring music from various big bands such as Count Basie, Stan Kenton, and Duke Ellington. These concerts promise to be high flying, with something for everyone!



World famous jazz trumpeter Bobby Shew performs with the Night Flight Jazz Ensemble. (U.S. Air Force photo/TSgt Felita Rowe) Download High Res

Educational Outreach

A unique capability of the Air Force Band of Flight is to get into the community and reach out to young people with the Air Force message. In March, we have three small ensembles doing just that.

The Huffman Prairie Winds Quintet, Wright Brass Quintet, and Night Hawk Combo will venture out for a week-long tour covering areas of Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Maryland. The three groups will perform an astounding 19 performances at 16 schools in just six days! Our educational outreach tours provide an excellent opportunity for our Airman musicians to work with young people!

Check out our upcoming events page and website to see if one of our groups are performing near you!



TSgt Diamond discusses the finer points of a trumpet solo with a college student as part of a Wright Brass educational outreach tour. (U.S. Air Force photo/SrA Jesus Delgado) Download High Res

We are on Facebook!

We're on Youtube!

Band of Flight at the Super Bowl

This year, the Band of Flight had the rare honor of participating in the Super Bowl pregame festivities. Two of our talented percussionists, Senior Airman Jesus Delgado and Staff Sergeant John Sayre accompanied the Joint Service Honor Guard to present our nation's colors prior to the game.

Quite possibly the most watched sporting event in the world, our two Airmen musicians represented the United States Air Force in front of millions of worldwide viewers. It is indeed an honor to be a part of this longstanding tradition in American sports. We are so proud of their wonderful representation!



SrA Jesus Delgado and SSgt John Sayre had the rare honor to accompany the honor guard to present our nation's colors at the Super Bowl. (U.S. Air Force photo/SSgt John Hardisky)

Farewell to Departing Members

Senior Airman
Rogan Allen
Guitar

Hometown: Altoona, Pennsylvania

Education:
Bachelor of Psychology
Wright State University, OH

Band of Flight Service: 4 years

Departures



Technical Sergeant
Terra Mason
Vocalist

Hometown: Chicago, Illinois

Education:
Associate of Information Management
Associate of Arts
Community College of the Air Force

Band of Flight Service: 4 years

Prior Assignments:
-374th Communications Squadron, Yokota
AB, Japan
-8th Communications Squadron, Kunsan
AB, Korea

Welcome to Our Newest Members

Airman 1st Class
Andrew Fowler
Trumpet

Hometown: Fort Worth, Texas

Education:
Bachelor of Music-Music Performance
Texas Christian University, TX



Airman 1st Class
William Mealer
Audio Engineer

Hometown: Sharpsburg, Georgia

Education:
Middle Tennessee State University, TN
Associate of Science-Show Production and
Touring
Full Sail University, FL

Check out our website!

USAF Band of Flight

Upcoming Appearances



Click to request the band!

February 4	Night Flight Jazz Ensemble - Victory Theatre, Evansville, IN, 7:30 p.m.
February 5	Night Flight Jazz Ensemble - Victory Theatre, Evansville, IN, 7:30 p.m.
February 11	Concert Band - National Museum of the USAF, Dayton, OH, 7:30 p.m.
February 14	Concert Band - Franklin County High School, Brookville, IN, 7:00 p.m.
February 19	SSgt John Hardisky, Tuba Soloist - Bradley University, Peoria, IL, 3:00 p.m.
March 10	Wright Brass Quintet - St. Mary's Church, Dayton, OH, 4:30 p.m.
March 12	Wright Brass Quintet - Capital University, Columbus, OH, 3:00 p.m.
March 12	Huffman Prairie Winds Quintet - Henderson UM Church, Henderson, KY, 6:00 p.m.
March 13	Wright Brass Quintet - Poland Seminary High School, Poland, OH, 7:00 p.m.
March 13	Night Hawk Combo - Kent St. University Tuscarawas, New Philadelphia, OH, 7:00 p.m.
March 13	Huffman Prairie Winds Quintet - Felix E. Jr. Martin Hall, Greenville, KY, 7:00 p.m.
March 14	Huffman Prairie Winds Quintet - Plaza Theatre, Glasgow, KY, 7:00 p.m.
March 15	Night Hawk Combo - WV Music Educator's Conference, Morgantown, WV, 7:00 p.m.
March 16	Wright Brass Quintet - Esber Hall, Penn State University, State College, PA, 2:30 p.m.
March 16	Huffman Prairie Winds Quintet - Mountain Arts Center, Prestonsburg, KY, 6:00 p.m.
March 24	Concert Band - National Museum of the USAF, Dayton, OH, 7:30 p.m.

For more information about upcoming appearances, check out our events page!

Mission Statement

The mission of the United States Air Force Band of Flight is to deliver world-class musical products that inspire emotions, create positive impressions and communicate information according to Air Force objectives for the defense of the United States of America.

We'd love your feedback!
Please contact our newsletter editor by clicking here.