

## The United States Air Force Academy Band

The United States Air Force Academy Band proudly represents the Air Force Academy as the leading educational institution developing and inspiring air and space leaders of character with a vision for tomorrow. As one of twelve Air Force bands, the Academy Band maintains a rigorous performance schedule in support of Cadet and Air Force troop morale, recruiting and community outreach. For over 50 years, the Academy Band has used the power of music to inspire Air Force personnel and the nation they serve, produce innovative musical programs and products, and communicate Air Force excellence to millions around the globe.



The USAF Academy Band appears on behalf of Lieutenant General Mike Gould, Superintendent, USAF Academy. All performances are free and open to the public.



# THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY BAND

*Lieutenant Colonel Donald E. Schofield - Commander*

## *Rampart Winds*



## Rampart Winds

As one of several 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 experience, 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 68-member organization that performs for millions of people each year in support of Air Force recruiting and Air Force Academy community relations. As one of two premiere 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.

## Commander and Conductor



**Lieutenant Colonel Donald E. Schofield Jr.** is the Commander and Conductor of the USAF Academy Band, Peterson AFB, Colorado.

Lt Col Schofield is a native of Atlanta, Georgia, and earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Georgia, a Master of Music degree from Louisiana State University and is currently a candidate for the Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Music Education from Boston University. He has conducted ensembles ranging from professional symphony orchestras to elementary school bands across the US and Puerto Rico, and continues to be an active clinician and arranger.

Commissioned in 1997, Lt Col Schofield was assigned to The US Air Force Band of Flight, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, where he served as both Commander and Deputy Commander. In 2001, Lt Col Schofield was hand-picked to become the tenth director of The US Air Force Strolling Strings and Chamber Orchestra, where he led performances across the US, the White House, the Pentagon and the National Cathedral before international audiences. Selected to command The US Air Force Band of Mid-America in 2004, he performed for Presidents George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George H. Bush and Jimmy Carter, and conducted international broadcasts reaching over 50 million viewers. In 2007, Lt Col Schofield was chosen to command the US Air Forces Central Command Band, leading overseas performances for United States and coalition troops in Iraq, Afghanistan, Africa and 11 other Southwest Asia countries in direct support of operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

In 2008, Lt Col Schofield assumed command of The Band of the US Air Force Reserve, and performed internationally with such artists as Kid Rock, Little Big Town, Lee Ann Womack, Chris Daughtry, Gabrielle Iglesias, Carlos Mencia, the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Lonestar, Wynonna Judd, Naomi Judd, Amy Grant, Diamond Rio, the Miracles, Lee Greenwood, Gary Morris, Take 6, Brian McNight and Gordon Goodwin. Making their debut in the White House in 2011, the Band of the Air Force Reserve was requested by name to perform for President and Mrs. Obama. In 2011, the Band of the Air Force Reserve was an Emmy Award finalist for the "Holiday Notes from Home" production--a first for any band in the United States Air Force.



**Technical Sergeant Sarah E. Stewart**, *bassoon and Group Leader*, 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. 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. 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 also a member of the Concert Band and Marching Band.

## The United States Air Force Academy

When it comes to choosing a college, options seem almost endless. For the highly motivated high school graduate who is looking for something more from their college experience, The United States Air Force Academy is easily the first choice.



At a time when options are wide open, those who consider bigger goals, deeper learning, time-honored character development and possibly, a more rewarding future, choose to attend one of the most prestigious educational institutions in the world.

The Academy offers a world-class education, the opportunity to fly, and a guaranteed career right out of college. Many cadets create professional relationships that last a lifetime. It is true that there is no financial cost to attend the Academy, but there is a hefty price tag. Academy cadets pay for their education with sweat, hard work, early mornings, and late nights. They are held to the highest standards, without exception, and upon graduation are required to serve at least five years as a leader in the United States Air Force.

With that price comes an experience that can't be found anywhere else. Air Force Academy cadets are surrounded by other young Americans who are pushing themselves to the limits, developing strength and character and discovering the qualities that make great leaders.

## Rampart Winds Fact Sheet

### What they are

A traditional woodwind quintet, consisting of flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, and bassoon

One of several performing groups that comprise The 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

### Group Leader

Technical Sergeant Sarah E. Stewart

## Air Force Academy Band Information

### Key Personnel

Lieutenant Colonel Donald E. Schofield—Commander/Conductor  
 First Lieutenant Dustin M. Doyle—Flight Commander  
 Chief Master Sergeant Randall A. Doersch—Band Manager, Support  
 Chief Master Sergeant John P. Gohl—Band Manager, Logistics  
 Mr. Frederick C. Correll—Director of Operations

### Contact for More Information

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS  
 THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY BAND  
 520 OTIS STREET  
 PETERSON AFB, CO 80914-1620  
 (719) 556-9916  
 FAX: (719) 556-9963

## Personnel



**Senior Master Sergeant Sandra J. Tiemens**, *flute*, hails from Rochester, Minnesota. She graduated cum laude from Lawrence University with the Bachelor 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 and Marching Band.

**Master Sergeant Heike J. Gazetti**, *clarinet*, received her Master of Music degree from Yale University in 1998 and a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Louisville in 1996. She has performed with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonia of Yale, and New Music New Haven. In 1996 Heike competed as a semi-finalist in the International Clarinet Association's Youth Artist Competition held in Paris, France. While attending Yale, Heike performed with her woodwind quintet, which placed first in the Carmel Chamber Music Competition in 1998. Sergeant Gazetti has studied with Bil Jackson, David Shifrin, Charles Neidich, Ronald DeKant, and Dallas Tidwell. She joined the United States Air Force Academy Band in 1998, and performs in the Concert Band, Marching Band and Rampart Winds.



**Technical Sergeant Monica Ding**, *oboe*, hails from Mount Prospect, IL. She attended the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, Maryland on a full scholarship where she received a B.M. degree in 1996. Monica then attended Northwestern University, where she graduated in 1997 with a M.M. degree in oboe performance. TSgt Ding has performed with the Guanajuato Symphony Orchestra in Mexico, the Tamaulipas Music Festival Orchestra, the Chicago Chamber Orchestra, the Chicago Philharmonia, and the International Chamber Music Festival in Prague. TSgt Ding has been Professor of Oboe at the Zacatecas University in Zacatecas, Mexico. Her teachers have been Ray Still, Sara Watkins and Carl Sonik. TSgt Ding joined the USAF of the Golden West in 2002, and has been a member of the Academy Band since 2007.

**Staff Sergeant Vernon W. Russell**, *horn*, was born in Marrero, LA and grew up in Baton Rouge, LA. He is a 1996 graduate of East Ascension High School in Gonzales, LA, where he was the outstanding musician for 1995-96 and the John Philip Sousa Award winner. After high school, he continued his studies at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, LA. During his tenure, Sergeant Russell won several competitions including the Southwest and Southeast Horn Workshop's solo competition and High Horn Mock Audition. His professional credits include the Shreveport Symphony, East Texas Symphony, Rapides Symphony and Lake Charles Symphony. In 2001, Sergeant Russell enlisted in the United States Air Force and joined the USAF Band of Flight, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, and has been a member of the Academy Band since September 2011. He also performs with the Concert Band and Marching Band.

