



## 116<sup>th</sup> US ARMY BAND

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6<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADES

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## ABOUT THE ARTIST

The 116th Army Band was founded 28 March 1859 in Atlanta's "Gate City Guard" Georgia Volunteers, Company F. It is the oldest Military National Guard or Reserve Band with service in the War Between the States, Confederate Service 1861-1862, assisted with border service during the Mexican Campaign or the Mexican Expedition, WWI with the 121st Infantry Division Band, WWII with the 170th Field Artillery Band and the 48th Armor Division. On 1 January 1968, the band became an independent organization, known as the 116th Army Band. The band is now stationed in Marietta.

## ABOUT THE MUSIC

Army Bands are most known for their rousing renditions of fanfares, marches, and tunes recognized for country and service. Army Bands may also feature a brass and woodwind quintet, jazz, stage, rock and pop or Dixieland styles. The 116<sup>th</sup> Army Band which features woodwinds, brass, percussion, electric bass and guitar. This is a great concert to familiarize students to the families of instruments.

## SPECIAL TOPIC: HISTORY OF US ARMY BANDS

Even before the U.S. Army was created in 1775, musicians were an integral part of the military. From the signal corps drummers in the Revolutionary War, to the full brass bands of WWII, music has been a critical part of the Army's success. Whether it's a ceremonial performance or a concert to boost the morale of Soldiers, U.S. Army Music members have the opportunity to serve their country while making music.



For more information about the history of US Army Bands through history click [here](#).

Here are a few fun facts to search:

1. Who was the commander of the first regiment in the colonies that featured fife players and other musicians in 1756?
2. What instrument did Gen. George Washington play?
3. What role did musicians play in the Revolutionary war?
4. Why were trumpets and drums added in 1777?
5. When did musicians officially become soldiers?
6. What effect did the addition of valved brass instruments have on bands?
7. How did the role of bands change in the Civil War?
8. How did Gen. John J. Pershing, Commander of all Allied Expeditionary Forces in Europe, change the role of Army Bands?
9. When was the Army Music School established and why?
10. What is the main role of Army Bands in wars of the 20<sup>th</sup> century?



## TYPES OF ARMY BANDS

The Army Music program is comprised of 21 active duty Regional Bands, 13 Army Reserve Bands, and four Premier Bands, each with its own unique mission and qualifications.

To learn more about Regional, Reserve and Premier Bands, click [here](#). See if you can determine which type of band the 116<sup>th</sup> is.

## ABOUT THE INSTRUMENTS

Army musicians are the most skilled and versatile musicians in the world, and they are expected to perform in a variety of styles. The Army Music program offers 16 different instrumental and technical specialties. While selection for Army Music is based primarily on your ability on your primary instrument, ability to double on other instruments is valued and used when called.

To hear the 116<sup>th</sup> Army Band perform, click [here](#).

To hear an Army Saxophone Quartet, which will be performing at Spivey Hall, click [here](#). The first player is a soprano saxophone, which is the highest. Next to play is the alto that is the next highest. The third player is the tenor saxophone, which is next to lowest and finally the baritone is the bass or lowest member of the saxophone family. This is a **very** good video demonstrating how each instrument looks and sounds.

The following instruments can also be a part of an Army Band:

### FLUTE/PICCOLO

As a flute player in the Army Music program, you will be required to be proficient on both flute and piccolo.

Flute players perform in concert band, ceremonial band, woodwind quintet and other small ensembles based on their strengths and the needs of the band.



### OBOE

Oboists perform in concert band, woodwind quintet and ceremonial band. You may also be asked to perform on English horn.

Since oboe is not typically found in a marching band, bassoonists often double on another instrument, such as clarinet or saxophone (though this is not required).

## CLARINET

Clarinetists perform in concert band, ceremonial band, woodwind quintet, and other small groups, such as Dixieland.

Clarinet players may also be asked to perform on bass clarinet or E-flat clarinet, depending on the piece of music. Clarinet players who are able to play in various styles, or double on other instruments, are especially valuable to the Army Music program.



## SAXOPHONE

As a saxophone player in the U.S. Army Music program, you will perform in concert band, ceremonial band, jazz band, rock band, and various other ensembles based on your skills and the needs of the band.

You will be expected to be proficient in different musical styles and to perform on all members of the sax family. While not required, improvisational skill is valued and rewarded.

## BASSOON

Bassoonists perform in concert band, woodwind quintet, and ceremonial band.

Since bassoon is not typically found in a marching band, bassoonists often double on another instrument, such as clarinet or saxophone (though this is not required).

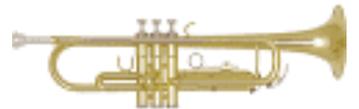


## FRENCH HORN

As a French horn player in the U.S. Army Music program, you will perform in concert band, ceremonial band, and brass or woodwind quintet.

## TRUMPET

Trumpet players perform in concert band, ceremonial band, jazz band, brass quintet, rock band, and various other ensembles based on the needs of the band. While not required, improvisational skill is valued and rewarded.



You will also have the honor of performing as a bugler during military ceremonies, and performing Taps at military funerals.



## EUPHONIUM

Euphonium players perform in concert band, ceremonial band, low brass quartet and/or various other ensembles based on your skills and the needs of the band.

Euphonium players who double on trombone may be used in a jazz or popular music ensembles to supplement the horn line.

## TROMBONE

As a trombone player in the U.S. Army Music program, you will perform in several ensembles, including concert band, ceremonial band, jazz band, jazz combo, or other popular music ensembles. While not required, improvisational skill is valued and rewarded.



While many trombone players focus mainly on bass trombone, all musicians selected for the Army Music program must be equally skilled on tenor trombone, as you may be asked to perform on both depending on the needs of the ensemble.



## TUBA

Tuba players perform in concert band, ceremonial band, brass quintet, Dixieland band, and brass band. Tuba players will be required to perform on sousaphone during marching performances and some outdoor ceremonies.

## PERCUSSION

Percussionists perform in a variety of ensembles, and they must have expertise in many different styles of music. Percussionists perform drum set in rock-pop band, jazz band, Latin-salsa band, and other popular music ensembles.

Additionally, percussionists perform marching snare and bass drum in the ceremonial band and concert snare, mallets, and auxiliary percussion in the concert band.





## PIANO/KEYBOARD

As a pianist in the U.S. Army Music program, you will perform in several different capacities. You will perform with the jazz band, jazz combo, rock band, and other popular music ensembles and you will cover piano parts for the concert band.

You will also provide solo piano music for dinner receptions and other formal events on post and in the community. Piano players should be experienced in several different styles and should be very familiar with keyboards as well as the piano.

## GUITAR

Guitar players perform in many different styles and ensembles, including rock band, jazz band, jazz combo, Latin/salsa band and country band. All guitar players must be skilled in electric guitar, as well as acoustic.



## BASS GUITAR

Bass guitarists perform with the jazz band, rock band, Latin/salsa band, and other popular music ensembles as needed. All bass players must play bass guitar proficiently, with additional consideration given to those also proficient on upright bass.

## VOCALS

Army Music vocalists must be proficient in many styles of music, with an emphasis on popular styles like rock, pop, and country, and must be able to learn new music quickly. Vocalists will perform with many types of ensembles, ranging from a cappella performance to rock bands to full concert band.

## VOCABULARY

**Fanfare:** a short ceremonial tune or flourish on brass instruments, usually as an introduction for someone or something important.

*Fanfare listening sample [here](#)*

**March:** music with a strong regular rhythm that usually is written for marching and most often performed by military bands.

*US Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus listening sample [here](#)*

**Quartet:** Four performers

**Quintet:** Five performers



**Brass Family:** Instruments made of brass that produce sound by “buzzing” the lips: trumpet, trombone, French horn, and tuba make up the basic family. Others are Euphonium, Baritone, Sousaphone.

*Read more about the brass family [here](#)*

**Woodwind:** Instruments that were originally made of wood such as flute, oboe, English horn, clarinet, bass clarinet, saxophone, bassoon and contrabassoon.

*Read more about the woodwind family [here](#)*

**Percussion:** These instruments create sound by hitting, shaking or scraping them. Some can be tuned like the xylophone, timpani or bells. Some have no pitch such as snare drum, triangle, maracas, cymbals and much more.

*Read more about the percussion family [here](#)*

**Jazz:** American music with ragged rhythms, improvisation, multiple lines of music at once, and distortions of pitch and timbre.

*Jazz listening sample [here](#)*

*Read more about jazz [here](#)*

**Dixieland:** This is a type of jazz that developed in New Orleans around the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century typically created with trumpet, banjo, piano, double bass, drums, guitar and vocals.

*Dixieland listening sample [here](#)*

*Read more about Dixieland [here](#)*

## GEORGIA PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

MK-5GM.6 – Listening to, analyzing, and describing music a. Distinguish between contrasts (pitch, dynamics, tempo, timbre) in various pieces of music. b. Describe music using appropriate vocabulary (e.g., high, low, loud, quiet, fast, and slow). c. Identify and classroom instruments by sight and sound using correct names. d. Aurally distinguish between the voices of men, women, and children.

Mk-5GM.7 – Evaluating music and music performances a. Evaluate musical performances of themselves and others. b. Explain personal preferences for specific musical works using appropriate vocabulary.

MK-5GM.9 – Understanding music in relation to history and culture

a. Perform, listen, move and/or distinguish between music from various historical periods and cultures (e.g., various world regions). b. Describe how music and musicians function in various cultures.

M5-8GM.7 – Evaluating music and music performances a. Evaluate musical performances of themselves and others. b. Explain personal preferences for specific musical works and styles using appropriate vocabulary.

M5-8GM.8 – Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts a. Describe the relationship between music and the other arts.

M6-8GM.6 – Listening to, analyzing, and describing music b. Recognize characteristics of musical elements in music, which represent diverse genres and cultures.

M6-8GM.9 – Understanding music in relation to history and culture a. Identify distinguishing characteristics of representative music genres and styles from a variety of cultures. c. Compare music of two or more world cultures identifying function and role of music, their musicians, and their respective performance conditions.

## REFERENCES AND RESOURCES

<https://www.goarmy.com/band/about-army-bands/history.html>

<https://www.goarmy.com/band/about-army-bands/types-of-army-bands.html>

<https://www.goarmy.com/band/about-army-bands/instruments.html>

<https://www.usarmyband.com/watch-listen/live-webcasts.html>

<https://www.usarmyband.com/index.html>

<https://www.orsymphony.org/learning-community/instruments/woodwinds/>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLMVB0B1\\_Ts](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLMVB0B1_Ts)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M5bcpiUjLpU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYHfiQ4R7Bs>

<https://www.orsymphony.org/learning-community/instruments/percussion/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmDDOFXGAs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyLjbMBpGDA>

<http://www.jazzinamerica.org/lessonplan/8/5/207>