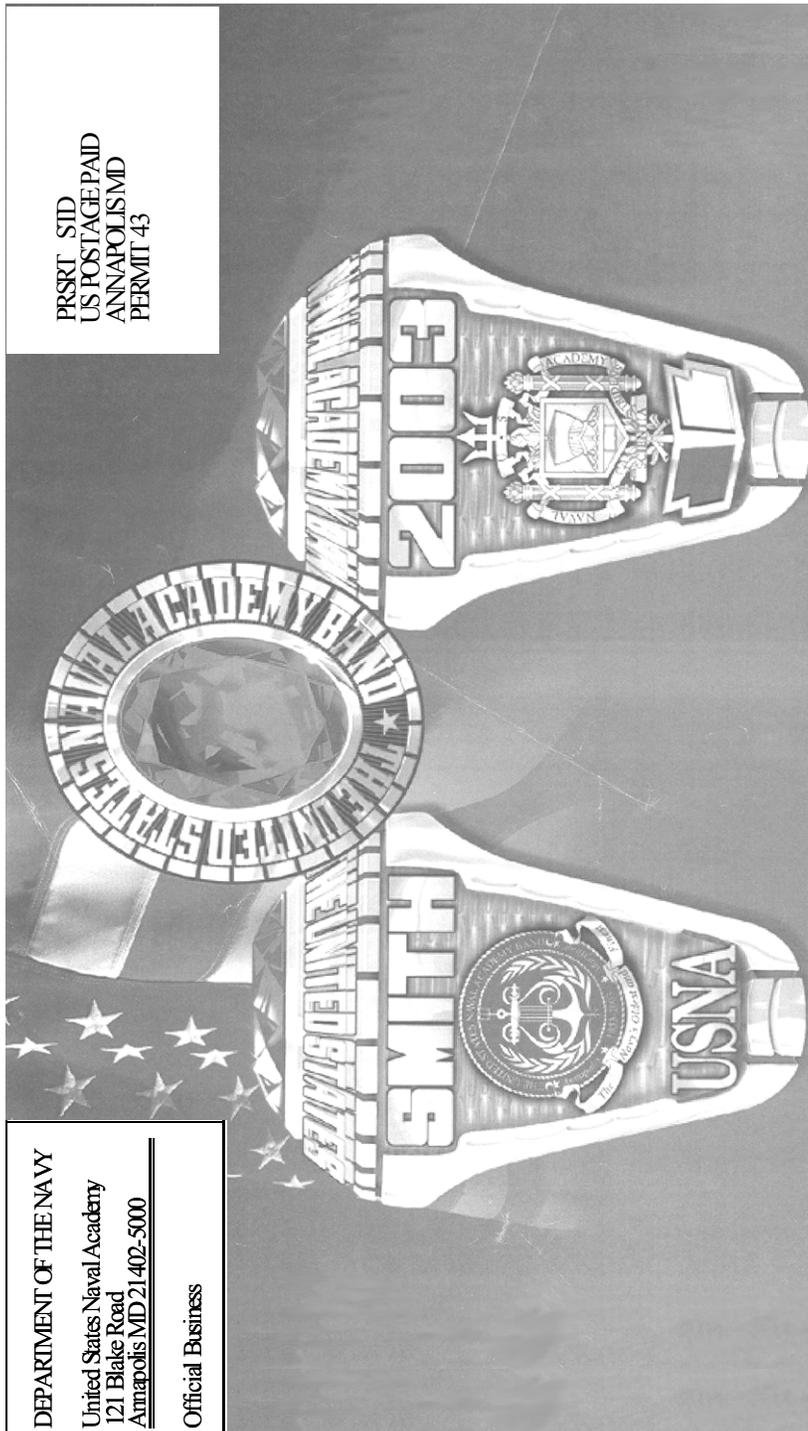


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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
United States Naval Academy
121 Blake Road
Annapolis MD 21402-5000
Official Business

Winter-Spring
2003
Leonard Slatkin

The U.S. Naval Academy

Band



CELEBRITY CONDUCTOR

On February 14th, 2003, in Alumni Hall, the Naval Academy Band and its fortunate audience will be witness to an unique treat. Maestro Leonard Slatkin, now in his seventh season as musical director of the National Symphony Orchestra, will conduct the Naval Academy Band, helping to celebrate its sesquicentennial.

Internationally acclaimed as one of today's leading conductors, he is recognized on five continents for his imaginative programming and highly praised interpretations. In demand worldwide as a guest conductor of both orchestral and operatic repertoire, Mr. Slatkin has made regular appearances over the last two decades with virtually all the major international orchestras and opera companies. Mr. Slatkin is now conductor laureate of the Saint Louis Symphony, where he served a highly successful music directorship for 17 years and gained a reputation as a champion of American music.

"I'm thrilled at the opportunity to have Mr. Slatkin conduct the band," commented MUCM James Rodak. "I became a big fan in 1977 on my first listening to his St Louis Symphony recording of *Ma Vlast* and have never been disappointed with the quality of his work."

Maestro Slatkin has over one hundred symphonic recordings to his credit, with over fifty Grammy nominations and is the winner of five Grammy awards.

Throughout his career Mr. Slatkin has demonstrated a continuing commitment to arts education and to reaching diverse audiences, reflected in his work with student orchestras at various conservatories and across the country through the National Symphony Orchestra American Residencies program. When the Washington, D.C. Youth Orchestra's public funding was cut, he orchestrated a consortium to replace the funding, enabling 130 children to continue public music education. Mr. Slatkin is also the founder and director of the National Conducting Institute, an advanced career development program that assists conductors in making the transition from leading part-time or academic orchestras to working with full-time major symphony orchestras.

Mr. Slatkin began his musical studies on the violin. Born in Los Angeles into a distinguished musical family, his parents were conductor-violinist Felix Slatkin and cellist Eleanor Aller, founding members of the famed Hollywood String Quartet. Mr. Slatkin studied conducting with his father and continued with Walter Susskind at Aspen and Jean Morel at The Juilliard School.



(continued on page 2)

SLATKIN

(from page 1)

Audience members will no doubt enjoy what is sure to be among the bands most inspired performances of pieces including Grainger's *Lincolnshire Posy* and Hindemith's *Symphony for Band*, but the members are equally anticipating the intense and educational rehearsals.

Mr. Slatkin commented "I am thrilled to be working with the Naval Academy Band. The military has provided all of us with some of the finest musicians in the country. To play two of the most important works in the Symphonic Band repertoire with this outstanding ensemble should be one of the highlights of my season."

When asked how this event came about, Naval Academy Band Leader LCDR Donald H. Keller remarked, "I have to credit the 150th Anniversary performance committee with making this concert happen. They put their heads together and compiled a "dream list" of conductors and decided to invite Maestro Slatkin. He has kindly accepted and we are indeed honored."



The United States Naval Academy Band DIRECTOR

LCDR Donald H. Keller, Jr.

ASST. DIRECTOR

ENS John W. Cline

THIRD OFFICER

ENS Robert J. Wrenn

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

MUCM James E. Rodak

OPERATIONS

MUCS Rob Wertz

ADMINISTRATION

MUC Ronda Ory-Lettie

SUPPLY

MUCS Richard Chappell

LIBRARIAN

MUC James Bean

AUDITION SUPERVISOR

MUCS Steve Barzal

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MUCM James H. Cunningham

CONCERT INFORMATION:

(410) 293-0263

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Dear Patrons,

With the 150th Anniversary year in full swing, we look forward to the Winter-Spring concert schedule. In addition to the extensive recital series scheduled, we have planned many special concerts that will have us performing in Carlisle, PA, the Clarice Smith Center at the University of Maryland, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and the Armed Forces School of Music in Norfolk, VA.



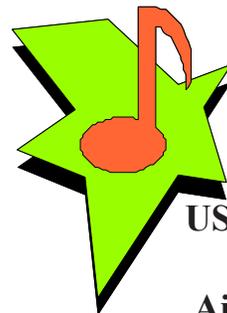
The very popular Music for a Cathedral concert will return in January. This year we will be joined by the Naval Academy Men's Glee Club under the direction of Dr. Barry Talley and Mr. Monte Maxwell, the Naval Academy's organist. In February we will be featuring Maestro Leonard Slatkin, Musical Director of the National Symphony, as our guest conductor. We are very excited to have Maestro Slatkin join us as we celebrate our sesquicentennial. We will conclude the Winter-Spring series with the 150th Anniversary Gala Concert in Alumni Hall on May 9th.

We are very pleased to welcome MU1 Jeremy Robinson to the band; he will be performing with Electric Brigade as the Bassist. MU1 Justin Skorupa joined the band as the new Arranger and has already been busy writing music for the Holiday concerts. We would like to say goodbye to MU1 Michael Acosta as he transitions to the Fleet Reserve.

On behalf of the members of the Naval Academy Band, I want to thank you for your continued support, and welcome you to come out and join us as we celebrate 150 years of service to the Academy.

Sincerely,

D. H. Keller, Jr.
Director



Noteworthy Events

USNA Band Sailor of the Quarter

MU1 Tom Pitta, 3rd Qtr, 02

Air Force Commendation Medal

MU1 Ira Ostrowski

Senior Skipper(D SS) Qualification

MUCS Robert Wertz

Navy Good Conduct Medal

MUCS Richard Chappell, 6th award

MUC James Bean, 5th award

MU1 Anthony Valerio, 4th award

New to the USNA Band Family

Madison Samantha Duley, daughter of MU1 John Duley and his wife Terry, born November 12, 2002 at 7:32 P.M. weighing 8 lbs., 9 oz., and measuring 19^{1/2} in.

Charles Nathaniel Pitta, son of MU1 Thomas Pitta and his wife Mary, born December 1, 2002 at 3:22 P.M. weighing 10 lbs., 2 oz., and measuring 22 in.

FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS TO:

MU1 Michael Acosta to the Fleet Reserve.



Attention Naval Academy Band members, past and present!! Don't let time pass you by and miss the opportunity to own the striking NAVAL ACADEMY BAND RING. For more information on this one of a kind keepsake, please phone MU1 Jarjoura at (410) 293-1260.



Welcome Aboard

MU1 Jeremy S. Robinson

Musician First Class Jeremy Robinson was born in Waldoboro, Maine, and while still in high school, toured across the United States, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe, performing as bass instrumentalist with "The Continentals," a Christian rock music organization. He graduated from Medomak Valley High School in 1993.



Petty Officer Robinson joined the United States Navy, attending the Navy School of Music at Navy Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Virginia, in 1993. His assignments include Navy Band Charleston, South Carolina, where he performed in the show band "Tradition," and the Atlantic Fleet Band in Norfolk, Virginia, where he deployed on the USS Comte de Grasse with UNITAS 38, traveling to South America and Africa. Next, he traveled to Navy Band Mid-South in Memphis, Tennessee, where he performed with the big band "Sternwheel Drive" and the rock band "Atlantis," until his assignment to the Sixth Fleet Band, Naples, Italy, where he took leadership of their rock band "Navigators." Petty Officer Robinson auditioned and was accepted as bass instrumentalist for the Naval Academy Band and reported for duty in 2002. He performs with the Navy's premier contemporary music ensemble, "The Electric Brigade." Petty Officer Robinson's military awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (four awards), Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Navy Good Conduct Medal (three awards), the National Defense Service Medal (two awards), Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Navy/Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon, and Navy Expert Pistol Marksman's Medal.

MU1 Justin Skorupa

Musician First Class Justin Skorupa is a native of Appalachia, Virginia in Wise County. He graduated from Radford High School in 1990 with honors. Afterwards, he attended Boston University for a year and then Morehead State University for three years. He studied trumpet with Dr. Jon Burgess and arranging with Mr. David Anderson while pursuing a Bachelors of Music degree in Jazz Studies. He competed for and was awarded a scholarship from the International Trumpet Guild in 1993. He also performed as bandleader, instrumentalist, and arranger for the German Band at Paramount's King's Island in Cincinnati, Ohio that same year. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in December of 1994.



Upon completion of Marine Corps Boot Camp at Parris Island, South Carolina, Private First Class Skorupa was assigned to the 2d Marine Division Band in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He served as an instrumentalist, arranger, fire team leader, squad leader, and public affairs coordinator and was promoted to the ranks of Lance Corporal, Corporal, and Sergeant. During his lengthy tour with the 2d Marine Division Band, he performed in over 500 ceremonies, concerts, and parades and deployed with the band to the Republic of Turkey for operational training as a part of the II Marine Expeditionary Force in 1998. Sgt. Skorupa transferred to the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Band at Twenty-nine Palms, California, where he continued to serve as an instrumentalist and arranger while also developing leadership skills as the Assistant Drum Major, Platoon Sergeant, and Administrative Chief in addition to other musical responsibilities. He also strived to further his education with studies at the University of Redlands and Copper Mountain College. Early in 2001, Sgt. Skorupa volunteered for the Music Arranger Course at the Armed Forces School of Music aboard the Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek in Norfolk, Virginia, and graduated at the top of his class. He was retained as a member of the School of Music Staff, where he continued to compose, arrange, and transcribe music for the School's many ensembles. Sgt Skorupa auditioned with U.S. Naval Academy Band as Staff Arranger/Composer and won appointment in May 2002. Musician First Class Skorupa enlisted in the United States Navy in September 2002, at which time he was appointed to his present grade. He joined the band in October after attending military training at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. His military awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal (two awards), National Defense Service Medal (two awards), Meritorious Unit Commendation (two awards), and the Navy Expert Rifle Medal.

We'd like to take this opportunity to welcome and introduce the band's newest officer, **Ensign Robert J. Wrenn**. Since his arrival here in Annapolis in late October, he has been busy learning the Naval Academy "ropes," sharing his personal expertise on various matters, and enjoying his new musical opportunities.

ROBERT J. WRENN Ensign, U.S. NAVY THIRD OFFICER, NAVAL ACADEMY BAND

Ensign Robert J. Wrenn, a native of Richmond, Virginia, entered Naval service in October of 1988. After completing Musician "A" School, Armed Forces School of Music, Little Creek, VA, he was assigned as a saxophone and clarinet instrumentalist with CINCOSOUTH Band in Naples, Italy. While there, he also served as guitarist, vocalist, and Supply/Fiscal Petty Officer and traveled throughout Europe with the rock band and showband.



His next assignment was with Navy Band New Orleans. In addition to performing with the rock band, he completed a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management degree from Northwood University.

In June of 1995, he transferred to SEVENTH Fleet Band in Yokosuka, Japan. There he toured throughout the Western Pacific, served as Operations Coordinator, and was promoted to Chief Petty Officer in September of 1999. His deployments included: CARAT 1996 and 2000 onboard the USS GEORGE PHILIP (FFG 12) and USS GERMANTOWN (LSD 42), and Southern Swing 1997 and 1998 onboard the USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC 19).

Ensign Wrenn is also a graduate of the School of Music's Section Leader Course, Ceremonial Conductor/Drum Major Course, and Assistant Director Course. Prior to his commissioning on September 1, 2002, he was assigned to the Atlantic Fleet Band where he served as Chief-in-Charge of Ceremonial Bands.

During fourteen years of Naval service, Ensign Wrenn has been awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (three awards), Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), Meritorious Unit Commendation, Good Conduct Medal (four awards), National Defense Service Medal (two awards), Sea Service Deployment ribbon (five awards), and the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service ribbon (seven awards).

If you or a friend would like to receive "Serenade", the Naval Academy Band newsletter, please fill out the enclosed coupon and mail it to us. We will be happy to include you on our patron list. **BONUS!** Patrons with email will receive press releases for each concert.

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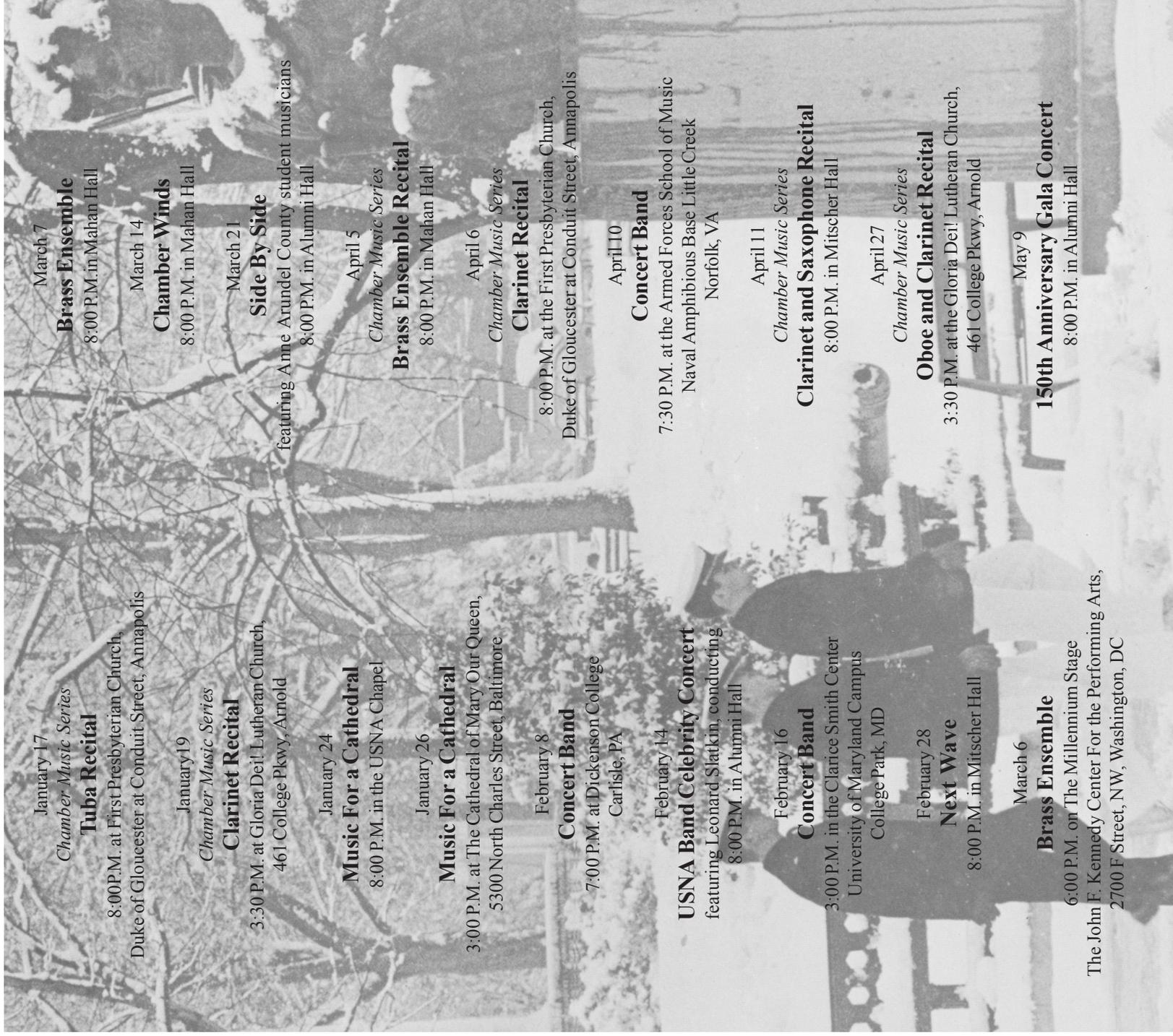
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Annapolis MD 21402-5080

Visit us on the World Wide Web at: www.usna.edu/USNABand

The United States Naval Academy Band

150th Anniversary Winter-Spring Concert Series



January 17

Chamber Music Series

Tuba Recital

8:00 P.M. at First Presbyterian Church,
Duke of Gloucester at Conduit Street, Annapolis

January 19

Chamber Music Series

Clarinets Recital

3:30 P.M. at Gloria Dei! Lutheran Church,
461 College Pkwy., Arnold

January 24

Music For a Cathedral

8:00 P.M. in the USNA Chapel

January 26

Music For a Cathedral

3:00 P.M. at The Cathedral of Mary Our Queen,
5300 North Charles Street, Baltimore

February 8

Concert Band

7:00 P.M. at Dickenson College
Carlisle, PA

February 14

USNA Band Celebrity Concert

featuring Leonard Slatkin, conducting
8:00 P.M. in Alumni Hall

February 16

Concert Band

3:00 P.M. in the Clarice Smith Center
University of Maryland Campus
College Park, MD

February 28

Next Wave

8:00 P.M. in Mitscher Hall

March 6

Brass Ensemble

6:00 P.M. on The Millennium Stage
The John F. Kennedy Center For the Performing Arts,
2700 F Street, NW, Washington, DC

March 7

Brass Ensemble

8:00 P.M. in Mahan Hall

March 14

Chamber Winds

8:00 P.M. in Mahan Hall

March 21

Side By Side

featuring Anne Arundel County student musicians
8:00 P.M. in Alumni Hall

April 5

Chamber Music Series

Brass Ensemble Recital

8:00 P.M. in Mahan Hall

April 6

Chamber Music Series

Clarinets Recital

8:00 P.M. at the First Presbyterian Church,
Duke of Gloucester at Conduit Street, Annapolis

April 10

Concert Band

7:30 P.M. at the Armed Forces School of Music
Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek
Norfolk, VA

April 11

Chamber Music Series

Clarinets and Saxophone Recital

8:00 P.M. in Mitscher Hall

April 27

Chamber Music Series

Oboe and Clarinet Recital

3:30 P.M. at the Gloria Dei! Lutheran Church,
461 College Pkwy., Arnold

May 9

150th Anniversary Gala Concert

8:00 P.M. in Alumni Hall

All Naval Academy Band concerts are free and open to the public with no tickets required.
For concert information call (410) 293-0263 or visit our website at www.usna.edu/USNABand.