



## Fact Sheet

# United States Air Force

## AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND

### THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BAND OF FLIGHT

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## THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BAND OF FLIGHT

The United States Air Force Band of Flight provides quality music and entertainment for a wide variety of official military, recruiting, and community relations events.

Under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Alan Sierichs, the band travels nearly 70,000 miles each year from their home at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio to present almost 500 performances before both military and civilian audiences. Appearances by the band have ranged from the Kentucky Derby parade, the Indianapolis 500 parade and the Professional Football Hall of Fame festival parade to annual appearances at the Montreux Detroit Jazz Festival. The band's area of responsibility reaches from Michigan to Kentucky and from Indiana to West Virginia and includes almost one-quarter of the nation's population.

The Band of Flight's 60 full-time musicians make up a number of groups that can meet almost any musical requirement. The Concert Band performs wide spectrum of music, from the standard repertoire and commissioned works to original arrangements of popular songs and Broadway show tunes. The Night Flight Jazz Ensemble plays contemporary jazz from the books of today's great bands and keeps Air Force heritage alive by remembering the music of Major Glenn Miller. The Huffman Prairie Winds woodwind quintet performs the standard quintet literature, commissioned works and special arrangements in a variety of chamber music settings. The Wright Brass, a brass quintet plus percussionist, apply their musicianship—often with a touch of humor—to styles ranging from Bach to the Beatles. Systems Go, the Band of Flight's popular music combo, plays everything from rock to rhythm & blues and from country to jazz. The Kittyhawk Clarinet Quartet, the Band of Flight's newest ensemble, revitalizes chamber music old and new with their unique instrumentation.

Since its founding in 1942, the United States Air Force Band of Flight has performed for presidents and vice presidents, visiting heads of state, cabinet officers, members of congress, U.S. and foreign military leaders, and millions of American and foreign citizens. Through the years the band has performed with numerous celebrities and guest artists including Walter Cronkite, Lee Greenwood, Glenn Campbell, and aviation pioneer Chuck Yeager.

In recognition of its sustained superior performance as the Air Force Materiel Command's musical ambassadors, the Band of Flight has received four Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards and the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award. Among its many civilian honors, the band is a two-time recipient of The Colonel George S. Howard Citation of Musical Excellence for Military Concert bands presented by The John Philip Sousa Foundation.