



The United States
AIR FORCE BAND
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Spirit *of the* Season

Live from

D.A.R. CONSTITUTION HALL!



Colonel Larry H. Lang, Commander and Conductor



Selections

1. **Fanfare on “Deck Halls”** (1:33)
arr. Richard Klein
2. **“Spirit of the Season” from *The Polar Express*** (2:31)
Glen Ballard & Alan Silvestri © Warner/Chappell Music
arr. Technical Sgt. Ken Soper, U.S. Air Force Academy Band
3. **Gloria** (6:29)
Randol Alan Bass © Warner/Chappell Music
4. **Festival of Light!** (6:40)
Stephen Melillo © Stormworks Publications
5. **The Night Before Christmas** (6:23)
Randol Alan Bass © Warner/Chappell Music
6. **Ave Maria** (2:31)
Franz Schubert, arr. Master Sgt. John Bliss
7. **Deck the Halls** (2:03)
arr. Nathan Daughtrey
8. **Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree** (3:16)
Johnny Marks © St. Nicholas Music, Inc.
arr. Sgt. Maj. Douglas Richard, U.S. Army West Point Band

9. **Jingle Bells** (2:55)
James Pierpont, adapt. Master Sgt. John Bliss
10. **Must Be Santa** (2:33)
Hal Moore & Bill Fredericks © Intuitive Music/Woodwyn Music Company
arr. Retired Chief Master Sgts. Michael Davis & Larry MacTaggart
11. **Mister Santa** (2:37)
Pat Ballard © MPL Music Publishing
arr. Master Sgt. John Bliss
12. **Wren and Furze** (2:45)
Traditional Irish Song, arr. Celtic Aire
13. **That Night in Bethlehem** (3:45)
Traditional Irish Christmas Carol
arr. Technical Sgt. Tadd Russo
14. **Carol of the Bells** (2:50)
Mykola Leontovych © Carl Fischer Music
arr. Master Sgt. John Bliss

Total Time (48:51)

BOL-1405

Happy Holidays!

We hope you enjoy this live recording of The U.S. Air Force **CONCERT BAND** and **SINGING SERGEANTS'** holiday concerts at D.A.R. Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.



A sweetly adorned Christmas tree in the lobby
of D.A.R. Constitution Hall

This recording is dedicated to the thousands of American service members stationed around the globe, away from their families and friends, especially those personnel deployed in harm's way. These active duty, guard, reserve and civilian heroes are America's most valued asset.

We appreciate their tremendous sacrifices which allow us to celebrate the holiday season, and enjoy our priceless freedoms throughout the year.

Our “Spirit of the Season” series always includes a Holiday Matinee for enthusiastic school children from across metropolitan Washington, D.C., along with additional performances bringing holiday cheer to approximately 10,000 concert goers each year.

Our concerts begin with the presentation of the nation’s colors by the U.S. Air Force **HONOR GUARD** and the playing of our National Anthem.

This “Spirit of the Season” recording features a wide variety of holiday selections highlighting the talents of the **CONCERT BAND** and **SINGING SERGEANTS**.



The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard present the nation’s colors at the Holiday Matinee for Kids as school children look on.

It begins with Richard Klein's "Fanfare on Deck the Halls," followed by the title selection "Spirit of the Season" from The Polar Express and Randol Bass' "Gloria," setting the tone for a wonderful holiday celebration.

The annual observance of Chanukkah is highlighted with Stephen Melillo's dramatic selection, "Festival of Light," featuring Technical Sgt. Kris Westrich performing on an authentic ram's horn.

Next, Chief Master Sgt. Jennifer Pagnard, dressed as Mrs. Claus herself, brings the timeless story, "The Night Before Christmas," to life.



Chief Master Sgt. Jennifer Pagnard reads
"The Night Before Christmas."

An acclaimed group with notable artistic versatility, the Singing Sergeants always dazzle the audience with their offerings at these holiday concerts. One of the newest members of the chorus, Technical Sgt. Aaron Paige, offers a poignant rendition of “Ave Maria.”

Our “Spirit of the Season” concerts often feature a “By Request!” portion of the program, allowing audience members to choose between two or three selections. The audience favorite in this recording is a percussion-packed version of “Deck the Halls” featuring the Concert Band’s percussion section.



Technical Sgt. Aaron Paige sings
“Ave Maria.”

It's not often that the lowest and highest instruments in the band are featured together, but "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree," spotlighting Technical Sgts. Megan Neal and Eddie Sanders, did just that during this live performance. It was instantly a crowd favorite!

Next, our resident crooner, Technical Sgt. Taylor Armstrong, and a female vocal trio energize the crowd with a rousing cover of Michael Buble's "Jingle Bells."



Senior Master Sgts. Linda Waring and Christine Germain and Technical Sgts. Emily Wellington and Taylor Armstrong delight the audience with "Jingle Bells."



Celtic Aire members, Technical Sgts.
Emily Wellington, Julia Brundage and Joe
Haughton

Jolly Old Saint Nicholas often carves time out his busy schedule to be a part of our holiday concerts. As a tribute to him, the Concert Band and Singing Sergeants perform “Must Be Santa” and a quartet of ladies from the Singing Sergeants serenade him with the adorable “Mister Santa.”

Celtic Aire, one of the Singing Sergeants’ small ensembles, always brings interactive fun enjoyed by kids of all ages. Here, they perform “Wren and Furze,” followed by Celtic renditions of “That Night in Bethlehem” and “Carol of the Bells.”

Notes written and compiled by
Chief Master Sgt. Jennifer Pagnard,
Senior Master Sgt. Philip Krzywicki and Technical Sgt. Aaron Paige.

THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BAND

COMMANDER AND CONDUCTOR

Col. Larry H. Lang - *El Paso, Texas*

Concert Band

OFFICER IN CHARGE

1st Lt. Shanti Simon Nolan - *Vero Beach, Fla.*

FLUTE

Senior Master Sgt. Stacy Newbrough Ascione* - *Iowa City, Iowa*

Master Sgt. Jennifer Moore Tersero - *Oxford, Mich.*

PICCOLO

Technical Sgt. Megan Neal - *Pittsburgh, Pa.*

OBOE

Master Sgt. Tracey MacDonald* - *Duncanville, Texas*

Kevin Darrow - *Arlington, Texas*

ENGLISH HORN

Kevin Darrow - *Arlington, Texas*

E♭ CLARINET

Master Sgt. Brooke Emery - *Mt. Pleasant, Mich.*

B♭ CLARINET

Senior Master Sgt. David Stump - *Colorado Springs, Colo*

Senior Master Sgt. Brian McCurdy - *Virginia Beach, Va.*

Master Sgt. Melinda Burts - *Lima, Ohio*

Master Sgt. Julianna Evans Arnold - *Vienna, Va.*

Master Sgt. J. Blake Arrington - *Little Rock, Ark.*

Technical Sgt. Ani Berberian - *Brookings, S.D.*

Technical Sgt. Benjamin Bowers - *Falls Church, Va.*

Technical Sgt. Kristin Bowers* - *Downers Grove, Ill.*

Technical Sgt. Brian Wahrlich - *Albany, N.Y.*

Technical Sgt. Laura Henry Shoun - *Apple Valley, Minn.*

Technical Sgt. Sara Wollmacher - *Port Charlotte, Fla.*

BASS CLARINET

Master Sgt. John Romano - *Bluefield, W.V.*

BASSOON

Technical Sgt. Eddie Sanders III* - *Washington, D.C.*

Technical Sgt. Sandy Sisk - *Centerville, Minn.*

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Chief Master Sgt. William Marr* - *Alexandria, Va.*

Master Sgt. Jeremy Koch - *Chicago, Ill.*

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Master Sgt. Jake McCray - *Fairfax, Va.*

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Technical Sgt. Richard Parrell - *Arlington, Va.*

FRENCH HORN

Senior Master Sgt. Kent Wyatt – *Arlington, Texas*
Senior Master Sgt. Philip Krzywicki – *Philadelphia, Pa.*
Master Sgt. Kathleen Fitzpatrick* – *Columbus, Ohio*
Technical Sgt. Joel Wealer – *Hannibal, Mo.*
Technical Sgt. David Balandrin – *Salt Lake City, Utah*

CORNET/TRUMPET

Chief Master Sgt. Robert McConnell* – *Wadsworth, Ohio*
Master Sgt. Christian Pagnard^ – *Centerville, Ohio*
Technical Sgt. Valentin Lukashuk – *Brest, Belarus*
Technical Sgt. Karl Sweedy – *Moline, Ill.*
Technical Sgt. Blakely Rosengaft – *Vienna, Va.*
Technical Sgt. Kristopher Westrich – *Scottsville, N.Y.*

TROMBONE

Chief Master Sgt. Michael Piersol* – *Williamsburg, Iowa*
Technical Sgt. Matthew Nudell – *Hettinger, N.D.*
Technical Sgt. David Rosengaft – *Richmond, Va.*

BASS TROMBONE

Master Sgt. Jay Heltzer – *Sherman Oaks, Calif.*

EUPHONIUM

Senior Master Sgt. Jennifer Dayton Cox – *Phelps, N.Y.*
Retired Technical Sgt. Joe Bello* – *Naperville, Ill.*

TUBA

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Jan Duga – *Columbus, Ohio*
Senior Master Sgt. Brian Sands* – *Goshen, Ind.*

CELLO

Master Sgt. Joshua Kowalsky* – *Interlochen, Mich.*
Technical Sgt. Edward Prevost – *Manassas, Va.*

STRING BASS

Senior Master Sgt. Chris Kosky – *South Haven, Ind.*

TIMPANI

Senior Master Sgt. Erica Montgomery – *Louisville, Ky.*

PERCUSSION

Senior Master Sgt. Dennis Hoffmann – *Pittsburgh, Pa.*
Master Sgt. Marc Dinitz* – *Rockville, Md.*
Master Sgt. Joe Reynolds – *Houston, Texas*
Technical Sgt. Adam Green – *Cincinnati, Ohio*
Technical Sgt. Randy Gorman – *Linden, Va.*

HARP

Senior Master Sgt. Eric Sabatino – *Long Island City, N.Y.*

PIANO/KEYBOARD

Technical Sgt. Taylor Armstrong – *Bethlehem, Pa.*

NARRATOR

Chief Master Sgt. Jennifer Lyons Pagnard – *Knoxville, Tenn.*

Singing Sergeants

OFFICER IN CHARGE

1st Lt. Peter J. Folliard – *Ridgewood, NJ.*

SOPRANO

Chief Master Sgt. Robin Askew McConnell* –
Wilmington, N.C.

Senior Master Sgt. Christine Adamick Germain –
Newington, Conn.

Master Sgt. Anne Seaton Baker – *Lodi, Wis.*

Technical Sgt. Mandi Harper* – *Columbus, Ohio*

ALTO

Chief Master Sgt. Angela L. Burns – *Wilmington, N.C.*

Senior Master Sgt. Linda C. Waring – *Hagerstown, Md.*

Master Sgt. Janice E. Carl – *Parsippany, NJ.*

Master Sgt. Emily Wellington* – *Lemoyne, Pa.*

Technical Sgt. Julia Brundage – *Annandale, Va.*

TENOR

Master Sgt. Joseph Haughton* – *Philadelphia, Pa.*

Technical Sgt. Taylor Armstrong+ – *Bethlehem, Pa.*

Technical Sgt. Daniel Anderson – *Hayward, Calif.*

Technical Sgt. Aaron Paige – *Detroit, Mich.*

BASS

Senior Master Sgt. Robert S. Harrelson –
Boiling Springs, N.C.

Senior Master Sgt. Ryan Dolan – *Virginia Beach, Va.*

Master Sgt. Eric Sullivan – *Wilson, N.C.*

Master Sgt. Matthew Irish# – *Dallas, Texas*

Master Sgt. Ben Park* – *San Diego, Calif.*

“MISTER SANTA” QUARTET

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Donna Abraira

Amy Statz Dolan

Master Sgt. Janice E. Carl

Chief Master Sgt. Jennifer Lyons Pagnard

Technical Support

PRODUCER

Chief Master Sgt. Jebodiah Eaton – *Lawrence, Kan.*

RECORDING ENGINEER

Master Sgt. James DeVaughn – *Alexandria, Va.*

SYSTEMS ENGINEER

Master Sgt. Adam Dempsey – *Alpena, Mich.*

Master Sgt. David Graves – *Eugene, Ore.*

FRONT OF HOUSE ENGINEER

Master Sgt. Mark Hannah – *Tama, Iowa*

LEGEND

* = Principal or Section Leader

^ = Associate Principal

= Musical Advisor, Singing Sergeants

+ = Assistant Music Director, Singing Sergeants

Credits

Col. Larry H. Lang

Executive Producer and Conductor

Retired Maj. Scott Guidry

Session Producer

1st Lt. Peter Folliard

Editor and Assistant Producer

Master Sgt. James DeVaughn

Recording Engineer, Digital Editing

Master Sgt. David Graves

Monitor Engineer

Master Sgt. Mark Hannah

Systems Engineer

Master Sgt. Adam Dempsey

Front of House Engineer

Mr. Mike Monseur, Bias Studios

Mastering Engineer

Chief Master Sgt. Jennifer Pagnard

Chief of Marketing and Outreach

Chief Master Sgt. Jebodiah Eaton

Chief of Production

Senior Master Sgt. Ryan Dolan

Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of

Recording Production

Master Sgt. Joshua Kowalsky

Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of

Graphic Production

Technical Sgt. Valentin Lukashuk

Graphic Designer

Technical Sgt. Karl Sweedy

Music Licensing

BOL-1405

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Tracks 10 and 11 were recorded in 2000, Col. Lowell E. Graham, Commander



www.usafband.af.mil

This recording is approved for Department of the Air Force use and is NOT FOR SALE.

The U.S. Air Force is wholeheartedly committed to reflecting the diversity of our great nation. Individuals from all cultural and ethnic backgrounds are actively encouraged to learn about the Air Force and seek positions in the band program. For more information, please call 1-800-283-8995 or visit: <http://www.usafband.af.mil/careers/index.asp>

Contact Air Force Recruiting via www.airforce.com or call 1-800-423-USAF

Aim High...Fly, Fight, Win!