

*The United States Military Academy Band
and
West Point Cadet Glee Club*

<i>The Official West Point March</i>	<i>Egner</i>
<i>Pride of the Point</i>	<i>Traditional / Whitcomb</i>
<i>William Tell Overture</i>	<i>Rossini / Leidzen</i>
<i>French National Defile March</i>	<i>Turlet / Seredy</i>
<i>Huntington Municipal Band (H.M.B.) March</i>	<i>Byus</i>
<i>Army Blue</i>	<i>Poulton / Nelson</i>
<i>El Captain</i>	<i>Sousa</i>
<i>Benny Havens, Oh!</i>	<i>Traditional</i>
<i>Battle Hymn of the Republic</i>	<i>Steffe, Howe / Wilhousky, Neilson</i>
<i>The Corps</i>	<i>Shipman</i>
<i>Alma Mater</i>	<i>Kuchen and Reinecke</i>
<i>The Stars and Stripes Forever</i>	<i>Sousa</i>

The United States Military Academy



Band & Glee Club

The Concert Band

The Concert Band from the United States Military Academy is a direct descendant of the small Band of Musick which assembled at West Point in 1815. From the modest 17-piece military band of that era has evolved the 51 member symphonic Concert Band of today.

Over the years, the USMA Concert Band has earned a reputation of being among the finest of its kind in the world. The band has performed at major performance facilities in the Eastern United States, including New York's Radio City Music Hall, Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall and Tanglewood. They have appeared with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and the American Symphony Orchestra, under the batons of Zubin Mehta, William Steinberg, Leopold Stokowki and Arturo Toscani. The band has been seen on numerous network television shows and was recently featured in the PBS television special and accompanying compact disc and tape called *Songs Of The Civil War*.

World famous composers such as Robert Russell Bennett, Darius Milhaud, Morton Gould, Percy Grainger and Vaclav Nelhybel have dedicated compositions to the USMA Band. Many works have been premiered by the Concert Band, including the 1979 American Premiere of Meyerbeer's opera *Il Crociato In Egitto* and the 1992 Lincoln Center Premiere of Henry Brandt's "*Hidden Hemisphere 500*" both of which featured the USMA band.

The USMA Band's performance schedule is highlighted by its Music From the Concert Hall Series, presented from September through May in Eisenhower Hall at West Point. Over the years these performances have included appearances by renowned guest artists such as pianist Leon Bates, trombonist Joseph Alessi, vocal tenor Dan Doster and actress Helen Hayes. The Chamber Music Series, which runs concurrently, features solo and small ensemble works presented by member of the USMA band. The Summer Concert Series, presented at West Point's Trophy Point, brings back the time honored tradition of the outdoor band concert on the mall under the stars.

The Concert Band carries on the great tradition established in an earlier age and greatly adds to the cultural activities of the Hudson Valley and the greater New York Metropolitan area. Their performances continue to attract thousands of people to hear the best in live concert band literature.

The West Point Cadet Club has provided entertainment for Americans in nearly every state of the Union for more than eighty-five years, becoming one of the most famous organizations of the United States Military Academy in the process. The Glee Club has its roots firmly embedded in the tradition of the Corps of Cadets. Undoubtedly, secular singing in one form or another has been in evidence at West Point since the Academy's founding. Many warm, robust songfests were held at 'Benny Havens' Tavern, a popular (though off-limits) gathering spot of cadets in the early 1800s, while winter snows fell in the Hudson River Valley.

First organized in 1903, an official Glee Club gave its first concert at the Military Academy in March of that year. There were numerous attempts to keep the Glee Club active until it finally became a permanent activity at the Military Academy in 1933, when it boasted twenty-five singers. From these humble origins, the Club has grown to encompass a total membership of approximately fifty male and female cadets.

Membership in the Glee Club is by invitation following an audition with the Director. The Club's membership, just recently expanded to include fourth classmen, devotes several hours a week learning a variety of music. Not only does its repertoire depict the history of the Armed Forces, it also includes concert pieces, current hit songs, American and foreign folk songs, and contemporary ballads. Three specialty groups, including two male/female ensembles called Eudimonia and Encore, and a contemporary jazz group, provide each concert with a refreshing change of pace.

The Glee Club travels extensively throughout the year, performing up to fifty concerts annually. In addition, the Glee Club has recorded several albums over the years, the most recent released in conjunction with the Cadet Chapel Choirs in 1983.

The Club has been honored to perform in some of the most famous concert halls in the country, to include Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Hollywood Bowl, and Boston's Symphony Hall. It has also appeared with some of the major orchestras in the nation such as the Dallas and Buffalo Symphony Orchestras and the Boston and Houston Pops. Time has also seen the Glee Club perform at Disney Land and Disney World, the grand opening of EPCOT Center, Knott's Berry Farm, and the Kennedy Space Center. Not only have Americans experienced the music of the Glee Club, but citizens of Canada and Ireland as well. Additionally, the Club has received invitations to perform in France, Germany, and Japan.

The Glee Club has shared the spotlight with timeless entertainers such as Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Dinah Shore, Roberta Peters, and has been privileged to participate in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, ABC's Thanksgiving Day Parade, CBS's Easter Parade, The Savannah St. Patrick's Day Parade, and at several Presidential Inaugurations. Special memories include a performance for the homecoming of the American hostages from Iran, and for a visit of British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher to the United States.

Despite the frenetic pace and demanding concert schedule, the best description of the Cadet Glee Club is easily obtained from its motto: "No fun without Music, no music without fun."