

257th Army Band ■ District of Columbia National Guard
“The Band of the Nation’s Capital”

PRESS RELEASE

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SFC Brian McCommon, Chief of Media Relations
Phone: (202) 685-7829
E-mail: Brian.McCommon@us.army.mil

WHO: The 257th Army Band – ***“The Band of the Nation’s Capital”***
WHAT: Appointment of Col (Ret) Arnald D. Gabriel as Conductor Emeritus
WHEN: Monday, January 18th 2010
INFO: www.257ArmyBand.com

“The Band of the Nation’s Capital”, the 257th Army Band, is pleased to announce that legendary band conductor, Colonel (Ret) Arnald D. Gabriel, has been appointed as its ***“Conductor Emeritus”***. 257th Army Band Commander, Chief Warrant Officer Sheila M. Klotz, announced this appointment on July 1, 2009. Chief Klotz began her military career with Colonel Gabriel when she enlisted in The US Air Force Band in 1984 and the two have long since had a wonderful professional relationship. Col Gabriel appears with the 257th Army Band on a semi regular basis in concerts but also in working sessions in which he shares his vast experience and knowledge with the musicians of the band. In January 2010, Col Gabriel invited Chief Klotz to join him for a guest conducting appearance with the Virginia Grand Military Band held in Arlington, VA.

To most in the music world, Col Gabriel is known for his tenure with The US Air Force Band. He led the band in performances around the world and has many highly acclaimed recordings to his credit. Since his retirement from the US Air Force, Col Gabriel is in high demand as a clinician, adjudicator and conductor for professional, college and high school ensembles around the world. However, Col Gabriel is also extremely proud of his Army service during WWII. As a very young man, he joined the service and was assigned to the 29th Infantry Division and fought in the Allied Forces D-Day invasion. It was only after his combat service to our country did he begin his incredible musical career.

The District of Columbia National Guard is closer to the heart of America than any other Guard in the country. They are unique in that they are the only National Guard activated exclusively by the President for war-time deployment or civil emergencies. Today, our units are continuously deploying throughout the globe in support of the war on terror.

The 257th Army Band boasts a proud lineage dating back to the association to the legendary Corcoran Cadets of 1883, the DC militia that inspired John Philip Sousa to compose his march of the same name. Musical support includes an historic first for National Guard Bands as they provided musical support at the Eastern States Inaugural Ball, attended by President Obama. The band also provided support for the state funerals of Presidents Harding and Kennedy. Concert tours have taken the band through the Northeast and Southeastern US, Mid-Atlantic region, Ohio Valley and Texas. Although centrally located among the finest military bands in the world, the 257th Army Band is officially designated as ***“The Band of the Nation’s Capital”***.

“The Band of the Nation’s Capital” is honored to have this special relationship with Col Gabriel. Announcements of future performances in which Col Gabriel will appear with the band will be posted on the band’s website: www.257ArmyBand.com