



**AIR NATIONAL GUARD BAND OF THE NORTHEAST  
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

**553<sup>rd</sup> AIR FORCE BAND  
1505 Adams Street  
Building 505  
Fort Indiantown Gap  
Anville, PA 17003**

Dear Sponsor:

Thank you for hosting a concert by the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast. Without your help, it would be impossible for us to reach out and share our music with your community.

For your convenience, we have assembled a **Sponsor's Promotion Guide** that provides you with information relating to our small ensemble performances. It also identifies our needs and can assist you in organizing and promoting this special event. Feel free to copy these materials as needed. The more people who know about our performance, the more successful it will be!

The concert preparation timeline and sample press release are simply suggestions. While some sponsors already have established procedures in place, others may find new ideas in our materials and choose to incorporate them into their existing methods. If you have suggestions for improving this kit, please let us know so that we can continue to offer a professional and helpful product.

On behalf of Major Joseph Denti and the rest of the band, I would like to thank you once again for hosting us. We look forward to visiting your community and promise you an enjoyable program!

Sincerely,

*TSgt Dawn Hoffman*

Dawn Hoffman, TSgt, PAANG  
Section Chief, Public Affairs  
ANG Band of the Northeast



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### *Air National Guard Band of the Northeast*

The Air National Guard Band of the Northeast is the premiere military band from within the Pennsylvania Air National Guard. The Air National Guard Band of the Northeast has played throughout the United States and abroad, and features a variety of classical, jazz, popular music, marches, patriotic favorites, and show tunes arranged for the concert band and other small ensembles.

The Air National Guard Band of the Northeast was originally formed in 1942 in Rapid City, South Dakota as the 53d Army Air Forces Band. Federal recognition was extended to the band in 1949. The band has experienced numerous name changes and reassignments over the years, more recently as the 553d Air Force Band, Pennsylvania Air National Guard. In 2000, the band became known as the Air National Guard Band of the Mid-Atlantic, reflecting its expanded geographic area of responsibility. In 2012 the geographic responsibility of the unit was again increased and the unit's name was changed to the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast. The Band of the Northeast is based at Fort Indiantown Gap as part of the Regional Support Group to the 193d Special Operations Wing stationed in Middletown, PA.

In 2010 and again in 2020, ten members of the band deployed to several undisclosed locations throughout the Middle East. This deployment was the first of its type for the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast. The Band members performed well over 20 concerts in 75 days for allied and coalition forces, American Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines, and Middle Eastern National during both military and civilian performances. The deployment raised the spirits of thousands of audience members from across the globe and inspired patriotism and the American Spirit in our friends from dozens of countries.

The band is a 100% traditional Air National Guard squadron, with all 40 members having civilian careers, and meeting one weekend a month to rehearse and perform. Its ranks are filled with professional musicians, educators, students, administrators, salesmen, builders and other career fields. The band has received many awards, including the Air Force Outstanding Unit award and the Pennsylvania Governor's Unit Citation. Its annual concert tours have taken it to Germany, Holland, France, the Azores, Antigua-West Indies, Norway, England, Denmark, and throughout the United States.

The concert is free and open to the public. If an indoor performance, doors will open 45 minutes prior to downbeat.

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### SMALL ENSEMBLES

#### **FLIGHTLINE BRASS – Brass Band**

Flightline Brass is the unit's New Orleans style Brass Band. Composed of a variety of members, the group performs New Orleans Brass band music, Dixieland, Traditional Jazz, Swing, Rhythm and Blues, Popular music from the Top 40's, Pop Music of today, Rock and Roll, and other hits for both military and civilian functions. Flightline is also equipped for Ceremonial support in Military or Civilian Ceremonial and can perform dinner music as Jazz Combo. Typical instrumentation for this group is trumpets, saxophones, clarinets, trombones, tuba, and percussion.

#### **HIGH ALTITUDE - Rock Band**

High Altitude is a component specializing in a wide range of popular, country, and rock music. High Altitude was formed with the mission of community relations, troop morale, and diplomacy through music. This group has diverse roots that draw from years of experience within its membership. High Altitude performs both in the US and overseas supporting our troops and spreading the positive message of the great country in which we live.

#### **BRASS IN BLUE – Brass Quintet**

The “Brass In Blue” Brass Quintet is a versatile small ensemble comprised of trumpets, french horn, trombone, tuba and percussion instrumentalists. The group’s repertoire spans five centuries, which enables them to perform selections from the Renaissance and Baroque periods, through and including popular music, jazz, marches and patriotic selections. The Brass Quintet frequently performs for military ceremonies, civic functions, and represents the Air National Guard in support of community relations concerts and recruiting throughout the region.

#### **IN FLIGHT – Woodwind Quintet**

In Flight is the unit's featured woodwind quintet performing classical and popular music. The group’s diverse repertoire includes original works, standard and contemporary compositions, and patriotic favorites, supporting the ANG Band of the Northeast’s missions of community relations, educational outreach, and Air Force recruiting. In Flight has performed at a wide variety of venues to include Veterans Homes, schools, and community events. In addition to these missions, this ensemble is in high demand for military protocol and special events all over the Northeast, from Ohio to Maryland to Maine. In Flight’s mission is to embody the Air Force Core Values through its high-quality performances, connecting with audiences of all backgrounds.

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### *History of the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast*

The Air National Guard Band of the Northeast was originally formed on August 2, 1942 in Rapid City, South Dakota as the 53d Army Air Forces Band. Federal recognition was extended on April 21, 1949. The succeeding years saw numerous name changes and reassignments: the 553d Army Band, 553d Army Air Forces Band, 53d Wing Band, and most recently the 553d Air Force Band, Pennsylvania Air National Guard. On June 8, 2000, the band became known as the “Air National Guard Band of the Mid-Atlantic,” reflecting its expanded geographic area of responsibility for support in five states: Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, western New York and New Jersey. Recent changes to the nation’s military bands has again increased the unit’s geographic responsibility, and the band’s name has once again changed to reflect this growth. Known now as the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast, the band has added West Virginia, Ohio, all of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine to its coverage area.

A traditional Air National Guard squadron, the band consists of forty personnel, all National Guard members and with civilian careers, who meet one weekend a month to rehearse and perform. Its ranks are filled with professional musicians, educators, students, administrators, salesmen, builders and other professionals. The band has received many awards, including the Air Force *Outstanding Unit Award* and Pennsylvania *Governor’s Unit Citation*. Years of critically acclaimed performances, workshops and ceremonies have earned the Band of the Northeast a reputation as one of the finest bands in the Air National Guard. The band’s annual concert tours have taken it overseas to Germany, Holland, France, the Azores, Antigua-West Indies, Norway, England and Denmark. A deployment in 2010 included performing for military personnel stationed in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and Afghanistan. The band continues to travel nationally and perform a vital public affairs mission for the United States Air Force and the Air National Guard, and members of the band have been seen on National TV performing at events such as the Pocono 500 NASCAR race and the MLB World Series, among others.

The Air National Guard Band of the Northeast began traveling to the New England states during the 2014 fiscal year, reaching Americans in our Northern states for the first time since becoming geographically responsible for this territory in 2013. The expanded geographical responsibilities of the unit will allow the band to reach millions of Americans throughout the Northeast, both civilian and military. The band will continue to perform professional level music with expertise and honor, representing the United States Air Force, the Air National Guard, and the state of Pennsylvania with great pride.

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### *Mission and Organization of the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast*

The Air National Guard Band of the Northeast supports the total Air Force mission in war and peace by preserving our national heritage, accomplished mainly through the professional musical support it provides for official military, recruiting and community events. Like all Air National Guard bands, the Band of the Northeast is assigned the state mission of supporting regional Air National Guard units through performances in military ceremonies, by promoting recruitment and retention of Air National Guard members, and in annual public relations concert tours. As traditional guardsmen, band members can be also called upon to assist other Air and Army National Guard units with civil defense duties and disaster relief efforts.

United States Air Force and Air National Guard bands have several objectives: first, to enhance airman morale, esprit de corps, and retention; and second, to inspire patriotism, support Air Force recruiting, and encourage young men and women to serve in the military. These bands also increase public awareness and understanding of the armed forces and the mission, policies, and programs of the Air Force, garnering and enhancing public trust and support. Last, they strengthen the reputation of the Air Force as a good neighbor, a respected professional organization charged with part of the responsibility for national security.

In performing these missions, the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast is in great demand throughout the region and around the globe. Recent years have found the band playing to capacity audiences in major venues throughout the eastern United States and in such distant places as Europe, the Caribbean, and the Middle East. The band's annual concert tours have included performances at New York's Chautauqua Institution, Baltimore's Inner Harbor and Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts. Additionally, the band has been a centerpiece of civic events such as the Governor's inauguration; conductor training workshops and clinics for young musicians; recruiting tours in schools and universities, and large parades such as the Philadelphia Independence Day Celebration Parade and NYC St. Patrick's Day and Veteran's Day parades.

The band performs as a concert band, ceremonial band, popular music ensemble, big band jazz ensemble, brass and woodwind quintets, trombone quartet, jazz/popular combo, rock band, and has recently added a brass band to its list of performing ensembles. Recent military events have included the Air National Guard Senior Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., and the annual Pennsylvania Air National Guard "Flight of Freedom" ceremony. In addition, the band has become a regular performer at the Pocono Raceway for several NASCAR races.

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## *Concert Preparation Checklist*

This list identifies our needs and is intended to help you prepare for our performance. Please be sure that the following arrangements are made prior to our arrival:

1. \_\_\_ Detailed written directions and a map to the performing site.
2. \_\_\_ Inclement weather arrangements (send at earliest convenience if applicable) are to include:
  - i. Directions to the alternate concert site.
  - ii. Time that any decision regarding inclement weather will be made.
  - iii. Notification process for change/cancellation (e.g. who will make the decision and how will the band be notified).

*Note: In order to ensure the safety of both the performers and the audience, the band will NOT perform outdoors during inclement weather.*

3. \_\_\_ Concert publicity: Send press releases to local media, post concerts to local event calendars, post flyers around local area, contact local newspaper events writers, etc.

*Note: These efforts are a primary factor in the successful attraction of concert audiences!*

4. \_\_\_ Parking space for a commercial bus, a 28 ft. box truck (preferably near the loading area) and two small vans. (Note: Small ensemble concerts will only utilize 2-3 smaller vehicles such as vans or pick-up trucks)
5. \_\_\_ Ample lighting for evening performances.
6. \_\_\_ Live electrical outlets on/near stage.
7. \_\_\_ Forty chairs, placed on stage. (Concert band only. Small ensembles will require far less)  
If music stands are available for our use, please let us know.
8. \_\_\_ When pre-arranged, water and meals available for the band.

Contact MSgt Clay Sattazahn, Director of Operations for additional information at:  
(717) 542-2101, [553angbandoperations@gmail.com](mailto:553angbandoperations@gmail.com)

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