

**Michelle A. Rakers**  
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## **Education**

The Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting	2015
Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois Master of Arts in Trumpet Performance	1991
University of Evansville, Evansville, Indiana Bachelor of Science in Music Management	1990

## **Private Instructors**

### Conducting

Harlan Parker  
Kate Tamarkin  
Mallory Thompson  
Anthony Maiello

### Trumpet

Vincent Cichowicz  
James Bursen  
Chris Gekker  
John Hagstom

*Additional Teachers:* Susan Slaughter, Arnold Jacobs, Ray Mase, Dave Hickman

## **Professional Conducting Experience**

- Senior Assistant Director, *The President's Own* United States Marine Band, Washington D.C. July 2014 – May 2018
- Assistant Director, *The President's Own* United States Marine Band, Washington D.C. July 2004 – June 2014
- Music Director, Conductor, and Founder, *USB21*, Brass and Percussion Ensemble, Washington D.C. January 2001-2004
- Conductor, Wind Ensemble and Community Band, Silver Lake College, Manitowoc, Wisconsin August 2001 – May 2001

## **Assistant Director, U.S. Marine Band Responsibilities and Accomplishments**

Led Marine Band and Marine Chamber Orchestra in concerts and events throughout the Washington D.C. metropolitan area and across the country on annual national concert tours

Assistant Music Advisor for social events and ceremonies at the White House

Frequently conducted ensembles at the White House for State Dinners, receptions, award ceremonies, and other official high visibility events

Produced recordings disseminated to more than 20,000 music educators, public libraries, and radio stations annually

Managed education outreach, selected small ensembles and advised on musical content according to demographic and age

Expanded the scope of the Marine Band's educational outreach while on the annual tour having developed a program that reached on average over 3,000 university and/or high school students on during a 31 day tour

Established and managed the Marine Band High School Concerto Competition

Managed the Marine Band Chamber Recital Series

Assistant Music Director for Gridiron Club, Washington, D.C.

Served as executive officer and administrative leader of 154 musicians and support staff, with responsibilities that include career management, performance evaluation, and professional development

Implemented Conductor Training Program by which musicians in the Marine Band could further advance their training and education in the craft of conducting

Crafted and oversaw a Professional Training committee that organized special presentations to the Marine Band for the purpose of professional development consisting of classes relating to injury prevention, Alexander technique, leadership training, performance enhancement, and many more topics relevant to the working musician

Initiated a more open and receptive leadership team through innovative leadership evaluations to offer all in the organization a voice, including implementing "town-hall" meetings for an open forum discussions

## **Guest Conducting Appearances**

- Odense Symfoniorkester, Odense, Denmark. June 2021, November 2018
- Marinens musikkår, Karlskrona, Sweden. January 2020
- Arméns musikkår, Stockholm, Sweden. December 2019
- Slesvigske Musikkorps, Haderslev, Denmark. Multiple concert programs 2014 – present
- Sønderjyllands Symfoniorkester, Sønderborg, Denmark. Conducted Joint Brass & Percussion Concert with Slesvigske Musikkorps February 2018
- Monarch Brass Ensemble, Premier Women's Brass Ensemble of the International Women's Brass Conference June 2010, June 2017
- Guards Band premiere military band, Helsinki, Finland March 2016
- Prinsens Musikkorps, Skive, Denmark. November 2015, 2018, 2020
- Maryland Symphony, Hagerstown, Maryland July 2014
- National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain, London, England. Conducted and mentored premiere musical youth ensemble August 2014
- Saint Louis Symphony Brass, Saint Louis, Missouri. Selected and led program featuring Susan Slaughter and the Saint Louis Symphony Brass, St. Louis, Missouri January 2008

## **Guest Conducting/Residencies**

The Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus, Denmark November 2020

California All-State Band February 16-19, 2017

Indiana All-State Band, March 9-12, 2017

Sibelius Academy, Helsinki, Finland March 17-18, 2015, March 18-19, 2016

Minnesota All-State Band August 5-11, 2013, February 13-16, 2014

Association of Concert Bands March 26-30, 2014

Allegheny College Adult Band Camp, June 10-17, 2012, June 9-16, 2013, June 22-29, 2014

University of Kansas School of Music, Lawrence, Kansas, November 6-10, 2013

University of Evansville Festival Band, Evansville, Indiana, April 1, 2011 George Mason

University High School Honor Band, Fairfax, Virginia, January 23, 2010

## Premieres

<i>Passage</i> by Scott Lindroth premiered with <i>The President's Own</i> United States Marine Band	Dec 15, 2010
<i>Trois Poèmes</i> : Three poems of HKH Prins Henrik, music by David Palmquist premiered with Slesvigske Musikkorps in Copenhagen, Denmark	Sept 14, 2017
<i>State of Mind</i> by Dorothy Gates premiered with Monarch Brass	June 10, 2017
<i>Fête – a fanfare</i> by Augusta Read Thomas premiered with Monarch Brass	June 19, 2010

## Major Music Conference Performances

American Bandmasters Association Convention, Norfolk, Virginia	Mar 4, 2011
Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, Chicago, Illinois	Dec15, 2010
World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles International Conference Cincinnati, Ohio	July 11, 2009
Texas Bandmasters Association Convention, San Antonio, Texas	July 21, 2007
Conductors Guild National Conference, Baltimore, Maryland	Jan 20, 2007

## Discography

<u>Chief Producer</u> of Chopin Piano Concerto No. 2, Virginia Symphony Orchestra JoAnn Falletta, conductor, Prisca Benoit, piano Arts Laureate, Release date 2020	Feb 25, 2018
<u>Chief Producer</u> of recordings by <i>The President's Own</i> United States Marine Band Colonel Jason Fettig, conductor	
<i>Arioso</i>	2017
<i>Picture Studies</i>	2016
<i>Elements</i>	2015
<i>Be Glad Then, America</i>	2014
<i>The Complete Marches of John Philip Sousa: Volumes 1-4</i>	2015-2018

Assistant Producer of recordings by *The President's Own* United States Marine Band  
Colonel Michael Colburn, conductor

<i>From the Keyboard</i>	2013
<i>Morton Gould: An American Salute</i>	2012
<i>Flourishes and Meditations</i>	2011
<i>The Music Lover's Grainger</i>	2010
<i>Feste</i>	2009
<i>Music From The Land of Hope and Glory</i>	2008
<i>Symphonic Dances</i>	2007
<i>Originals</i>	2006
<i>Family Album</i>	2005

Performer (trumpet) on recordings by *The President's Own* United States Marine Band  
Colonel Timothy Foley, conductor

<i>Retrospective</i>	2002
<i>Grand Scenes</i>	2000

## **Video Production**

John Williams conducting the Marine Band  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QDHR8tex8hY>

Gerard Schwarz conducting the Marine Band  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bY2hmUshCLM>

## **Organizational Memberships/Board Memberships**

College Band Directors National Association	2012 – present
Conductors Guild	2004 - present
Gridiron Club, Washington, DC	2014 – present
International Women's Brass Conference, board member	2004-2006
USB21 Brass and Percussion Ensemble, board member	2000-2004

## Orchestral/Band Positions and Appointments (trumpet)

The “President’s Own” United States Marine Band, trumpet/cornet	1998-2004
Richmond Symphony, Richmond, Virginia, section substitute	1998-2004
Key West Symphony, Key West, Florida, section substitute	2000-2004
Reading Symphony, Reading, Pennsylvania, section substitute	2002-2004
Kalamazoo Symphony, Kalamazoo, Michigan, section substitute	1996-1998
Midland Symphony, Midland, Michigan, second trumpet	1996-1998
Galliard Brass Quintet, Ann Arbor, Michigan	1992-1994
South Bend Symphony, South Bend, Indiana, second trumpet	1992-1994
Evansville, Philharmonic, Evansville, Indiana, second trumpet	1986-1990
Owensboro Philharmonic, Owensboro, Kentucky, second trumpet	1988-1990

## Professional Experience

Senior Assistant Director <i>The President’s Own</i> United States Marine Band	July 2014 – Present
Assistant Director <i>The President’s Own</i> United States Marine Band	July 2004 – June 2014
Music Director, conductor and founder <i>USB21</i> , Brass and Percussion Ensemble	Jan 2001-2004
Military Musician, trumpet & cornet <i>The President’s Own</i> United States Marine Band	1998-2004
Conductor Wind Ensemble and Community Band, Silver Lake College, Manitowoc, Wisconsin	Aug 2001 – May 2001
Second Trumpet Midland Symphony, Midland, Michigan	1996-1998
Galliard Brass Quintet, Ann Arbor, Michigan	1992-1994

## Honors and Awards

Emmy® award for her part in producing the All-Star Orchestra program, “United States Marine Band <i>New England Spirit</i> .”	2018
Tau Beta Sigma Outstanding Service to Music Award	December 2010
Tau Beta Sigma Honorary Induction	February 2005
University of Evansville (Indiana) Distinguished Alumni Award	2005