

# III MEF BAND

III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE



**MARINES**



# Contents

• THE III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE BAND.....	3
• TASK AND PURPOSE .....	4
• LEADERSHIP .....	5
• PRIMARY SUPPORT STAFF.....	6
• ALLIES AND PARTNERS .....	7-8
• ENSEMBLES .....	9-12
• HOW TO REQUEST III MEF BAND SUPPORT .....	13
• CONTACT INFORMATION .....	14
• ALWAYS FAITHFUL .....	15





# III MEF Band

The III Marine Expeditionary Force Band is the United States Marine Corp's only forward deployed musical unit. The III MEF Band is located in the Ryukyu Island chain in Okinawa, Japan.

Consisting of 50 Marine Musicians, the band performs for public audiences across the entire Indo-Pacific Region with a full marching band, concert band, commercial and jazz ensembles, and ceremonial bands.

Since 1978, the III MEF Band has distinguished itself as musical ambassadors to our partners and allies across the Pacific through community relations, bilateral public performances, diplomatic state missions, subject matter expertise exchanges, and building lasting friendships.





# Task and Purpose

As the Eastern Hemisphere's sole musical representative of the United States Marine Corps, the III MEF Band enjoys a busy schedule filled with performances across Okinawa and throughout the Indo-Pacific Region each year. The band capitalizes on this unique position by making it a priority to perform for public audiences and creating lasting friendships in all communities.

## Types of Public Performances

- Community Relations and Friendship Building
- Master Classes, Clinics, and Professional Workshops
- Military Ceremonial Support
- Memorials, Funeral Honors, and Celebrations of Life
- Diplomatic Mission Support





# Leadership



## Captain Randel Metzinger

### Officer-in-Charge

Captain Metzinger represents over 21 years of professional military and musical expertise as the principal conductor and director of the III MEF Band. Originally a saxophonist for U.S. Marine Corps Bands beginning in 2004, he was promoted to Band Officer and took charge of his first band in 2018. Capt. Metzinger is married with 3 daughters and a staunch advocate for music education.

## Master Sergeant James Holt

### Enlisted Bandleader

Master Sergeant Holt represents over 20 years of professional military and performance experience as the senior enlisted advisor and administrative coordinator for the band. He has held several notable positions within the music program including the Assistant Drum Major for the “President’s Own” U.S. Marine Band, Drum Major Instructor at the Naval School of Music, and Senior Enlisted Advisor for the III MEF Band. MSgt Holt is married with 1 son and 2 daughters, and a key leader of building friendships with our partnered and allied nations.





# Primary Support Staff

## Staff Sergeant Peter Yurkovich

### Drum Major

The III MEF Band Drum Major is responsible for training and leading the musicians in all styles of marching and ceremonial performances, coordinating logistics, and ensuring all ceremonial regulations are met. The Drum Major is a key figure for all parades, marching festivals, and major outdoor performances.



## Gunnery Sergeant Martin Arreola

### Enlisted Conductor

The Enlisted Conductor is the III MEF Band's secondary conductor and is responsible for coordinating public performances of all ensembles, managing the band's rehearsal schedule, and assigning musical roles within the band. The III MEF Band Enlisted Conductor also coordinates all major education workshops, clinics, and community outreach.

## Gunnery Sergeant Joshua Waldie

### Production Manager

The III MEF Band Production Manager is responsible for all live performance production, audio engineering, and public affairs. Stage management, lighting & effects, and video are also key areas of coordination. The Production Manager is central to ensuring the band is able to perform in any location across the Indo-Pacific Region.



## Gunnery Sergeant Mathew Medina

### Instrument Repair Technician

The Instrument Repair Technician is responsible for the maintenance, repair, and upkeep of all equipment used by the III MEF Band and is the senior financial manager of all assets held by the band. All official travel and movement logistics are coordinated through the Instrument Repair Technician.



# Allies and Partners

For over 45 years, the III MEF Band has stood shoulder-to-shoulder with our incredible partners and allies in Okinawa, across Japan, and virtually everywhere the Pacific Ocean touches. The Marines of III MEF have built deep and lasting friendships through music with faithful determination in their hearts.









# Ensembles

## Wind Ensemble

The III MEF Band's premier musical product that features up to 55 musicians, including a percussion and rhythm section. This group commonly performs classic band literature, orchestral transcriptions, television and movie scores, and military marches.



## Ceremonial Band

This 30-to-40-member ensemble is primarily responsible for performing public ceremonies, honors to dignitaries and national leaders, parades, and all manner of community outreach. Their versatility of size and sound allow for them to perform in any location or setting.





# Ensembles

## Brass Band

The Brass Band is an 8-to-10-member ensemble of mixed brass, saxophones, and percussion that perform a wide variety of contemporary music. Their small size and mobility are ideal for educational facilities, celebratory events, public outreach, and outdoor venues.



## Popular Music Group

The PMG is an 8-piece Pop & Rock band that covers several decades of popular music from around the world. This stage ready group is ideal for high energy public venues, festivals, and any major staged event.





# Ensembles

## Brass Quintet

This 5-piece brass ensemble primarily performs smaller ceremonies, memorials, and receptions. Their size and sound allow them to perform for smaller events that may not require a larger band.



## Woodwind Quintet

An intimate 5-member group of woodwind instruments that perform various styles of music for dining events, small ceremonies, and educational workshops. Their uniquely softer sound allows for them to perform for audiences where lower volume is essential.





# Ensembles

## Jazz Combo

This 3-to-6-member group combines rhythm and wind instruments in a smaller ensemble to perform traditional jazz, Latin, modern contemporary, R&B, and funk styles. Their accessible size, sound, and style are ideal for receptions, dinning events, and celebrations.



## Bugler

A lone bugler that renders funeral honors, Taps, memorials, and other hallmark moments of reverence.





# How to Request The III MEF Band

To request the III MEF Band for a performance please scan the QR code or click the link below to access our Music Support Form. You can also visit our website to access this form at <https://www.music.marines.mil/Bands/III-Marine-Expeditionary-Force-Band-Japan/>

Once completed, please email your support request form to [iiimefbandsupportrequest@usmc.mil](mailto:iiimefbandsupportrequest@usmc.mil)

After reviewing your request, a member of the III MEF Band will contact you with further instructions and coordination.





# Contact Information

## III MEF Band

Phone: +81 80-8955-1272

DSN: 315-645-3919

Email: james.holt@usmc.mil



 Instagram



 Facebook



 Website

## III MEF Communication Strategy and Operations

Email: IIIMEFMEDIA@usmc.mil

DSN: 315-622-6184

DVIDS: <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/III-MEF>



 Instagram



 Facebook

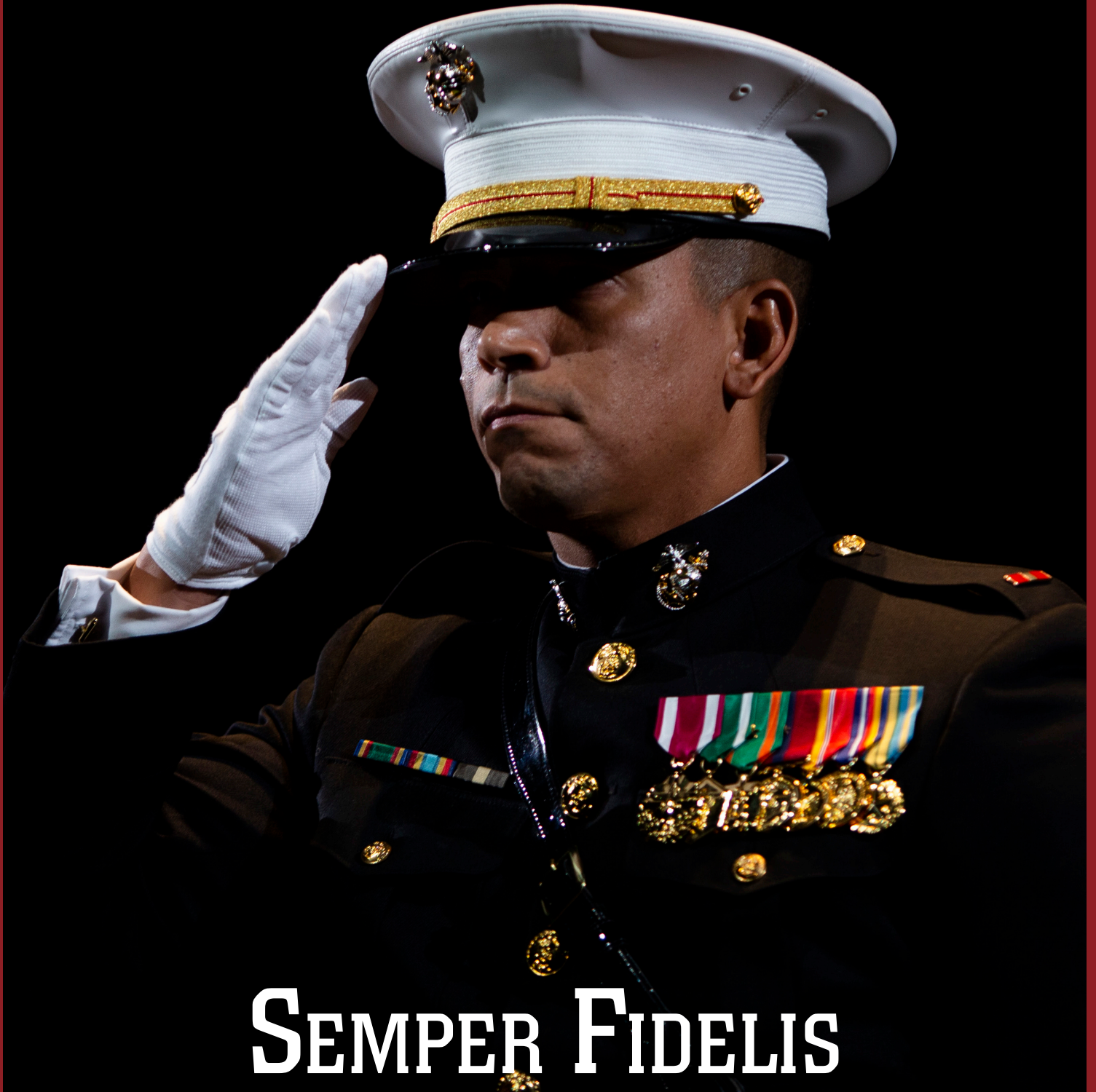


 Website



# Always Faithful

The III MEF Band stands ready to support the United States Marine Corp's mission in the Indo-Pacific Region by building lasting friendships through music.



## SEMPER FIDELIS