

THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD BAND

Captain Adam R. Williamson, Director
CWO3 Jeffrey A. Spenner, Assistant Director



CAPTAIN Adam R. Williamson Director

Captain Adam Williamson serves as the seventh Director of the United States Coast Guard Band, leading the ensemble in its mission to promote public goodwill through exceptional musical performance, preserve the heritage and traditions of the nation and the service, and support official Coast Guard functions. He oversees the artistic direction and presentation of all Coast Guard Band activities, maintains the world-class stature of the 55-member ensemble, and supports hundreds of engagements each year.

As the leader of the sole official musical representative of both the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security, CAPT Williamson serves as the service's senior musical authority. He provides guidance for official ceremonies and creates musical programs that advance the Coast Guard's public affairs objectives. During his tenure, he has led the Coast Guard Band in performances for Presidents, senior military and civic leaders, and audiences nationwide. CAPT Williamson is also deeply committed to music education; under his leadership, the Band's outreach initiatives have expanded to reach more than countless students in Connecticut, Washington, D.C., and throughout the nation. He established the "American Composers Series" recordings to highlight the musical language and artistry of contemporary American composers, and has broadened the Band's global reach through extensive use of online and social media platforms, bringing concerts and educational programming to millions around the world.

CAPT Williamson originally joined the Coast Guard Band as a tenor saxophonist in 2003 and was featured as a soloist on numerous occasions, including the Band's 2007 Southeast Tour and performances at Carnegie Hall with the New York Pops Orchestra and at Boston's Hatch Shell. As a member of the Coast Guard Band Saxophone Quartet, he performed and taught throughout the United States and abroad, including appearances at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, major university music programs, and concert venues in Taiwan and Japan. After ten years in the saxophone section, he was selected as Director and commissioned as a Lieutenant Commander in October 2013.

CAPT Williamson earned degrees from the State University of New York at Potsdam, pursued graduate studies at Indiana University and the Hartt School at the University of Hartford, and earned an MBA from Johnson & Wales University.

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