

WEST POINT GLEE CLUB



West Point
READY 

READY TO SERVE. READY TO LEAD.



▶▶▶ CADET VIRTUOSOS

West Point tradition calls for a cadet's day to be orderly and structured. From the 6:30 a.m. wakeup to the 6 p.m. dinner bell, from early morning formation to six hours of classroom time, cadets follow roughly the same daily routine that their forebears have throughout the over 200-year history of West Point. We honor this tradition not simply to cling to history, but because we believe in its transformative power to develop character and foster leadership.

Tradition, however, has also always found a place for fun. Since 1903, the West Point Glee Club has been giving cadets a chance to take a break from the rigors of training and studies and show off their vocal skills—often to great acclaim. Over the years, the Glee Club has been invited to perform at sporting events and USO concerts, at Carnegie Hall and the White House. The club has been featured on soundtracks for major motion pictures and in concert with numerous professional musicians.

When formally recognized as a co-curricular activity in 1933, the club was composed of 25 singers; now the club is made up of male and female cadets from all four classes who must audition with the director for one of 75 spots. With more than 20 concerts each year both on and off post, and with 11 recordings available, the Glee Club is one of the most visible and well-known organizations at West Point, and one of the most prestigious college choirs in the United States. We are seeking to establish an endowment, to grow with future gifts, that will promote long-term planning for the club and expand the potential of this very special ensemble.

CONDUCTING THE CLUB

The Glee Club does offer a bit of a break from the highly structured nature of a cadet's day, but that doesn't mean that it breaks with the values we seek to cultivate in our cadets. In fact, we know that the Glee Club provides cadets a direct opportunity to put in practice the character and leadership instilled through their training and studies.

Keeping with West Point's commitment to leadership development, cadet officers manage the daily operations as well as the trip and performance responsibilities of the club. And on the road the cadets serve as ambassadors of the Academy, impressing audiences large and small with their poise and professionalism.

A BUILDING CRESCENDO

For over one hundred years, Glee Club cadets have touched audiences around the world with a model depiction of the Corps of Cadets through live performance in the nation's finest concert halls, national network and feature film appearances, and recordings, developing cadets to become leaders of character in the process. The Glee Club's further impact as a strategic messenger is evidenced by its high-level command performances. Recent examples include the Secretary of Defense's welcome event for the Chinese Defense Minister at historic Mount Vernon on the eve of strategic talks, the National Medal of Honor Society's 150th Anniversary Concert with the U.S. Marine Band on the Battlefield at Gettysburg

“While we're part of the military, we're also human, and we're giving of ourselves to protect the rights of others. So, for me, the Glee Club is really a way to be that ambassador and link that produces trust between the Army and the American people.”

—Joy Schaeffer, Class of 2018



commemorating the awarding of the first Medal of Honor and President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and the Superintendent's dinners at Quarters 100 for such VIPs as the Secretary of the Army or the late Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for cadets to experience, engage, and make a difference.

An endowment for the Glee Club would:

- Secure annual budget for day-to-day expenses such as music and equipment
- Allow for long-range planning of self-directed projects such as the commissioning of new music, joint endeavors with other performing arts groups, and concert tours
- Ensure that invitations and projects offering enrichment and public relations opportunities can be accepted
- Establish the financial foundation so that the caliber of the club's performances and the opportunities that it affords remain at the highest possible levels

Millions have been entertained and inspired by the West Point Cadet Glee Club, with its musical repertoire that honors the history and traditions of our armed forces, and also includes traditional and contemporary choral works, American popular songs, and American and international folk songs.

Help us bring that inspiration to many more around the world, and help us inspire our cadets to take pride not only in their artistry, but also in the impact of their West Point experience.

Please join us as we ensure West Point's reputation as a leader in all endeavors, and take pride in the transformative power of the generous gift you can make today.

CD RELEASES

Who Are the Brave: The Skywalker Session
a promotional "calling card" recorded live at Skywalker Sound in Marin, California

Marina at West Point

Unity through Diversity
Features pianist Marina Arsenijevic, the West Point Band, and the Glee Club in a live concert production for PBS, recorded in the Eisenhower Hall Theater.

Live at Notre Dame

Performed and recorded live at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Leighton Concert Hall, at the University of Notre Dame on November 17, 2006. The CD includes the Glee Club's entire program plus three selections with the Notre Dame Glee Club.

Stand Ye Steady

Available in CD and DVD. With guest artists

Lea Salonga and Daniel Rodriguez, it includes sixteen "songs of courage and inspiration," historical footage and live performance footage of the cadets in the renowned Cadet Chapel at West Point.

Voice of the Corps

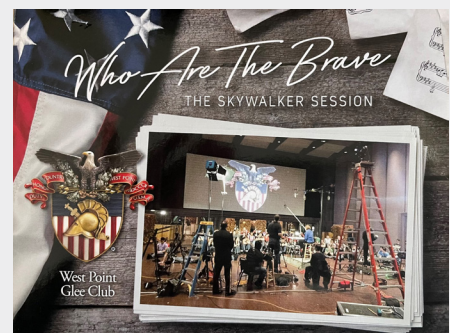
Released in August 2003, is a traditional Glee Club concert, recorded in the Cadet Chapel, including many Glee Club favorites and the West Point songs.

The West Point Glee Club is also heard on the following commercial recordings:

We Were Soldiers
Feature film DVD (Paramount)

We Were Soldiers
Original sound track recording (Paramount)

'Till the Last Shot's Fired
iTunes live performance with Trace Adkins



As the Compact Disc goes the way of the cassette tape, the Glee Club is adapting to new ways of recording and sharing their music electronically through social media and other potential future outlets. Changing technology requires updating and expanding the Club's audio and video recording capabilities. These new opportunities are increasing the Glee Club's footprint exponentially.



Photo: Lee Ross '73

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

GENEROUS GRADUATES AND FRIENDS OF THE ACADEMY WHO SUPPORT THE WEST POINT CADET GLEE CLUB WILL TAKE PRIDE IN THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF THEIR GIFTS.

Total Endowment \$4.5 million

Funding & Recognition Opportunities

Travel Endowment	\$1.5 million
Commissioned Music Works Endowment	\$1.5 million
Recordings and equipment	\$500,000
Accompanist Endowment	\$250,000

MARGIN OF EXCELLENCE



Samantha Soper | West Point Association of Graduates
698 Mills Road, West Point, NY 10996
Phone 845.446.1541
WestPointAOG.org

as of March 5, 2022