



COURTESY 234TH ARMY BAND

The 234th Army Band

Army bands unite for special Astoria concert

ASTORIA — “Oregon’s Own” 234th Army Band’s “Empire Builders” Concert Band, in conjunction with “Hawaii’s Own” 111th Army Band, will perform a free public concert at Astoria High School, 3 p.m. Saturday, July 7.

Chief Warrant Officers Ashley Alexander Curtis Hiyane conducts an exciting program featuring the music of Leonard Bernstein, John Williams and Steven Reineke, as well as vocal selections from “Moana,” “The Greatest Showman,” the Broadway musical “Hamilton,” military marches and patriotic selections.

“Oregon’s Own” 234th Army Band is a 40-member unit of the Oregon

National Guard based in Clackamas. The band performs as a full concert band as well as several smaller ensembles for military and civilian audiences throughout Oregon and beyond.

Organized in 1919, the band was inducted into federal service in 1940 and participated in the Luzon, New Guinea and Southern Philippine Campaigns during World War II, earning the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation. The band was designated the 234th Army Band in 1947.

Members of the band hail from Oregon and Washington and meet several times monthly to rehearse and complete military training. The band

is led by Chief Warrant Officer Ashley Alexander and 1st Sgt. Tasha Cruz.

For more information, or to request the 234th Army Band for a performance, contact SFC Josh Yost at joshua.c.yost.mil@mail.mil or 503-683-5423. You can also find the band online at [facebook.com/234tharmyband](https://www.facebook.com/234tharmyband).

More Astoria-area performances

• 3 p.m. Sunday, July 8: “General Dischord” and “Clos du Vent,” a free public performance, Birkenfeld Theater, Clatskanie.

• 4 p.m. Sunday, July 8: “45 Away” and “Na Koa,” Long Beach Summer Festival, main stage at Veterans’ Park, Long Beach, Wash.

Free Symphonic Band concert reminds us: ‘United We Stand’

ASTORIA — Celebrate America’s birthday with the North Coast Symphonic Band at a free concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 3, in “Astoria’s living room,” the Liberty Theatre, 1203 Commercial St.

Conductor and musical director Dave Becker has planned an evening of all-American music. The guest clarinet soloist is Jennifer Crockett, executive director of the Liberty, and the vocalist for the evening is Bob Walters of Battle Ground, Wash.

Clatsop Post 12 of the American Legion will present the colors and service flags in tribute to those who have served their country in the military. Jeff Daly will present a special video finale with drone footage by Michael Angiletta Will to accompany the Stars and Stripes.

The theme of the concert is “United We Stand.” The first three numbers on the program are the “Star Spangled Banner,” “An American Fanfare” and “A Very American Overture.” The program continues with selections by American composers such as Gershwin, Bernstein and Sousa.



COURTESY NORTH COAST SYMPHONIC BAND

The North Coast Symphonic Band at the Liberty Theatre in July 2017

Several selections are regional, such as “The Redwoods” and “...and the antelope play” with elements of the American West. Crockett will be featured on a selection by John Williams — “Viktor’s Tale” from the movie “The Terminal.” Vocalist Bob Walters will sing “America, the Beautiful” and lead the sing-along of the service hymns and “God Bless America.”

Come early for a concert prelude at 6:30 p.m. by Mea Culpa Bassoons. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.

This concert concludes the 2017-18 season of the North Coast Symphonic Band, but the band will return in the fall with Dave

Becker continuing as musical director and conductor, and all concerts performed at the Liberty.

The band rehearses at the Performing Arts Center. Interested musicians should contact personnel director Lee Stromquist at encore1@charter.net or call 503-861-1328 to see if positions are open. Musicians should play at the advanced high school level or better and own their own instruments.

For more information, visit northcoastsymphonicband.org, follow North Coast Symphonic Band on Facebook, email ncsband@charter.net or call 503-325-2431.

Big-time trumpeter performs for his hometown

ASTORIA — KALA presents trumpeter Mark Berney in concert 8 p.m. Friday, July 6. Tickets are \$15 and available in advance at libertyastoria.org. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Native Astorian Mark Berney took up the trumpet at a young age and is now a career musician and educator. KALA welcomes Berney in his first featured

hometown appearance.

The repertoire for the evening will be a tribute to Louis Armstrong. Berney’s former Astoria High School band instructor Lee Stromquist, a longtime coastal musician, plays piano, and string-bass pro, Joey Altruda, complete the trio.

Berney resides on the East Coast and is hailed

as one of New England’s finest and most musically diverse trumpeters performing in a range of musical styles, including jazz, rock, ska, klezmer and classical.

He has performed with Aretha Franklin and toured with Grammy nominee Mighty Sam McClain, Chandler Travis Philharmonic and performed

at Jamaica’s first blues festival with Toni Lynn Washington in 2002. He’s also toured with violinist Itzhak Perlman, collaborated with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, appeared on CBS, Fox and PBS, and performed concerts in such prestigious venues as the Lincoln Center, Hollywood Bowl and Carnegie Hall.

Join friends, family, jazz lovers and Berney’s parents — longtime Astoria residents Christina and Bruce Berney — and welcome him to the KALA stage for a terrific night of jazz trumpet. There will be a full bar.

KALA is located at 1017 Marine Drive. For more information, call 503-338-4878.



COURTESY KALA

Trumpeter Mark Berney