

## Thanks For the Training

*SGI-USA Brass Band leaders from years past send congratulatory messages.*

### **Kaneyasu Enomoto**                      **1967**

I truly believe that Music Corps is the best training to develop character for life and to teach us how to care for others. Congratulations on 30 years of American Music Corps! I have joy beyond words that this activity has continued to this day.

### **Robert Dixon**                              **1966–68**

What I learned from the Brass Band was not music. What I truly learned about was life. I learned to take a seemingly unattainable goal, in an unreasonable amount of time, and make it happen. That is rare and useful training! It's for that I feel most grateful.

### **Gary Murie**                                      **1969–71**

When I joined the Brass Band at 18, there were 26 members, most of whom could barely play their instruments. It was a great struggle to continue. But I was able to connect to President Ikeda through the "Precepts for Brass Band," where he said, "It is my request that all of you, without uttering a word, will be able to move your listeners to deep emotion." This phrase has revolutionized my understanding of culture. Its far-reaching implications have continued to affect my work today.

### **George Kataoka**                              **1977–83**

Congratulations on the 30th anniversary! As I reflect back, so much of what I am today I owe to the Brass Band training that I received. In this age of no discipline and decline, I sincerely pray that many courageous youth will deeply understand the significance and therefore resolve to receive training that will truly determine their future. Again, congratulations and best of luck to all the Music Corps.

### **Dave Martinez**                                **1983–87**

Through those busy times of activities, the "Precepts for Youth" was my motivation then and to this day. Everything contained in this piece has come true. It is so important to have a core of truth, such as this, in one's life. I hope that all Music Corps members can find something to study and take into their hearts, as a basis for developing their lives, for now and into the future.

### **Arnold Kawasaki**                              **1987–89**

I was a Music Corps member from the age of 13 until about 35 years of age. When I was in charge of Brass Band, it was a period of great upsurge in the United States. I witnessed many YMD members develop through this movement. "Precepts for Brass Band" was an important part of this. I hope that the Brass Band spirit can remain in the individual hearts of the members of this group.

### **Dave McNeill**                                **1989**

If it weren't for the Brass Band, I wouldn't be practicing today. The camaraderie and the fun kept me practicing in my teens during the '70s. And the spirit to practice for others that I learned there — the spirit to "move others to jubilation" — continues to be my motivation today. Congratulations on 30 years, and may the next 30 be even greater.

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Subject: World Tribune 05/30/97 n.3141 p.15 WT970530p15

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**Ted Osaki Jr.**

**1990-92**

Congratulations to all the boys in the band! A lot of blood, sweat and tears were shed during the first 30 years. But these bonds have forever united our lives. I am left still with one lingering thought.... What is the Brass Band definition of "One last time!?" Once again, congratulations.

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