



# University of North Texas College of Music

Guest Artist Appearance | Monday, March 30, 2026 | 4:30 pm | MUSI 290

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**Taylor Fleshman, harp**

## ***The Life of a Military Harpist: Audition Preparation and Career Insights***

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When most people think of the military, music rarely comes to mind and the harp even less so. Yet the harp brings elegance and artistry to formal events, representing the United States at ceremonies and official dinners. This discussion provides firsthand insight into the life of a military harpist, practical strategies for audition preparation and excerpt study, and an overview of the personal and professional benefits of a career in military music.

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Harpist Staff Sgt. **Taylor Fleshman** of Kernersville, N.C., joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in July 2023.

Staff Sgt. Fleshman began her musical training on harp at age 7. After graduating in 2014 from University of North Carolina School of the Arts, she attended the University of Cincinnati, where she studied under Dr. Gillian Benet Sella and earned a bachelor's of music performance in 2018. She then continued her studies with Florence Sitruk at Indiana University where she earned a master's of music in 2020.

Prior to joining "The President's Own," Staff Sgt. Fleshman was principal harp with The Orchestra Now and was featured as a guest soloist with the Moscow Symphony Orchestra, the Pacific Region International Summer Music Academy Orchestra, and the Jakarta Simfonia Orchestra. She has also performed with the Cincinnati, Richmond and Virginia Symphony Orchestras.

Staff Sgt. Fleshman is a featured soloist who performs with the Marine Band and Marine Chamber Orchestra at the White House, in the Washington, D.C., area, and across the country during the band's annual concert tour.

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**Program four hundred sixty-nine of the 2025–2026 season**  
**Photography and videography are prohibited**