



FORT GEORGE G. MEADE
MEDIA ADVISORY
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
4550 PARADE FIELD LANE
FORT MEADE, MD 20755-5025
www.ftmeade.army.mil

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Traveling Soldier Show to entertain Fort Meade community

EVENT: 2008 U.S. Army Soldier Show

WHEN: Scheduled for April 30 beginning at 7 p.m.

WHERE: Fort Meade Pavilion, located just inside the Llewellyn gate. **(EDITOR'S NOTE: Media interested in attending this event must be escorted by a public affairs representative. To coordinate your visit and RSVP, please contact Jennifer Downing at (301) 677-1486 or Summer Barkley at (301) 677-1436.)**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The U.S. Army Soldier Show is a high-energy 90-minute live musical review showcasing the talents of active duty Soldiers who are selected by audition from throughout the Army. They are amateur artists who have a passion for music, dance and performing and come from infantry, transportation, military police, medical, intelligence, aviation, signal and other tactical units.

New cast members are selected each year. Soldiers from all over the world submit application packages that include videotapes, biographies, photographs and letters of recommendation from their commanders. Soldiers must have an outstanding record in their units and demonstrate musicality, movement, stage presence, and versatility.

Soldiers who were selected to participate in the show this year will tour around the world until November and represent various states and countries including Texas, North Carolina, Tennessee, Massachusetts, Korea, Virginia, Germany, Italy, Belgium, New York and Hawaii.

(more)

The first Army Soldier Show, “Yip Yip Yaphank,” conceived and directed by Sgt. Irving Berlin, appeared on Broadway in 1918. The U.S. Army Soldier Show was then revived during World War II on Broadway under the title “This is the Army,” written, directed and produced by Irving Berlin. The 1943 film version featured a military cast starring, among others, Ronald Reagan, Gene Kelly and Joe Lewis.

The modern version of the U.S. Army Soldier Show originated in 1983 as an outgrowth of several shows existing in various Army commands, with Soldier talent selected from worldwide competition. In 2008, the Army celebrates the 90th anniversary of the debut of the first Army Soldier Show in 1918 and the 25th anniversary of the modern U.S. Army Soldier Show.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit <http://www.ftmeademwr.com/> or call (301) 677-7785.