

The Principal Brass

The Principal Brass, a quintet of principal brass players from the New York Philharmonic, enjoys worldwide exposure and an international reputation.

The group's debut came in 1983 when they joined with the Canadian Brass for a concert in Ottawa, Canada. This was the beginning of a regular musical collaboration between these two brass quintets. Subsequent joint performances have brought them to the summer festivals of Tanglewood, Wolf Trap, Great Woods, and Mostly Mozart, as well as to cities throughout Canada and the United States. The Principal Brass and the Canadian Brass have joined with their brass colleagues from the Boston Symphony Orchestra and The Philadelphia Orchestra in five recordings and one educational video.

The Principal Brass has hosted an annual Christmas Holiday Concert at Lincoln Center since 1995. Joining as guests on this extravaganza have been groups such as the German Brass, the Canadian Brass, the West Point Brass, Percussion, and Vocalists, and the Salvation Army's New York Staff Band.

The Principal Brass and the New York Staff Band have also joined forces in two Gala Festivals at Alice Tully Hall in New York. In addition, The Principal Brass performed with the Empire Brass at the Carnegie Hall Centennial Gala in May 1991.

The Principal Brass has been a regular encore feature on the Philharmonic's tours of Europe, South America, Asia, and the United States, in addition to Philharmonic residencies in Cagliari, Italy, and Vail, Colorado. The ensemble has performed solo concerts in cities throughout the United States, and in other countries, including Luxembourg, Mexico (Monterey), China (Shanghai), and Brazil (Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo). Having toured Japan in 1999 and 2003, the Principal Brass visited again in 2012.