



Pentagon Channel Podcast Gives Troops a Backstage-Pass Experience

ALEXANDRIA, Va., February 27, 2009 — The Pentagon Channel's newest video podcast is literally striking a chord with servicemembers around the globe. "Command Performance," a downloadable sneak-peek into the world of music and entertainment, takes servicemembers backstage with their favorite performers by giving them the opportunity to pose questions in interviews aimed exclusively at members of the military.

Available through iTunes and on the Pentagon Channel website, "Command Performance" brings the world of music and entertainment directly to the servicemember whenever and wherever they want it. By giving the audience a chance to submit questions online for the roster of upcoming interviews, the Pentagon Channel hopes to keep servicemembers engaged with the show, and by extension, with military news and public service announcements available elsewhere on the Pentagon Channel website and podcasts.

With a playlist ranging from rock to jazz and pop to blues, "Command Performance" will offer something for every taste. Current episodes feature interviews with the members of 3 Doors Down, smooth jazz trumpeter Chris Botti, and indie rock singer Cat Power, to name a few.

Ever wonder where Larry the Cable Guy gets his material? Want to hear how members of The Killers stay close to their families while on tour? Wish to learn more about one artist's personal struggle with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder? "Command Performance" covers these topics and more as it identifies common ground between servicemembers and entertainers.

The new project has turned the spotlight on the servicemember, according to anchor Sgt. Ted Macdonald, who said, "A big part of what makes 'Command Performance' so special is the fact that artists seem just as interested in learning about the military as we are in getting to know them."

"Going behind the scenes and watching the process of how a concert is put together is really fascinating," said anchor MC1 Liz Murray, "but being able to sit down and talk to the artists while all that is going on is even better!" It is this unique interview perspective that puts "Command Performance" in a league of its own.

Despite a command information tie-in, the podcast is also about entertainment. "'Command Performance' is designed to reach more of our audience members and is one of many products The Pentagon Channel produces to keep servicemembers and their families informed and entertained", said general manager, Brian Natwick.

The entire list of Pentagon Channel podcasts is available at: www.pentagonchannel.mil/podcast.shtml.

About the Pentagon Channel

The Pentagon Channel, the Department of Defense's satellite television channel, broadcasts military news and information for and about the 2.6 million members of the U.S. Armed Forces -- Active Duty,

National Guard and Reserve. Broadcasting 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the Pentagon Channel helps ensure that U.S. forces remain the best informed in the world.

Today, the Pentagon Channel is available on-base to more than 1.3 million service members who live and work on over 365 military bases, camps and installations in the U.S. The channel is also available to the 800,000 service members and their families serving overseas in 178 countries via the American Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS).

The Pentagon Channel reaches more than 16 million households through commercial distribution on satellite and cable systems nationwide. DISH Network, Verizon FiOS and divisions of Comcast, Time Warner, Cox, Charter, Mediacom, RCN, Armstrong, Midcontinent, Knology, GCI, and a number of smaller cable companies and local access channels in communities around the country carry the Pentagon Channel.

In addition, Pentagon Channel programming is streamed live 24/7 at <http://www.pentagonchannel.mil>, is available via video-on-demand, and podcast – both audio and video - from this website.

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