The CUA Pep Band Presents
THE SCHOOL SONGS

After years of being AWOL, these songs are making a big comeback...
The Catholic University of America’s pep song is, “CUA We’re Rooting For You & CU Will Shine Tonight.” It is actually a combination of two songs rolled into one. The song is attributed to the composer Albert Von Tilzer, who is best known for being the creator of one of the sport world’s most famous tunes, “Take Me Out to the Ballgame!”

Articles from CUA’s student-run newspaper, The Tower, show the song being used since the early 1920s. The articles were especially geared to the freshmen class to instill in them a sense of pride in Catholic University. The pep song is experiencing a resurgence after being found in the early 2000s, undergoing a hiatus of over thirty years.
Hail CUA

Victor Herbert

Voice

Hail C. U. A., thy sons acclaim the triumph of thine honored name; In happy song, they vow to thee Unyielding love and loyalty. Their hearts are valiant in the fight, Inspired by thy guiding light. Their deeds shall ever prove to thee How boundless their fidelity. Forever shall thy fame be bright, thy name resplendent as the light. Thine honored sons all join today, And sing thy praises, C. U. A! Forever shall thy fame be bright, Thy name resplendent as the light. Thine honored sons all join today, and sing thy praises, C. U. A!}

The Flying Cardinals

Voice

Boys, fight hard, hit hard, buck that line! Every man must do his part for victory; for the honor of the Red and Black, we stand behind the fighting varsity. With our colors proudly flying high, We will march today to victories anew; We all will back you to the limit, fight hard every minute.

CODA

Victory will come to old C. U. A! Give three cheers for old C. U. A! (Rah!) (Rah!) Let us banish fear! For victory! (Rah!) (Rah!) Every body up! Every body shout! To our fighting boys of C. U. A! We cheer.

D.S. al Coda
CUA Fight Song

The fight song of C.U.A. is “The Flying Cardinals.” The song itself dates back to before the 1930s, as The Tower archives show that a university professor actually transferred the copyright of the song to the Thornton W. Allen Company in 1934. Ever since its composition, it has been known as the fight song of the Catholic University of America.

When played by a band, there is an introductory march to the sung part of the music. The march serves to stir up the crowd as they get ready to cheer on their Cardinals. The march immediately transitions into the fight song for all to join.

CUA Alma Mater

This alma mater is one of the two original songs considered to be the university’s official song in 1920. In a contest that year, the CUA student who wrote the best lyrics would have his work set to music by the composer Victor Herbert. At the time, Herbert was one of the most famous American musicians; today, he is remembered as the talent behind “Babes in Toyland.”

Robert Mahoney won the competition and Victor Herbert added in his musical expertise; however, for reasons still unknown, it was Fr. Thomas McLean’s entry (which had won second place) that became the CUA alma mater for the next ninety-one years. Rediscovered just recently, the Herbert alma mater has enjoyed increasing popularity among the CUA community.
Specials Thanks to

The members of the CUA Pep Band
Victor David - Drum Major

Dean Kathryn Jennings & the Orientation Staff

The University Archives

The University Libraries