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Jazz Lab Band and Ensemble to Perform on Consecutive Nights

October 25, 2006

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Illinois Wesleyan University's Jazz Lab Band will present a fall concert on Thursday, Nov. 2, at 8 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall, 1210 Park St., in Bloomington. The university's Jazz Ensemble will perform the following evening, Friday, Nov. 3, at 7:30 p.m. in the same location.

Sponsored by the Illinois Wesleyan School of Music, both performances are free and open to the public.

Under the direction of Thomas Streeter, professor of brass instruments and theory, the Lab Band will perform pieces such as: Dave Barduhn's "Hannah's Blues," Koehler and Arlen's "I've Got the World on a String," Chuck Sayre's "Old Bottles, New Wine" and Carroll DeCamp's "Tribute to Basie," among others.

Featured musicians will include: Shannon Baumer on alto saxophone, Daniel Chang on tenor saxophone, Mandy Compton on vocals, Tom Fairbairn on guitar and flute, Cathy Frisbie on trumpet, Dennis Gotkowski on piano, Aaron Karch on trombone, Chris Lencioni on trumpet, Rich Patenaude on trumpet, Kristin Robinson on tenor saxophone, Mark Steiner on alto saxophone and Gary Weisenberger on flugelhorn and trumpet.

The Jazz Ensemble will kick off IWU's Family Weekend on Friday with a concert featuring two pieces by former Jazz Ensemble member Tom Dosset, IWU class of 1974, "Suburban Spin" and "Samba de Feroz." Other pieces on the program include Lerner and Loewe's "On the Street Where You Live," James Horner's "Somewhere Out There," Duke Ellington's "Duke," and Kahn and Styne's "Time After Time."

Featured musicians will include: Justin Barber on trumpet, Brent Bogen on alto saxophone, Dan George on trumpet, Lindsay Gross on bass trombone, Nate Hahn on trombone, Jay Heidekat on trombone, James Klopffleisch on bass, Kathryn Lachey on vocals, Cory Nelson on tenor saxophone and soprano saxophone, Ted Nichols on trumpet, David Nutt on tenor saxophone and Stuart Seale on piano.

IWU's Jazz Lab Band, which is open to student musicians of all majors, practices weekly and performs once each semester. Lab Band members are encouraged to broaden their musical horizons by learning a secondary instrument or conducting to gain experience in leading an ensemble.

The Jazz Ensemble has toured across the United States, as well as Asia, Europe and the Caribbean. The group's repertoire includes music from all big band styles, with an emphasis on the jazz "classics."

On Saturday, Nov. 4 IWU will host the annual IMEA Jazz Festival, which features high school bands from around the state, as it has done since 1975. At 3 p.m. three high school bands and one jazz choir will perform in Westbrook Auditorium.

For additional information about either concert, contact the Illinois Wesleyan University School of Music Office at (309) 556-3061.

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