

School of Music to host international conference

By Mike Duncan
Of the Emerald

This July 8-14 the University School of Music will host the 16th World Conference of the International Society for Music Education.

"We are very pleased and excited about the opportunity to present this conference to the Eugene area," says Morrette Rider, music school dean and chair of the conference. "It is the most significant international conference that is held in the field of music education."

The purpose of the conference is to stimulate music education worldwide. This year's conference theme, "Music for a Small Planet," will focus on a global understanding of music culture with an emphasis on the use of native folk materials in education.

It has been 18 years since the conference was held in the United States, and this will be the first time that it will be hosted by an American university, Rider says.

In reference to the confusion surrounding the participation of the Soviet-bloc countries, Rider says that "we have recently received a telegram from the Soviet delegation saying that in spite of the fact that they will not be participating in the Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, they do expect to send their delegation to this conference. And this includes the entire Soviet-bloc countries." Rider adds that the Soviets "have mentioned no concern over the safety of their delegates."

The event is expected to draw more than 3,000 delegates and musicians from more than 60 countries. Activities will include more than 50 hours of concerts; 125 special interest presentations, which will involve workshops and demonstrations on all phases of music and education; daily industry show cases by numerous exhibitors from the music industry; and 10 plenary sessions and major presentations by internationally recognized authorities.

Topics for the plenary sessions will include

"Music, An Instrument of Dialogue Between Cultures"; "Music of the Americas: Its Influence on a Multicultural Society"; and "Impact of Mass Media on Musical Taste and Practice."

In addition to the presentations, more than 30 youth ensembles will give public perfor-

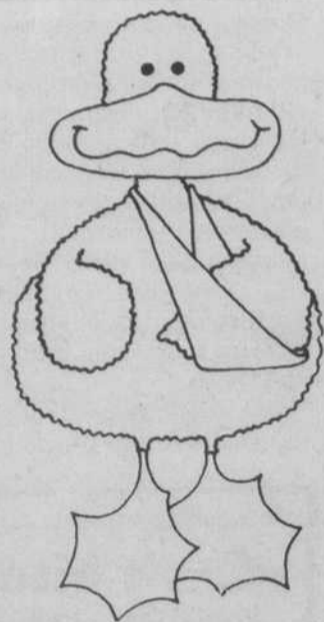


Morrette Rider

mances throughout the week at the University's Beall Concert Hall and the Hult Center for the Performing Arts. The groups are selected by committees in each nation and then recommended to organizers in the United States.

English and French are the official languages of the ISME. Spanish has been added to this conference in anticipation of a sizable delegation.

Persons seeking information regarding the conference are urged to contact Morrette Rider at the School of Music.



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