

Students will jam to jazzytunes at upcoming festivals

by Andrea Smith
The Print Staff

March is the month for swingin', boppin', and jammin' when the college's Music department presents the 23rd Annual Instrumental Jazz Festival, Friday and Saturday, and the 11th Annual Vocal Jazz Festival, March 18.

The Clackamas Jazz Band, under the direction of Tom Wakeling, will host the two-day instrumental jazz event. Because of the popularity of this festival, the number of bands competing had to be limited to 50.

This year, 11 junior high and 39 high school jazz bands will compete for the honor of participating in the evening "playoffs" for trophies in five categories: Junior High/Middle School, A, AA, AAA, and AAAA High School divisions.

Each band is given 20 minutes to play and is critiqued by some of the top jazz musicians in the area. The festival founder, LeRoy Anderson, will be among the adjudicators for the first time since his retirement from the position of Music department chair in 1991.

Other adjudicators include members of the CCC Faculty Band. Jeff Cumpston, Jeff Uusitalo, Jeff Homan, Steve Christofferson and Wakeling comprise this jazz combo.

"It's a great festival. It gives the kids a chance to get pumped up about music," said Wakeling, who has directed this event for three years.

"It's an opportunity to give these kids an education from some of the best musicians on the West Coast."

A new division has been added this year for rhythm sections, which generally include the piano, bass and drums.

The rhythm section is an essential facet of a jazz group and has its own particular role, which can literally make or break a band. Combos are also included in this division.

The CCC Jazz Band will perform at various times throughout both days of the festival, and the CCC Faculty Band will perform both nights during the evening playoffs competition beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Jazz Band drummer Sean Harle, playing in his second



photo by Chad Patterson

Students prepare for the 23rd annual Instrumental Jazz Festival which will take place this Saturday and Sunday. The 11th annual Vocal Jazz Festival will occur March 18.

festival, was enthusiastic about the event.

"It's great to be around the people who come to this festival. When the musicians connect together, especially in jazz, it's a rush. Our band has really been coming together. Things are finally clicking," he said.

"The CCC group sounds great," Wakeling added. "We've

reached a higher level of skill and talent. It's at an all-time high."

The two-day Instrumental Jazz Festival runs from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the evening sessions start at 7:30 p.m. Admission to the event is \$3/day, \$4/evening, or \$6 for both.

March 18 marks the date for the 11th Annual Vocal Jazz Festival. The director of CCC's vocal jazz ensemble "Mainstream" is Lonnie Cline, founder and manager of the festival.

Groups from 25 high schools in the Northwest will compete for awards and trophies in two divisions: A/AA, and AAA/AAAA ranked high schools.

"This festival has a reputation for being well-run, smooth," Cline said.

"It is one of the most unique, also. High schools like this event because we promote education through clinics and workshops that students and directors can learn from.

"It's not presented as a strict competition," Cline continued.

"It's more like an educational event. Students can share what they've learned about jazz, and can learn more about jazz as an art form and a means of expression."

Many of the top jazz musicians will be adjudicating the ensembles. Directors Dave Barduhn from Mount Hood CC, Vijay Singh from PSU, and CCC alumni Michelle Van Handel from the University of Oregon are among the musicians judging the event.

CCC student LaVonne Campen is performing in her third jazz festival at Clackamas.

"This festival is a lot of work, but it's really fun.

"It's good experience to listen to the groups. I like jazz because it's different, unpredictable. It's involving. Singing improvisation is a way I express myself."

A unique feature of the CCC event is that rhythm sections are given a separate clinic that is geared toward their role with a vocal jazz ensemble.

All participating groups are given 25 minutes of on-stage performance and critique time, an off-stage critique, and a video tape viewing for self evaluation.

Performances begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 4:30 p.m. "Mainstream" will perform at 4:45 p.m. in the Gregory Forum.

Finals competition will begin at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$3/day, \$5/evening, or \$6 for both.

Club creates setting for aspiring authors to write, read, listen

by Christopher Haberman
The Print Staff

As the Annual Writers' Contest once again concludes, its sponsor, the Writers' Club, looks on, still writing, still reading, still meeting in the "back room" of Oregon City's Sub Shop every Friday night promptly at 5:15 p.m.

"It's time consuming, but worthwhile," said Allen Widerburg, organizer of the Writers' Club.

Widerburg started the club after a student came to him, asking about such a club, and history was made.

"It has given me an opportunity to see some good authors," said Robin Bruce, president of the Writers' Club. "And many writers have shared things that normally I wouldn't have heard about. Former students still come back and see Allen.

That's how good they felt about their time with the club."

The club gets together on and off campus, and shares ideas of writing. Poetry and fiction/non-fiction are read and commented on in a positive, constructive atmosphere. Members also go to plays and "Common Ground," an open-mic theater in Portland that runs new plays and has live musicians, as well as poets that read in front of an audience. They also take trips to Powell's Bookstore and attend readings that occur there quite frequently.

"The contest has drawn a good response this year -- over a hundred poems have been entered, the most ever," Widerburg said.

Winners of the contest will be printed in the Spring Term issue of Rhapsody or possibly in the Clackamas Literary Magazine, published by students in the

Editing/Publishing class.

"The contest spotlights talent. Many that have done well in the contest have gone on to greater things," said Widerburg.

As with any club, the membership varies from time to time. All writers are welcome and encouraged to come to the meetings on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. in B114, or at the infamous "back room" of Oregon City's Sub Shop every Friday at exactly 5:15 p.m.

"Allen Widerburg holds it all together," said Bruce. "He is really under-appreciated for all the energy and heart that he puts into the club and into teaching. It is a real pleasure knowing him."

"Overall, it has been a lot of fun," said Widerburg. "There are a lot of talented writers here at CCC, and hopefully more of them will be joining us."



DO YOU NEED HELP WITH BABYSITTING?

COME TO A CHILDCARE CO-OP ORIENTATION MEETING

Friday, March 11
3:00 - 4:30

OR

Thursday, March 17
1:30 - 3:00
Fireside Lounge

CHILDREN WELCOME!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
See Jeanie in the Student Government Office
Community Center, Room 140, Ext. 2247