Janet Reiter: a life of music

Bill Myers

Principal

Clark College music teacher Janet Reiter, who directs the school’s Vocal Jazz Ensemble and co-directs the Community Chorale Group, can’t remember a time when music wasn’t a big part of her life.

A Washington native, Reiter was born in Bremerton on Nov. 16, 1948, and has been singing ever since. She came from a musical family. Her father, a minister in the Port Angeles area, gave her her first piano lessons. Her mother, a soprano, accompanied him on the piano.

Later on, her parents encouraged her to take piano lessons. By age eight, she was playing in the Marshall Family Orchestra, and two of her aunts were pianists. The Reiters’ parents enrolled her in piano lessons when she was eight years old, and she continued to study until she graduated from college.

Raised in Bremerton, Reiter graduated from West High School in 1966. After high school, she entered the University of Oregon, where she studied music and education. In 1970, she graduated and moved to Portland to pursue her master’s degree in music education.

After marrying her high school sweetheart, Reiter had two children. As a way of starting a family, she worked as a music teacher at the Olympian Junior College (now Olympic College) in Bremerton in the early 1970s.

In 1974, Reiter started teaching at Clark College. She taught music at the college level and was involved in the development of the college’s music program. She has been at the college ever since. She has taught a variety of music classes, including music theory, conducting, and voice lessons.

In 1983, Reiter was appointed director of the school’s Vocal Jazz Ensemble. She has been directing the ensemble ever since. The ensemble has performed at a variety of events, including the annual Jazz Festival at the University of Oregon, the Holiday Inn Jazz Festival in Portland, and the National Jazz Band Festival in Seattle.

Reiter has also been involved in the development of the school’s music program. She has been a member of the Clark College Music Department for over 30 years. She has been involved in the development of the school’s music program and has been instrumental in the growth of the program.

Reiter’s dedication to music and her students is evident in her teaching. She is known for her passion for music and her enthusiasm for teaching. She is a skilled musician and a dedicated teacher. She has been recognized for her contributions to the school’s music program and has been a role model for her students. She is a true inspiration to her colleagues and her students.

Reiter is a true music lover and an accomplished musician. She has been involved in the music community for over 30 years and has made a significant contribution to the development of the school’s music program. She is a true example of how one person can make a difference in the world of music.