

Clark College prepares for Jazz Festival

Richard Inouye director of the Clark College Jazz Festival is preparing to welcome community members to three full days of vocal and big band jazz at the 49th Annual Clark College Jazz Festival.

The event takes place Thurs.-Sat., Jan. 27-29, in Gaiser Hall on the Clark College campus.

About 60 vocal and instrumental jazz ensembles from

Washington and Oregon are scheduled to perform in this year's competition. Awards will be presented to the top three jazz ensembles in each class, A through 4A. The sweepstakes trophy and the honor to be featured at next year's festival will be presented to one outstanding band chosen from the entire festival. Additionally, awards will be presented to outstanding vo-

cal and instrumental soloists.

New to the festival this year will be the Clark College Jazz Festival Middle School Clinic. Six middle school jazz ensembles will perform 15 minute sets followed by a 15 minute on-stage clinic with one of the College's adjudicators in a non-competitive format Thurs., Jan. 27, from 8-11 a.m. Outstanding musician awards will be pre-

sented following an 11 a.m. performance by the Clark College Jazz Ensemble that morning. High School preliminary competitions for the 2011 festival will also take place Thurs., 1-5 p.m. with vocal jazz, and on Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. with high school jazz ensembles. Then, Fri., Jan. 28, the A and 2A division jazz bands will compete. The 3A and 4A jazz bands take the stage on Saturday. Final competitions will begin at 7 p.m. all three evenings.

The Clark College Vocal Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Janet Reiter, will perform Thurs. at 5 and 8:30 p.m. and the Clark College Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Director of Bands, Richard Inouye, will perform at 11:00 a.m.. They also perform Fri., at noon and 8:30 p.m., and noon on Saturday. The 2010 Sweepstakes Band, the Garfield High School Jazz Ensemble from Seattle under the direction of Clarence Acox, will hold the spotlight Saturday at 9 p.m.

Admission is \$5 per day. Clark College students and children under 12 accompanied by an adult will be admitted free of charge.

Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Gaiser Hall is located on the northwest corner of the main campus on Fort Vancouver Way, between McLoughlin Blvd. and Fourth Plain Blvd.

Enter through the north or south entrance of Gaiser Hall Theater. For additional information, contact the Clark College Music Department at (360) 992-2662 or visit their new Web site at http://www.clark.edu/special/jazz_festival/.