

ANOTHER WEEK IN PARADISE



Area groups to perform at Clark College Jazz Festival

Music groups from area middle and high schools will perform at the 49th annual Clark College Jazz Festival, Thurs.-Sat., Jan. 27-29.

The groups include four instrumental and one vocal ensemble from Battle Ground and Prairie high schools as well as Pleasant Valley and Chief Umtuch middle schools. Other groups will represent middle and high schools from Hockinson, Ridgefield, La Center and Woodland.

The festival will take place at Gaiser Hall on the northwest corner of the Clark campus, with nearly 50 vocal and jazz ensembles performing during the three-day event.

General admission to the festival is \$5 per day. Clark College students and children younger than 12 accompanied by an adult will be admitted for free.

Festival organizers said groups will perform to a professional panel of judges made up of renowned jazz educators and performers throughout the day. Judges will pick that day's first-, second- and third-place finishers. In addition,

on Saturday night, one band from the entire festival will be selected as the Sweepstakes winner.

Middle Schools are not competing against one another. There will not be a finalist in that age category, but there will be at the high school level.

This year festival organizers added the Clark College Invitational Middle School Jazz Ensemble Clinic. To kick off the festival Thursday morning, six local area middle school jazz bands will be invited to perform for each other and receive on-stage comments in a non-competitive format.

While Clark County and Portland-area schools will be well represented at the festival, schools from as far as Spokane, Puyallup, Fife, Astoria, the Seattle area and Lake Stevens also will compete.

Music begins Thurs. and Sat., at 8 a.m. and Fri., at 7:40 a.m. More festival information, including complete schedule: www.clark.edu/special/jazz_festival/info.php.

Here are area groups, directors and performance times:

Thursday, Jan. 27

- 8:00 a.m. - Hockinson Middle School Jazz Band, directed by Jennifer Ritenburgh
- 9:00 a.m. - La Center Middle School Jazz Band, directed by Perry Calabrese
- 9:30 a.m. - Pleasant Valley Middle School Jazz Band, directed by Evan Irwin
- 10 a.m. - Chief Umtuch Middle School Jazz Band, directed by Greg McKelvey
- 2:20 p.m. - Ridgefield High School Vocal Jazz Ensemble directed by Bob Meek
- 3:40 p.m. - Woodland High School Vocal Jazz Ensemble directed by Brent LiaBraaten
- 4:40 p.m. - Battle Ground High School Vocal Jazz Ensemble, directed by Darcy Schmitt
- 7 p.m. - Finals

Friday, Jan. 28

- 7:40 a.m. - Woodland High School Jazz Band, directed by Steven Smith
- 8:00 a.m. - Ridgefield High School Jazz Band, directed by Phillip Scamahorn
- 1 p.m. - Prairie High School Jazz Band, directed by Joe Accuardi.
- 4:00 p.m. - Hockinson High School Jazz Band, directed by Corey McEnry
- 7 p.m. - Finals

Saturday, Jan. 29

- 8:20 a.m. - Battle Ground High School Intermediate Jazz Band, directed by Irwin.
- 4:20 p.m. - Battle Ground High School Advanced Jazz Band, directed by McKelvey.
- 7 p.m. - Finals