

NOTES



No. 27

March 10, 2010

"Perfection in music is elusive, but excellence is attainable and sustainable."

MUSIC FOR REMAINDER OF THE INDOOR SEASON

Jerry Robbins has announced the music (always tentative, of course) for the remainder of this year's indoor season.

Sunday, March 21. Fifth Annual Ensemble Concert, 2:00 p.m., Atrium, Morris Lawrence Building, WCC. Coordinator Eric Walters has arranged for a unusually large number of ensembles and performers to participate in this event--a very good thing!

Among the groups performing will be the YCB's 20-piece "Town Band," in period costume, performing music of the 1880-1920 era. The Town Band will perform:

March: "Under the Double Eagle";
Song: "The Trail to Long Ago Waltz";
Hymn: "Amazing Grace"; Patriotic song:
"Yankee Doodle."

Tuesday, April 27. Third annual joint concert with the Whitmore Lake High School Band, 7:30 p.m., Auditorium, Whitmore Lake High School. Each band will play alone and then will perform two numbers as a combined band.

WLHS Band--selections to be announced.

YCB: "Strike Up the Band" (portion); "William Tell Overture"; "Mary Poppins."

Combined bands: "Crosley March"; "Fortress Variations."

Sunday, May 2, 2010. Joint concert with Novi Concert Band, 2 p.m., Novi Civic Center (10 Mile, between Taft and Novi Roads).

YCB's one-year plan each year, including for 2009-2010, includes that "if don't attend Red Cedar, schedule two concerts with some combination of community band(s), school band(s), or at a major civic event." The WLHS concert and this one satisfy that goal, satisfied in recent years by Red Cedar and WLHS concerts.

Novi Concert Band--selections to be announced.

YCB (assuming the Novi Concert Band is not playing any of these, or proposes one or more of them to play together): "Crosley March"; "Amazing Grace"; "Hungarian Dance #6"; "Black Jack March"; and "Mary Poppins."

Combined bands: selections to be announced (we haven't yet heard from the Novi Concert Band on this matter).

Thursday, May 27, 2010. "More Acquisitions!" 7:30 p.m., Towsley Auditorium, WCC.

"Black Jack March"; "William Tell Overture"; "Amazing Grace"; "Warsaw Concerto," arr. by George Appel, Dr. James Wagner, piano soloist; "Hungarian Dance #6"; "Suite of Old American Dances," Dr. Max Plank, former Director of Bands, EMU, conducting; "Tumbao," from "Canción del Dragón Negro," Pat Padilla, composer, conductor and tenor sax soloist; "Mary Poppins," and (encore) "Federal March."

WCC/YCB AGREEMENT DEVELOPMENTS

Jerry Robbins is currently working with WCC personnel to prepare the materials to create a course in "concert band" offered by WCC. The deadline for submission of this paperwork is now for courses to be offered the first time this coming fall.

New course approvals must be reviewed/approved by the relevant department chairperson, the appropriate dean, the college-wide curriculum and assessment committee, and the vice president for instruction. All these approvals must be received before a course can be placed in the catalog or schedule of classes.

RED CEDAR FESTIVAL

Vince Chrisman, Brandon Hall, and Jerry Robbins attended the Red Cedar Festival of Community Bands at Okemos High School on Saturday, February 27. As had been previously announced, this year's performances were primarily from bands that had not been to Red Cedar previously or that

had not performed there much or recently. It was good to hear new groups.

The DeWitt Community Concert Band was founded in 1985 and had 43 performers. The Oakland Community College Symphony Band (Waterford area) is a college/community group organized much like our forthcoming scheme with WCC. They performed with 54 players.

The Lansing Concert Band, in its 63rd season, is the "Official Band of the City of Lansing." It has appeared twice at the ACB convention and it holds the national Sudler Silver Scroll Award for community band excellence. It performed with 81 players.

The Livingston County Concert Band sponsors a scholarship program for local high school students. The Flint Symphonic Band, which performed with 63 players, was founded in 1966. The Sturgis Wind Symphony, organized in 1997, is a non-audition group that performed with 46 players.

The Meridian Community Band, the host band, was founded in 1977 and is a non-audition group that gives 12-20 concerts per year. It performed with 97 players. The guest soloist was Geoffrey Gallante, a highly accomplished elementary school cornet player from the Washington DC area. The Saginaw Area Concert Band performed with 50 players. It is a non-audition group that was organized in 1983.

The Genesee Wind Symphony started in 1981 and performed with 37 players. Clarinet Connections, a 19-piece clarinet choir organized in 2002, performed. The program concluded with the Grand Ledge Community Band, a 62-piece group organized in 2009.