October 5, 2011

Dear Director,

The thirty-ninth annual Central Michigan University/Phi Mu Alpha Jazz Weekend will be held Thursday and Friday, February 9 and 10, 2012 on the CMU campus. You and your students are invited to participate in two days of exciting musical performances in an educational and entertaining atmosphere. Jazz Weekend XXXIX brings together outstanding guest artists, clinicians, and over 1,100 college, high school and junior high school students comprising dozens of big bands and jazz combos.

Twenty tickets to the feature performance on Friday, February 10 at 8 p.m. in Plachta Auditorium are included with your registration fee of $240, the same as a year ago. Additional student tickets can be purchased for $7, adult tickets are $10.

Trumpet Soloist, Band Leader, Composer, and Educator Bobby Shew is our featured guest artist this year. Bobby’s early career included stints with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, the Woody Herman band, and the Buddy Rich band. He moved to Los Angeles, working with leading big bands and jazz performers all over the coast, recording his own albums, and amassing a large body of TV and Film studio work. Today, in addition to a busy performing and private teaching schedule, Bobby conducts clinics and master classes at high schools and college campuses all over the world. To find out more visit http://www.bobbyshew.com/index.htm

Festival concerts will once again feature a wide variety of CMU Jazz Ensembles, including Jazzbone, Jazz Central, Jazz Lab I, and more. Top clinicians and adjudicators from around the Midwest will provide commentary and suggestions throughout the day as High School and Junior High School groups perform for ratings and awards.

Please fill out the enclosed application(s) and return immediately to ensure your students’ place in this year’s festival, as they are processed on a “first-come, first served” basis. Additional forms may be obtained using the web site address below. Applications (including payment) must be postmarked by December 12, 2011. Schools that intend to participate in the combo sessions are especially encouraged to respond early, as performance opportunities are limited. For more information and forms, visit our web site at www.mus.cmich.edu

We look forward to seeing you in February!

Sincerely,

Rob Smith
Faculty, Jazz Studies

John Jacobson
Music Events

David Gillingham
Faculty Advisor