October 1, 2012

Dear Director,

The 40th annual Central Michigan University/Phi Mu Alpha Jazz Weekend will be held Thursday and Friday, February 7 and 8, 2013 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 XXX brings together outstanding guest artists, clinicians, and over 1,200 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 8 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.

As a special treat this year, jazz drummer Jeff Hamilton is our guest soloist along with the rest of the Jeff Hamilton Trio, pianist Tamir Hendelman and bassist Christoph Luty, all helping us celebrate the 40th year anniversary of Jazz Weekend here at CMU. Originality is what versatile drummer Jeff Hamilton brings to the groups he performs with and is one of the reasons why he is constantly in demand, whether he is recording, performing, teaching, arranging, or composing. You can find out more about Jeff Hamilton at http://www.hamiltonjazz.com/hamiltonbio.html

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 14, 2012. 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,

James Leigh
Jazz Weekend Coordinator

Rob Smith
Instructor of Jazz Studies

John Jacobson
Director of Music Events