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Cal Poly Bandfest '06 - A Must-Hear Storybook!

SAN LUIS OBISPO – More than two-hundred student musicians will perform Bandfest '06, "A Musical Storybook," at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, in Harman Hall in the Performing Arts Center's Christopher Cohan Center.

"Enduring, inspiring, uplifting...some of the most mesmerizing story telling compositions ever written," raves Cal Poly band director, William Johnson, describing "A Musical Storybook."

The Cal Poly Wind Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, and the "Pride of the Pacific" Mustang Marching Band all take the stage for a night of musical pageantry.

Inspired by Tolkien's "Lord of the Rings," Johan de Meij's "Gandolf" and "Hobbits" will open the program followed by de Meij's four-movement "Wind in the Willows" scored for large wind ensemble. Next, a performance of a major work recently composed for wind band by Julie Giroux based on the famous Scottish "Battle of Culloden."

The 120-member "Pride of the Pacific" Mustang Marching Band will present a stage version of its half-time show, which it performs in the Alex G. Spanos Stadium during this season's home football games. Highlights include the powerful sounds of Peter Jackson's soundtrack from the recent movie "King Kong," excerpts from Leonard Bernstein's "West Side Story," the new age music of Karl Jenkins and much more.

The program will conclude with Patrick Doyle's "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" and Robert W. Smith's "Symphony No. 2, "The Odyssey," performed by the combined musical forces of the Wind Orchestra and the Wind Ensemble.

Lt. Col. Alan Bonner, retired conductor of the United States Air Force Band, will serve as guest conductor. Christopher J. Woodruff will make his debut appearance as the newly appointed Cal Poly associate director of bands. Also conducting will be music major Amanda Yoshimizu and students Harrison Wolf, head drum major, and Robin Reil, assistant drum major.

The concert is sponsored by Cal Poly's Music Department, College of Liberal Arts, and Instructionally Related Activities program. Tickets are \$8 to \$19 and can be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call SLO-ARTS (756-2787). Discounts are given to patrons who buy tickets to four or more Music Department events for 2006-2007.

For more information, call the Music Department at 756-2406.

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