Cal Poly to Host All-State Festival Wind Orchestra, Jazz Band Concert April 18

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly is again hosting the All-State Festival Wind Orchestra and All-State Festival Jazz Band concert the Sunday afternoon of Open House weekend, April 18.

The concert, featuring 100 high school student musicians from throughout California, will be at 2:30 p.m. in Harman Hall in the Performing Arts Center.

Robert W. Smith, considered one of the country’s most popular and prolific composers of concert band and orchestral literature, will serve as the wind orchestra’s guest conductor. He has a long association with Warner Bros. and has more than 500 publications in print. His compositions and arrangements have been played for such special occasions as welcoming ceremonies in Japan honoring President Ronald Reagan, opening day at Dodger Stadium and the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade telecast.

Vibes player Charlie Shoemake, of the Chase Music Group, will be the guest soloist with the All-State Festival Jazz Band. Shoemake, considered a classicist, was called “a jazz vibist who still believes in the value of a melody line and in harmony” by Albuquerque Journal jazz critic David Steinberg.

Critic Jay Harvey of the Indianapolis Star News said, “He has a shimmering liquid sound and his neatly balanced lines swim in it as in a natural element.”

“Central Coast concertgoers will not want to miss this very exciting performance by some of the most talented young musicians in California,” said Music Professor and Wind Orchestra Conductor William Johnson.

Tickets are $7 to $15 and can be bought at the Performing Arts Ticket Office 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekends. To order tickets by phone, call 756-2787. The concert is sponsored by the Cal Poly College of Liberal Arts, Music Department and Associated Students Inc. For more information, call the Music Department at 756-2406.

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