Cal Poly ‘Just Jazz’ Concert on March 12 to Benefit Tour to Puerto Rico

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly’s University Jazz Bands, in preparation for their tour of Puerto Rico this June, will present a fundraising concert titled “Just Jazz” at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 12, in the Spanos Theatre on campus.

The concert features two big bands and two jazz combos. The ensembles will present a wide array of jazz – from traditional, mainstream jazz to current experiments with modern forms of jazz by today’s best composers. According to Director of Jazz Studies Paul Rinzler, there will be a scorching blues originally recorded by Blood, Sweat, and Tears, titled “Somethin’ Goin’ On,” as well as a funk masterpiece called “Mo Moleids,” and a hip-hop piece, “Nightfall,” by San Francisco big band The Realistic Orchestra.

The ensembles will perform in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and will also benefit from educational clinics and workshops with Puerto Rican musicians. “The expenses of such a tour are significant, and every dollar in support we get will help the students” said Rinzler who is leading the tour.

Attending the jazz bands’ concerts is a great way to help the bands financially and hear some original and stimulating music. Other upcoming jazz performances include a Swing Dance Concert in April and the Jazz Night Concert in May with trombonist Bill Watrous. More information is available on the Music Department’s Web calendar at http://music.calpoly.edu/calendar/.

Tickets for the March 12 concert are $12 and $15 for the public, $10 and $13 for senior citizens and Jazz Federation members, and $6 and $10 for students. They are on sale at the Performing Arts Ticket Office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call SLO-ARTS (805-756-2787).

Patrons who buy season tickets to four Music Department events through the Performing Arts Ticket office will receive a 10 percent discount; a 15 percent discount is given to those who buy tickets to five or more events.

The concert is sponsored by Cal Poly’s Music Department, College of Liberal Arts and Instructionally Related Activities program. For more information, call the Music Department at 805-756-2406.