



Music Discipline • Humanities Fine Arts • University of Minnesota, Morris
600 East Fourth Street • Morris, MN 56267

November 23rd, 2011

Dear Director,

Greetings from the University of Minnesota, Morris! We are very excited to announce that the 34th Annual UMM Jazz Festival will commence on April 12th -14th 2012. This year, UMM will welcome several artists, including drummer **Dennis Mackrel** and saxophonist **Gary Smulyan**. They will be critiquing the bands, presenting educational clinics, and performing with UMM's Jazz Ensembles at the evening concerts. Dennis Mackrel has performed with the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra and the Count Basie Orchestra (which he currently leads), and Gary Smulyan is the baritone saxophonist for the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, and is a highly regarded performer, arranger, and educator based in New York City.

I am also thrilled to announce another component to this year's Jazz Festival: Vocal Jazz! We will be featuring **The Northern Colorado Voices**, an award-winning vocal jazz group from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley. They will be offering additional jazz clinics during the day, and will perform during the evening concerts on Friday and Saturday (but not Thursday). If you have a vocal jazz group or show choir, I encourage you to contact me for information. We will be sure to have them scheduled for a performance and a clinic with the Northern Colorado Voices.

We are inviting high school and college jazz ensembles to perform during the day on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday in non-competitive clinics. Each school group will be allocated a forty-five minute time slot to perform charts of their own choosing and interact with the guest artists and regional clinicians.

The jazz ensemble fee is \$150. This fee includes:

- A performance and clinic with your school jazz group, critiqued by Dennis Mackrel, Gary Smulyan, or the Northern Colorado Voices (if vocal), and a regional clinician
- Admission to all daytime school performances/clinics
- Admission to instrumental & vocal clinic sessions
- Tickets for up to a maximum of 20 people, including ensemble members and director, to either a Thursday, Friday, or Saturday evening Jazz Fest concert performance (performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and last approximately 2 hours).

Additional General Admission tickets to the evening performance are \$15.00 and student tickets are \$10.00. You will note that your \$150 fee not only provides you with outstanding clinic opportunities, but also with a substantially reduced admission fee for your students during the evening concert.

Schools will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, according to when they are received in the mail. **Phone reservations and faxes cannot be accepted.** If you wish to participate, please mail the enclosed form **as soon as possible**. For further information, please contact me at (320) 589-6242 or Sara Haugen, Student Activities Program Advisor, at (320) 589-6080.

We hope that you will be able to take advantage of this excellent educational opportunity for your students. It promises to be a great weekend of jazz; we hope you'll join us!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dustin Retzlaff".

Dustin Retzlaff, 05
UMM Jazz Ensembles



Thursday–Saturday, April 12–14, 2012

Founded by Professor Emeritus of Jazz Jim “Doc” Carlson, Jazz Fest is in its 34th year. The event attracts world-renowned jazz artists to Morris each spring. High school, community, and college jazz ensembles are invited to take part in three days of clinics and master classes by internationally recognized musicians. Each night concludes with a feature performance by the Morris jazz ensembles and the guest artists.

morris.umn.edu/academics/jazz/fest/2012/



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2012 UMM Jazz Fest Guest Artists



Dennis Mackrel, drums

Acclaimed drummer Dennis Mackrel has been a performer and arranger with The American Jazz Orchestra, The Carla Bley Big Band, The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, The Dizzy Gillespie All Star Big Band, and the Count Basie Orchestra, a band which he currently leads. Dennis has also become a highly respected conductor, arranger, and educator whose works have been recorded and performed by ensembles such as The WDR Big Band in Koln, Germany, The Klüvers Big Band in Aarhus, Denmark, and most notably The McCoy Tyner Big Band, whose Grammy winning CDs "The Turning Point" and "Journey" included four of Dennis's arrangements. He has also served as a jazz educator in Europe, Asia, Canada, and the USA.



Gary Smulyan, baritone saxophone

Gary Smulyan has built a reputation as a major voice on the baritone saxophone, and is a renowned arranger, musician, and jazz educator. He has performed with Woody Herman's Young Thundering Herd, the Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra, the Mingus Epitaph Band, and the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra. He has also performed and recorded with Dizzy Gillespie, Chick Corea, Stan Getz, Roy Haynes, Ray Charles, Diana Ross, the Dave Holland Quartet, and many others. Smulyan brings to the stage the spirit, style, technical skills of a true master of the bebop tradition. Smulyan has also been a member the famous Village Vanguard Orchestra in New York City since the 1980s.



Northern Colorado Voices

Northern Colorado Voices is the University of Northern Colorado's (UNC) premier vocal jazz group. The group performs exciting new arrangements of jazz, rock, and pop favorites as well as original songs. Northern Colorado Voices has opened for the New York Voices, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Patti Austin, Sixth Wave, and will open for the Real Group at the UNC/Greeley Jazz Festival in 2012. The group includes 2010 DownBeat Student Music Award-winner Kate Skinner, Angela Parrish, Ashlee Varner, Dan Barton, Andy Jaramillo, and Evan Bell.

Jazz at the University of Minnesota, Morris



The University of Minnesota, Morris is steeped in a tradition of high quality jazz music. Morris features jazz ensembles and combos for academic credit. The ensembles consist of both music majors and non majors who are interested in furthering their knowledge of jazz music while fine tuning their musicianship, and communication and leadership skills through practice, rehearsals, recordings, and performance opportunities. The jazz ensembles study a variety of literature from the early big band transcriptions to modern compositions. Membership in the Morris jazz ensembles and combos is open to all Morris students, faculty, and staff by audition.



600 East Fourth Street
Morris, MN 56267

morris.umn.edu
888-866-3382

34th ANNUAL UMM JAZZ FESTIVAL – April 12-14, 2012

(Phone reservations and faxes cannot be accepted. Email reservations will be accepted.)

School Clinic: Please **CIRCLE WHICH DAY** you would prefer your clinic to be scheduled and if you absolutely cannot attend a particular day, please **CROSS OFF THAT DAY**.

Thursday, April 12

Friday, April 13

Saturday, April 14

Evening Performance: We would like to attend the evening performance on ____ Thur ____ Fri ____ Sat. Including the director, we have _____ members in our group.

Payment: There is a maximum of 20 complimentary concert tickets per group including the director. Please indicate the number of additional tickets needed (if any).

____ Band registration @ \$150.00 \$ _____
____ Additional evening concert tickets for students under 18 (\$10.00 each) \$ _____
____ Additional evening concert tickets for parents, chaperones, etc. (\$15.00 each) \$ _____

\$ _____ **Total Registration** Please indicate time of payment:
____ Check enclosed
____ Check will be mailed separately

Please make checks out to University of Minnesota, Morris.

Directors who do not have the check sent within 30 days will risk removal of their band from the clinic schedule.

Registration fees and tickets are non-refundable.

NAME OF BAND: _____

SCHOOL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY STATE ZIP

DIRECTOR: _____

SCHOOL PHONE: (____)-_____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (please print clearly) _____

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE PROCESSED ON A FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED BASIS. WE RECOMMEND REGISTERING EARLY TO INSURE SPACE FOR YOUR GROUP.

If you have questions, you are welcome to contact UMM Jazz directly at the number below. If you choose to email your registration form, you will receive a confirmation email confirming receipt of your form.

Please send / email registration form to: Dustin Retzlaff
HFA 80
600 E 4th Street
Morris, MN 56267
(320) 589-6242 (office)
(803) 608-4460 (cell)
retzlaff@morris.umn.edu