

Stripling to be Featured at SWOSU Jazz Festival

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Byron Stripling, featured soloist with the Boston Pops Orchestra, the Count Basie Band and the Broadway musical, "Satchmo," will be the featured soloist for the 40th annual Southwestern Oklahoma State University Jazz Festival February 11-12 on the Weatherford campus.

Selected by conductor John Williams of the Boston Pops Orchestra, as featured soloist on the PBS television special, "Evening at Pops," Stripling enjoys a global reputation. An accomplished actor and singer, Stripling was chosen, following a worldwide search, to star in the lead role of the musical, "Satchmo." Stripling was lead trumpeter and soloist with the Count Basie Orchestra. He also played and recorded extensively with the bands of Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Herman, Lionel Hampton and Clark Terry, in addition to The Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall Jazz Bands.

At the SWOSU Jazz Festival, Stripling will be featured on trumpet and vocals; Bobby Floyd on piano and Hammond B-3 Organ; Larry Cook, bass; and Rich Thompson, drums.

The festival concerts, which will feature the SWOSU Jazz Ensemble "A" directed by Dr. Keith M. Talley and the guest musicians, will be held at 1 and 8 p.m. on Friday, February 12, in the SWOSU Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

Tickets, which are \$12.50 for general admission and \$4 for students, are on sale at the SWOSU Music Office, Room 100 in the Fine Arts Center or can be obtained before each concert at the door.

As a part of the SWOSU Department of Music Alumni Weekend, the Alumni Jazz Band will present a concert at 7 p.m. preceding the 8 p.m. festival concert on Friday, February 12. The SWOSU Alumni Jazz Band will be directed by Dr. Terry Segress, who began the SWOSU Jazz Festival 40 years ago and ran the festival for its first 36 years. A free concert, featuring The Byron Stripling Quartet, will be presented on Thursday, February 11, in the Berrong Music Hall Room 101.

The SWOSU Jazz Festival is presented by the SWOSU Department of Music with the assistance of the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

For additional information contact the SWOSU Music Office at 580.774.3708 or email keith.talley@swosu.edu.