

SWOSU Jazz Program Receives \$8,000 Contribution

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Elizabeth and Mike Muncy (third and fourth from left) of Oklahoma City recently made an \$8,000 contribution to the Southwestern Oklahoma State University jazz band program on the Weatherford campus. Accepting for SWOSU are (from left) President Randy Beutler, Music Department Chair James South and Jazz Director Keith Talley.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's jazz band program received a pleasant surprise at the recent 42nd annual SWOSU Jazz Festival when alumnus and former member of Jazz Ensemble "A" Mike Muncy and his wife Elizabeth of Oklahoma City made an \$8,000 contribution to the program on the Weatherford campus.

Mike and Elizabeth Muncy have made contributions for many years to the SWOSU Foundation for music scholarships and to support the jazz festival. This particular donation is earmarked to provide funding for two SWOSU Jazz "A" members per year for four years to attend the Jamey Aebersold Summer Jazz Workshop at the University of Louisville. Aebersold is a world-renowned jazz saxophonist who has performed at the SWOSU Jazz Festival.

"Mike and Elizabeth have been loyal and generous alums for many years," said Dr. James South, chair of the SWOSU Department of Music. "This gift will allow SWOSU students for the next four years to do intensive work with incredible jazz artists at the Aebersold camp. When they return to our campus, they will share that experience with the rest of the ensemble. We are immensely grateful that the Muncy family has made this gift, which will make an immediate and lasting impact on our program."