

Fun Evening of Swing Dance & Concert Planned by SWOSU Jazz Ensembles

09.13.2017

A swing dance clinic and a swing dance concert featuring the Southwestern Oklahoma State University jazz ensembles will make for a fun evening on Thursday, September 21, on the Weatherford campus.

The concert is planned for 7 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom, and Kendi Brown-Wampler of Kendi's School of Dance will conduct a free swing dance class starting at 6 p.m. to help introduce newbies to the dance form and to refresh those who may have forgotten a step or two.

Both the clinic and concert are free and open to the public.

Dr. Richard Tirk, associate professor of trumpet and jazz at SWOSU, said the audience should expect the same great swing from the bands, but they should also bring their dancing shoes because the show will be a swing dance.

"It's exciting to be collaborating with Kendi on this fun event," Tirk said. "We hope to get an enthusiastic crowd ready to cut a rug with Jazz A and B!"

The evening will be dedicated to the swing greats of the 1930's and 40's including Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington and Count Basie.

"That was the pop music of the era and the foundation for all jazz and even rock and roll that came afterward," Tirk said.

Regular jazz concertgoers should note the location of this concert. The Ballroom will allow for plenty of dance floor. Regular seating will be available for those interested in reserving their dance moves for a later date.

For more information about the event, please contact the SWOSU Music Department at (580) 774.3708.