

# SWOSU's 38th Annual Jazz Festival Coming February 8

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Bobby Watson

Bobby Watson will be the featured soloist for the annual Southwestern Oklahoma State University Jazz Festival coming up on February 8 on the Weatherford campus.

The 38<sup>th</sup> annual SWOSU Jazz Festival will feature Watson and his sextet Live and Learn that consists of New York based musicians: Leron Thomas, trumpet; Warren Wolf, vibes; Harold O'Neal, piano; Curtis Lundy, bass; and Quincy Davis, drums.

The concerts, which will feature the SWOSU Jazz Ensemble "A" directed by Dr. Keith M. Talley and the guest musicians, will be held at 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Friday, February 8. Tickets are \$10 for general admission and are on sale at the SWOSU Music Office, Room 100, in the Fine Arts Center on the SWOSU campus.

A saxophonist, composer, producer and educator, Watson grew up in Kansas City, Kansas. The gifted Watson became a much sought-after musician, working along the way with a potpourri of notable musicians, peers, elder statesmen and colleagues including such people as drummers Max Roach and Louis Hayes, fellow saxophonists George Coleman and Branford Marsalis, celebrated multi-instrumentalist Sam Rivers and trumpeter Wynton Marsalis.

In addition to working with a variety of instrumentalists, Watson has served in a supporting roll for a number of distinguished and stylistically varied vocalists including Joe Williams, Dianne Reeves, Lou Rawls, Betty Carter and Carmen Lundy. He has served as musical director of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers.

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](mailto:keith.talley@swosu.edu).