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Festival of the Winds brings high school musicians and renowned guest artists to campus

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Festival of the Winds brings high school musicians and renowned guest artists to campus

Summary: The two-day festival includes events for high school musicians, university musicians, and music patrons including a conducting symposium, guest artists, master classes, and performances.

(October 21, 2009)-The University of Minnesota, Morris Symphonic Winds presents the fourth annual Festival of the Winds celebration on Friday and Saturday, November 6 and 7, 2009.

The two-day festival includes events for high school musicians, university musicians, and music patrons including a conducting symposium, guest artists, master classes, and performances. More than 150 high school musicians will attend. Guest ensembles from Minnewaska and Morris Area High Schools will collaborate with the Symphonic Winds to provide concerts, open to the public, each evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall on campus.

Internationally renowned conductor Larry Marks, associate professor of music and director of bands at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, will serve as guest conductor for the concerts. The program includes several works by each ensemble. Guest artist and clarinetist Pat O’Keefe, co-artistic director and woodwind player for the St. Paul contemporary music ensemble ZEITGEIST and music lecturer at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls, will perform Scott McAllister’s clarinet concerto “Black Dog.” The concerts promise a repertoire appealing to a wide range of musical interests.

The Symphonic Winds, under the direction of Martin H. Seggelke, Morris assistant professor of music and discipline coordinator, is comprised of more than eighty musicians, both music majors and nonmajors, who perform numerous concerts on campus throughout the academic year. The ensemble seeks to broaden performance and teaching skills by cultivating interest in the wind ensemble as an integral part of the American music scene, while expanding students’ technical, intellectual, and musical horizons.

Tickets for the Festival of the Winds concerts will be available at the door with reserved tickets available for advance purchase at the Student Center Information Desk on campus. Tickets are $5 for adults, $3 for children and senior citizens, and $1 for students with an ID. A complimentary reception follows. For more information, please contact the Division of the Humanities Office at 320-589-6250.

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