

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Contact: Bob McGill



February 2, 1981

Pretty Eskimo girls pick armloads of flowers in this scene from "The Lure of Alaska," a color documentary film to be presented at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8, by Youngstown State University's Department of Continuing Education in Schwebel Auditorium, Engineering and Science Building. Willis Butler, world traveler and photographer, will narrate the show, which is open to the public. This is the fourth in this season's travelogue series, "Exploring the World With YSU." One of the most comprehensive films ever made of Alaska, this presents the rugged people, its dramatic industries, unsurpassed scenery and colorful history. Admission is \$3.50 per person.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Members of the Ohio Music Education Association will be treated to a galaxy of bright notes Friday afternoon when Youngstown State University's Jazz Ensemble I presents a concert at the OMEA's annual convention in Cleveland.

Tony Leonardi, director of YSU Jazz Ensembles, and the 21 student musicians in Ensemble I were the only collegiate jazz group invited to perform before the OMEA during its convention sessions in downtown Cleveland Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Also, two members of Ensemble I were selected to perform in the Ohio College All-Star Jazz Band that will present a concert Friday evening. They are Chester Pawlak, Farrell, baritone sax player and John Reese, Warren, trombonist.

In addition to the Jazz Ensemble from YSU's Dana School of Music, two Boardman High School groups, the Boardman High Jazz Ensemble, and Boardman High Symphony Orchestra, were invited to play for the music educators.

Leonardi, a Poland resident, is a noted jazz bassist and instructor in double bass at Dana School of Music, College of Fine and Performing Arts. He is vice president of the Ohio Chapter, National Association of Jazz Educators, and a member of the OMEA.

Last May his Jazz Ensemble I won first place in the Central Ohio Jazz Festival at Ohio State University, and five members of that group won top awards as outstanding soloists.

There are presently some 65 students in Jazz Ensemble I, II and III under Leonardi's direction.

MORE

ADD ONE

The season's second Jazz Ensemble public concert will be 8 p.m. March 11 at Kilcawley Center on the YSU campus. Their Dec. 3 concert featuring jazz trombonist Slide Hampton attracted more than 800 persons.

The ensembles have been presenting concerts at many area high schools. They will play at a "pops" concert Feb. 26 at Salem High School, at assemblies at Marlinton High and West Branch on Feb. 27, and participate in a jazz festival March 2 at Wooster High School.

Boardman High Jazz Ensemble, the only high school jazz group invited to play before the OMEA, is under the direction of Thomas A. Groth. The Boardman Symphony, winner of many honors, is under the direction of Carol S. Clark. John R. Simic is assistant director.

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