

FOR RELEASE:

IMMEDIATE

Mailed: March 2, 1987

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Anthony "Tony" Leonardi of Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music has been selected as "Ohio Jazz Educator of 1986" by the Ohio Unit of the National Association of Jazz Educators.

Leonardi, associate professor of music, has been a full-time member of the faculty since 1979. In addition to directing of YSU's noted Jazz Ensembles, he teaches jazz and string bass. Before joining the University, he taught music in area public schools for eight years.

Under his direction, the Jazz Ensembles, and individual members, have been selected numerous times to perform before state and national music educators and other groups, and have won many honors.

Leonardi's effectiveness as a jazz educator are indicated by the number of his students who have become members of such notable bands as Buddy Rich, Woody Herman, Thad Jones/Mel Lewis, Glenn Miller and Lionel Hampton.

Leonardi received his Bachelor of Music degree, summa cum laude, and Master of Music degree from YSU. His additional studies included string bass with former Cleveland Orchestra principal bassist Jacques Posell and jazz bass with Ray Brown.

As a professional musician, he played with a number of major bands, including Stan Kenton, Buddy Rich, Woody Herman, and Chuck Mangione. Leonardi toured Europe with his own quintet in 1960 and later with the Woody Herman Band in 1965.

-MORE-

Add One - Leonardi

For a number of years, he was a member of the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra, the Warren Chamber Orchestra and the Kenley Players Orchestra.

Leonardi is a past president of the Ohio Unit of the National Association of Jazz Educators.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Auditions for the Youngstown State University Theatre production of "Quilters" will be held from 4-6 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, March 11-13, in Ford Auditorium of Bliss Hall, Wick Avenue.

Parts are open for seven women.

"Quilters," in a folk tradition, uses music and dance to celebrate the heritage of frontier women in America.

Priority in casting will be given to YSU students, but all interested persons are invited to try out.

The production will be staged April 30-May 3 and May 7-10 in Spotlight Arena Theatre. Dr. Frank A. Castronovo of Boardman, associate professor of Speech Communication and Theatre, is directing the play.

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