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University of Dayton

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May 3, 2002
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NEWS RELEASE

'SENIOR' MUSICIANS WILL COME TO UD FOR FIRST NEW HORIZONS BAND CAMP

DAYTON, Ohio — Ah, band camp. A chance to get away from the family for a week, hone your music skills for fall, hang out with fellow bandees and stay up too late in the dorm rooms gossiping about who is cute and whose sharps were flat. And if you get homesick, you can always call your ~~parents~~ kids.

The University of Dayton music department will host its first band camp for senior-adult musicians May 19-24 on campus. The camp is open to adults age 50 and older and of all music skill levels, beginner to advanced, in flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba and percussion.

The camp is being held in conjunction with UD's New Horizons Band, a branch of a growing national program for senior adults who want to play an instrument, but who have never played before or who haven't played in many years. The spring camp is open to all New Horizons Band members from around the country as well as any unaffiliated musician who wants to experience the fun of learning and playing with others.

The camp is residential so housing is on campus in Virginia Kettering Hall, and local participants can opt to commute if they'd like. For information or to register, call UD's office of continuing education at (937) 229-2605, or visit the camp Web site at <http://www.as.udayton.edu/continuingeducation/nhb/nhb institute.htm>.

With more than two weeks until start of camp, some 30 aspiring and experienced musicians had already registered from around the Miami Valley, Ohio, Michigan, Missouri, Maryland and New York.

The five-day itinerary includes rehearsal time for full band, sectionals and ensembles, master classes, a field trip to the Wright-Patterson Air Force Museum and an outing to Stanton's Sheet Music store in Columbus, as well as plenty of time for socializing on campus and during

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breaks for meals at area restaurants. When registering, participants can indicate the styles of music they'd like to study and perform from a wide variety of genres, including swing, jazz, traditional Dixieland, polka and many others.

Roy Ernst, who founded the program in 1990 and directs the New Horizons Band in Rochester, N.Y., will serve as one of the guest conductors at the Dayton camp.

Jim Reed, a New Horizons Band member helping to organize band camp, said planners hope to make it an annual event. "The goal of the band and camp is to provide opportunities for adults to experience the joy of practicing and performing with others at the same skill levels, and the thrill of playing with others in a band."

There are currently more than 60 New Horizons Bands in the United States, sponsored by music companies, music schools, colleges or other educational programs. Only four other bands will host open camps this year — the Las Cruces, N.M., and Iowa City bands in June, the Madison, Wisc., band in September and the Chautaugua, N.Y., band in October.

Since its inception in the fall of 2000 with about 18 members, UD's band has grown to more than 50 members and now has an advanced group as well as the foundation band for beginners. Participants meet once a week for lessons with UD music and music-education students and once a week for full band rehearsal. Sessions follow the University's academic calendar from September through April, and beginners can start at any time.

For information on the New Horizons Band, call director Linda Hartley at (937) 229-3232 or visit the program Web site at <http://www.as.udayton.edu/continuingeducation/nhb/index.htm>.

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For media interviews, contact **Jim Reed** at (937) 252-6778 or via e-mail at jazzatnite.com and **Linda Hartley** at (937) 229-3232 or via e-mail at Linda.Hartley@notes.udayton.edu.