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## Bringing an Enlightenment to Those in the Dark is the Goal of UD's First Tuesday Series

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**BRINGING ARTS ENLIGHTENMENT TO THOSE IN THE DARK  
IS THE GOAL OF UD'S FIRST TUESDAY SERIES**

DAYTON, Ohio — There is no doubt that even a first-time listener can appreciate Mozart's "Jupiter" Symphony, widely recognized as one of the most significant symphonies by any composer in history. But when tutored with a bit of background — an introduction, a little "enlightenment" — that first experience can be even more fulfilling.

Bringing arts illumination to those who may find themselves a bit in the dark is the goal of the University of Dayton's First Tuesday lecture series, which will present "Mozart, the Enlightenment and the 'Jupiter' Symphony" at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 6, in Sears Recital Hall in the Jesse Philips Humanities Center. Admission is free and open to the public.

The lecture, hosted by UD professors Richard Benedum and Lawrence Flockerzie, will serve as a preview to the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra's performance of the "Jupiter" Symphony on Wednesday, April 21, at Memorial Hall. Benedum, chair of the University's music department, and Flockerzie, chair of the history department, will discuss the way in which Mozart's music, particularly the "Jupiter" Symphony, shares many of the fundamental values behind the Enlightenment philosophy prevalent in late 18th-century Europe — organization, symmetry and structure, order and balance.

Benedum said he established the First Tuesday series four years ago with a dual purpose in mind — to enrich and supplement arts course offerings for his students and to provide a service to Dayton's arts providers by highlighting and illuminating a coming event. Since its inception, however, the series has grown tremendously in its appeal to students, faculty and the general public.

"The whole concept has gained a new level of acceptance and awareness in the

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community, and I'm very pleased about that," Benedum said. "Where we once had maybe 20 people in the audience, we now have as many as 125."

The series, which also featured preview discussions of the Dayton Philharmonic's fall performance of *Alexander Nevsky* and the Human Race Theatre Co.'s recent production of *Rent*, can appeal to anyone but is specifically targeted to the arts "non-specialist," Benedum said. Each session includes time for questions from the audience.

"My hope is that each discussion will enlighten the audience and stimulate their minds," Benedum said. "Then, if they go to the previewed event, they'll be prepared with a new perspective to help them appreciate the actual experience even more."

The First Tuesday series is sponsored by a grant from the Ohio Humanities Council.

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