

Instructional Related Activities
Report Form

SPONSOR	DEPARTMENT
Steven Marsh	Performing Arts

ACTIVITY TITLE	DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY
PAMU 330 Performance/Lecture Series	9/16/2013

PLEASE EXPLAIN (1) DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY; (2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S); AND (3) WHAT YOU LEARNED FROM THE PROCESS.

1. THIS WAS A CONCERT/DEMONSTRATION OF JAZZ MUSIC PERFORMANCE TECHNIQUES FOR OUR “JAZZ IN AMERICA” CLASS. WE WERE ALSO JOINED BY THE “MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS” CLASS, THE “UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA” CLASS, AND STUDENTS FROM SEVERAL OTHER COURSES. SEVERAL PROFESSORS FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS ALSO ATTENDED THIS EVENT.

CSUCI INSTRUCTORS STEVEN MARSH AND PAUL MURPHY WERE JOINED BY TWO PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS FROM LOS ANGELES: DRUMMER SINCLAIR LOTT AND BASSIST ADRIAN ROSEN FOR THIS EVENT. THE QUARTET PROVIDED A DEMONSTRATION OF SEVERAL JAZZ MUSIC STYLES FOR THE STUDENTS.

2. THIS CONCERT PROVIDED LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS OF MANY OF THE MUSICAL STYLES AND TECHNIQUES USED BY JAZZ MUSICIANS. THESE ARE THE SAME TOPICS THAT WE DISCUSS IN CLASS. THE ROLES OF THE INDIVIDUAL INSTRUMENTS WERE DEMONSTRATED AND DISCUSSED. WE PERFORMED EXAMPLES OF STRAIGHT AHEAD SWINGING JAZZ MUSIC, BOSSA NOVA JAZZ, JAZZ-ROCK, AND BALLAD PLAYING. THE STUDENTS ASKED MANY GOOD QUESTIONS OF OUR MUSICIANS, AND SOME INTERESTING DISCUSSIONS ENSUED.

WE ALSO PLAYED A SONG THAT OUR UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA ENSEMBLE IS ATTEMPTING TO LEARN. THIS GAVE THOSE STUDENTS A GOOD IDEA OF WHAT THAT MUSIC SOUNDS LIKE WHEN PLAYED BY PROFESSIONALS. SEVERAL OF THOSE ORCHESTRA SOUNDS TOLD ME THAT THIS WAS A VERY VALUABLE TEACHING MOMENT FOR THEMSELVES.

AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THE ATTACHED STUDENT COMMENTS, OUR STUDENTS CONSIDER THAT THESE LIVE PERFORMANCES GREATLY HELP THEM UNDERSTAND THE MUSICAL CONCEPTS THAT WE ARE TEACHING THEM IN THE CLASSROOM. THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR WITNESSING THE MUSIC BEING PERFORMED LIVE, UP CLOSE, AND PERSONAL!

3. I WAS REMINDED AGAIN BY OUR STUDENTS (WITH THEIR COMMENTS) THAT THESE LIVE MUSIC DEMONSTRATIONS ARE INVALUABLE TO HELPING THEM UNDERSTAND

THE FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS OF THE JAZZ MUSIC EXPERIENCE. I ALSO LEARNED THAT WHEN ADMINISTRATORS SCHEDULE THESE CLASSES AT 9AM, IT IS MUCH MORE CHALLENGING TO GET A LARGE NUMBER OF AUDIENCE MEMBERS ASSEMBLED. FORTUNATELY, THIS CLASS HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR A MUCH BETTER TIME FOR NEXT SEMESTER - SPRING, 2014.

PLEASE SEE THE STUDENT COMMENTS ON THE ADDITIONAL PAGES, AND FROM THE SCANNED STUDENT EVALUATION SHEETS.

- S. MARSH

**Please attach assessment forms from students, list of attendees, peoplesoft program report

E-mail to the Dean's Office
30 days after activity

STUDENT COMMENTS from PAMU 330 Class
regarding IRA Concert on 9/16/13.

This concert was a great way to start the year and in total this was one of the most educational in class concerts that I had attended here at the school. I felt this concert was full of information and each musician really answered everyone's questions in depth, which fully provided insight of jazz music. Looking at the reaction of the audience I feel everyone really enjoyed it, as did I. Each song was a different type of jazz that gave very different emotions and enjoyment. I have personally learned that although jazz takes a complex ear and taste there is most likely a subgenre that you may enjoy. This was a great way to start the semester.

The concert was very well constructed and gave a great understanding of Jazz music and helped the audience really understand the difference between the styles as well as see the amount of freedom that an artist has when playing jazz music to display their own emotions to the song while playing. It was truly an enjoyable experience.

Overall, the jazz concert presented was a good example of how Instructionally Related Activity funds should be used. Within the case of jazz, an art form that is performed with such emotion, I think it is beneficial to witness its performances in person and not just continuously from a computer. I am now looking forward to attending jazz concerts in the near future.

Now, I have a soft spot for the swing style. It moves and it grooves. It gets your feet tapping and your fingers snapping, preferably on beats two and four. So, this first song was one my favorites that they played, not only because it was a swing style, but because the band members' dynamic was still being worked out. Everyone was still getting a feel for one another's musical language and that's what made that first song so intriguing.

However, there was another style that they played that's called the Bossa Nova style. This style incorporates a little bit more of a Latin flair and can be played in a more sultry way, or as a sexier jazz style.

The second song that the band performed was "Relaxin' in Camarillo" by Charlie Parker. Again, this song was a display of a 12 bar blues style, but it had a faster tempo. The rhythms were broken up, and the saxophone and drums were trading fours.

I found that in this concert, it made a lot of what we had learned in class easier to understand. Hearing the difference between the tenor, baritone, and alto sax in person helps to clarify and differentiate each instrument. Also, the sizing of each sax made it easier to visualize. So now I can associate the sound of the instrument with what it looks like, and typically, the smaller the instrument, the higher pitched the sound is.

Having the band open the concert up by performing examples of key characteristics that are heard in Jazz music really helped to make connections for me. By doing this, I found myself able to hear these characteristics throughout the other songs, and it made it easier for me to identify. Also, I found myself catching examples throughout the music of different types of solos and improvisations that we discussed and learned in class. For me, it was exciting to be able to identify those and hear them in person, rather than from a recording. Since I am a visual learner, the concert really helped me apply what I had learned in the class room to a realistic atmosphere. It made the concepts more clear, and allowed me to analyze the music at an entirely different level.

I was pleasantly surprised by the performers, two of which are my professors, and the reaction from the audience. Sometimes when the audience is expected to respond to the performance there is a dull silence that accompanies every "Questions" break, but this was not the case. It was interesting to hear the musicians answer the audiences' questions about how they

played and how their techniques alter the sound of the instrument they are playing, or change the mood of the music. I felt like the song selection really showcased a couple of key styles of jazz music that we have talked about in class.

All in all I really enjoyed the concert, even if it was at 9 in the morning. Waking up to the improvised sound of jazz was a great start to the day. It will be interesting the next time we have an in-class jazz concert and compare how well every plays together and how different the sound will be. It's funny to think that I will never hear the music that was played being performed the same way ever again. I guess that's the beauty of jazz: it is constantly changing and can never be recreated.

Ultimately, this experience was a great way to see live example of the concepts learned in class. It was especially interesting to see that the foundation of jazz is all in improvisation. As Adrian described it, every solo is like a story. When a new soloist starts to play, it is like a new story begins. The musician's ability to come together as a band that has never played together, yet sound as if they had performed as one band countless times before, really demonstrated that Jazz is truly a language. Like a conversation, you don't plan what you are going to say, you just wait to see what happens, and go with the flow.

I loved having the opportunity to see this live performance and look forward to being able to experience more. It truly provides a hands-on opportunity to gain a true understanding of the coursework. I think I can speak for many of us when I say this use of the Instructionally Related Activity funds is definitely appreciated by the students and we welcome more of it.

The concert was a success among the audience, and having never attended a live performance of a Jazz band before I thoroughly enjoyed the performance of the band. I do not consider myself any kind of music expert and do not have any musical background as some of my

classmates might possess but they was the band played together and sync and rhythm i don't think I can find anything better. It was a perfect start to a Monday morning and they week and hope that I get to attend many of these concerts in the future.

Overall, this performance opened up my mind about other kinds of music. Mostly, jazz, of course. It was invigorating in a sense, mainly because I have not been exposed to much jazz in my life. Before this concert, I had always considered jazz “old people” music and never gave it an honest chance. Watching each musician play with so much passion and energy gave me a reason to give this genre of music another chance to win me over. If given the opportunity, I would attend another one of these performances.

Overall, the jazz concert presented was a good example of how Instructionally Related Activity funds should be used. Within the case of jazz, an art form that is performed with such emotion, I think it is beneficial to witness its performances in person and not just continuously from a computer. I am now looking forward to attending jazz concerts in the near future.

Overall, I feel that this concert was excellent for a survey course where learning of all jazz styles simultaneously was beneficial and seeing the concepts that we discuss in a real world setting as opposed to on documentaries, videos and in recordings. I would recommend this concert to all of my peers if it were to occur again.

I think jazz is fun to listen to, but very hard to hear what all the instruments are doing. The concert was great because I can visually see all the things that I could not distinguish or hear.