

Instructional Related Activities
Report Form

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| SPONSOR | DEPARTMENT |
| Steven Marsh | P.A. - Music |
| ACTIVITY TITLE | DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY |
| Jazz Performance/Clinician Series | March 10, 2014 |

PLEASE EXPLAIN (1) DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

THIS EVENT BROUGHT TOGETHER DR. MURPHY'S "BEATLES" CLASS WITH MY "JAZZ IN AMERICA" CLASS FOR A CONCERT OF JAZZ-FLAVORED TRANSFORMATIONS OF BEATLES TUNES. MY IRA FUNDS WERE USED TO BRING UP A PROFESSIONAL DRUMMER AND A PRO BASSIST FROM LOS ANGELES TO PLAY FOR OUR STUDENTS. DR. MURPHY AND MYSELF ALSO PERFORMED WITH THE ENSEMBLE, AND EACH OF US WROTE A NEW MUSICAL ARRANGEMENT OF A CLASSIC BEATLES TUNE. WE HAD 100 CHAIRS SET OUT FOR THIS EVENT, AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED UP WITH STUDENTS LISTENERS. THE CONCERT WAS HELD IN MALIBU HALL #100.

JAZZ Meets the BEATLES MON, MAR 10
1:30 - 2:45 pm.
Malibu Hall #100

This concert will feature jazzy, creative, improvisational takes on classic Beatles tunes.

GUITARIST/COMPOSER GRANT GEISSMAN is a popular Contemporary Jazz artist who has recorded 14 highly regarded solo albums. As a studio guitarist, he has recorded with Quincy Jones, Burt Bacharach and Elvis Costello, Chuck Mangione, Brian Wilson, Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band, Ringo Starr, and Placido Domingo.

PAUL KRISTAN is an established drummer and songwriter in Los Angeles. He has recorded for Universal (Leatherheads, Public Enemies), Disney (Cowbells, Garfield Gets Real, Garfield, Fun Fest, Casper the Ghost), film composer Christopher Young (Wonder Boys) as well as on numerous jingles.

MARK HARRIS plays bass with the band Venice. Their double CD What Summer Brings showcases Mark as bassist and songwriter. With Venice, Mark has performed with Jackson Browne, David Crosby, Dave Mason, Michael MacDonald, and Styx. Mark has over 25 years of experience as a private music instructor.

Also performing will be CSUCI's very own Dr. Paul Murphy on guitar, and Professor Steven Marsh on saxophone.


INSTRUCTIONALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES CHANNEL ISLANDS

(2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S):

THIS CONCERT DEMONSTRATED HOW SONGS FROM THE POP MUSIC WORLD CAN BE ADAPTED TO BECOME VEHICLES FOR JAZZ MUSIC INTERPRETATIONS AND IMPROVISATIONS. WE SHOWED THE BEATLES CLASS HOW THAT THE BEATLES' SONGS ARE RICH ENOUGH WITH MUSICAL CONTENT, SO THAT THE TUNES CAN BE REINVENTED WITH A JAZZ MUSIC FLAVOR. BY SHOWCASING THE ELECTRIC GUITAR AND ELECTRIC BASS, AND PROVIDING SOME OF OUR SONG SELECTIONS WITH ROCK BEATS, WE DEMONSTRATED TO THE JAZZ IN AMERICA CLASS SOME EXAMPLES OF JAZZ-ROCK FUSION MUSIC, A TREND THAT BEGAN IN THE LATE-1960'S AND CONTINUES TO THIS DAY. THE STUDY OF THE JAZZ-ROCK FUSION MOVEMENT IS PART OF OUR CURRICULUM, SO THIS WAS A GREAT WAY TO DEMONSTRATE THIS TYPE OF MUSIC IN PERSON TO OUR STUDENTS. FOR STUDENTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA, MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS CLASS, MUSIC THEORY CLASS, AND OTHER COURSE OFFERINGS, THESE LIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCES BY LOS ANGELES BASED PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS PROVIDED GREAT IN-PERSON EXAMPLES OF PROFESSIONAL CALIBER MUSICIANSHIP, SIGHT READING SKILLS, IMPROVISATION, AND GROUP DYNAMICS AND INTERPLAY AMONG BAND MEMBERS. MY CLASS ALSO WAS GIVEN A WRITING ASSIGNMENT ABOUT THIS CONCERT, WHICH HELPS TO PROMOTE OUR "WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM" IDEALS ON CAMPUS.

(CONTINUED)

AND (3) WHAT YOU LEARNED FROM THE PROCESS:

THERE WERE MANY POSITIVE OUTCOMES FROM THIS CONCERT. THE STUDENTS RESPONDED VERY ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO THE PERFORMANCES. I DID LEARN THAT THE ACOUSTICS IN MALIBU #100 ARE NOT IDEAL FOR SUCH A PERFORMANCE. BUT OUR OPTIONS FOR CONCERT VENUES ARE FAIRLY LIMITED ON CAMPUS. I ALSO LEARNED THAT WHILE SOME OF OUR STUDENTS ARE QUITE FAMILIAR WITH THE MUSIC OF THE BEATLES, OTHERS HAVE HAD ZERO EXPOSURE TO THAT MUSIC, AND WE MUST FAMILIARIZE THEM WITH THE ORIGINAL BEATLES TRACKS BEFORE PERFORMING VARIATIONS OF THOSE SONGS.

WE HAVE NOT PERFECTED A WAY TO OBTAIN A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF QUALTRICS SURVEY RESPONSES FOR THESE IRA CONCERTS. EVEN THOUGH WE HAD OVER 100 ATTENDEES, VERY FEW STUDENTS BOTHERED TO COMPLETE THE ONLINE SURVEY. BUT I HAVE ATTACHED SOME STUDENT COMMENTS FROM MY CLASS'S WRITING ASSIGNMENT THAT WAS CONNECTED TO THIS EVENT.

STUDENT COMMENTS FROM JAZZ IN AMERICA WRITING ASSIGNMENTS (EXCERPTS):

Overall this concert was great experience for me. The live concerts have been giving myself a better understanding of jazz and all it has to offer.

Jazz Meets The Beatles was a lovely and creative concert held at school. It featured Steven Marsh on saxophone, Paul Murphy on guitar, Grant Geissman on guitar, Paul Kristen on drums, and Mark Harris on bass. The performance revolved around the integration of jazz elements into The Beatles music. Some songs were more loosely based off of the original songs, and some songs followed the original notes more closely. These songs were much longer than the originals because of the nature of jazz music. I enjoyed both varieties of songs performed, as they were all done very well and professionally.

On Monday, March 9, I saw an astounding performance done in Malibu Hall. It was a jazz concert presented by two professors at our school along with three outside musicians. The theme of the concert was Beatles songs but it was very special because they arranged the original Beatles songs as jazz songs. I was very lucky to get to see these great musicians play live on stage less than twenty feet from me. Unfortunately, the concert was only an hour and a half so we only got to hear five songs. I could have listened to them for a few more hours because the concert was so good. I really enjoy seeing concerts on the CSUCI campus and I especially enjoy seeing them when my own professor plays in them. I can't wait for the next concert!

Aside from learning about the musicians' talents and background, we were given a wonderful overall performance of five total songs. All in all, this was a delightful performance that introduced me to a style of jazz that I have never really known before. It combined many of my favorite elements from jazz and blues, which I now understand to be termed as "jazz fusion." In the main, I recognized much improvisation throughout the entire show and the songs were drawn out arrangements of original Beatles tunes that included many recognizable sounds and musical licks.

Overall the concert was very fun and rocking. I feel that I will have a better understanding of jazz fusion going into the next chapter. Furthermore the concert was quite educational. I didn't know jazz takes on Beatles tunes are performed quite often. Also it was cool to learn that jazz had a big influence on rock music and the Beatles in particular. In conclusion, it was a great performance. We learned some things and got to hear some great instrumental takes on some of the Beatles' greatest tracks.

I liked the reciprocal aspect of the relationship between jazz and The Beatles. The musicians also spoke on why they chose the songs they arranged. The most common answer was that the song seemed to have a lot of potential for manipulation and flexibility to be transformed into a jazz song. Overall, this concert was very interesting to me because I love jazz and The Beatles.

I think that mixing the Beatles with jazz was a very good concert, because I like both rock and roll and jazz. Marsh's saxophone related to the vocalist, who would have

normally been on stage, and I thought that was really interesting to watch.

On March 10, 2014 there was a concert “Jazz Meets the Beatles” held in Malibu Hall. This concert was a mixture of jazz and pop music from the Beatles. There were amazing musicians who each put their own spin on classic Beatles tunes while implementing jazz techniques. Amazing artists joined the professors Dr. Paul Murphy and Steven Marsh. This concert was beneficial for many people such as myself, who did not know that jazz concepts were incorporated into many types of music like pop.

One band in particular that I can always remember listening to, from as young as age 3, was The Beatles. Of course, it’s almost unheard of to not be able recognize this iconic rock and roll band. So in learning that we were going to get to attend a concert, for free, that included some of my absolute favorite songs, the anticipation was a little too much to bear.

I loved that when we got to the concert hall, the band was still practicing. It gave it a garage band performance feel, an intimate concert for us cool people. Then knowing that two of the members were professors here at CSUCI, made a pretty big impression.

All in all, this concert was loud, exciting, and something I would definitely enjoy watching again. There are so many different songs written and performed by The Beatles that you could have multiple concerts without ever having to play the same songs. It would be fun to be able to see what other arrangements could be created with those iconic songs. Thank you for bringing such an inspirational and informational concert to us!

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

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