

# 28th Annual Jazzfest

UW-Eau Claire • 1995

**UW-Eau Claire Jazz Ensemble I**  
**Robert Baca, Director**

**Pre-Concerts by:**  
**Hornheads**

**UWEC Combo - The Home Boppin' Network**

**Festival Honor Jazz Ensembles**

**GUEST ARTISTS/CLINICIANS:**  
**Sammy Nestico**  
**Geoff Keezer**

**Friday & Saturday, March 24 & 25, 1995**  
**Zorn Arena**  
**University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1995  
PROGRAM**

**Pre-Concert  
Hornheads**

**WELCOME**

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Jazz Ensemble I  
Robert Baca, Director

La Niña Nueva  
Tribute to Louie  
We Be Jammin'

Matt Harris  
Rich Matteson  
Frank Foster

**Honor College Combo**

**GEOFF KEEZER**

Lelanni's Mirror  
Small Ensemble - Selection to be announced  
Walkin'

Geoff Keezer  
arr. Geoff Keezer

**Honor College Big Band**

**SAMMY NESTICO**

Pleasin'  
A Walk in the Park  
Theme

Sammy Nestico  
Sammy Nestico  
Sammy Nestico

**PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Concluding Selection will feature Adjudicators, Clinicians, and  
the UW-Eau Claire Jazz Ensemble I.

Oleo

Sonny Rollins



**SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1995  
PROGRAM**

**Pre-Concert**

**UW-Eau Claire Jazz Combo - Home Boppin' Network**

**WELCOME**

**University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Jazz Ensemble I**  
**Robert Baca, Director**

**La Niña Nueva**  
**Tribute to Louie**  
**We Be Jammin'**

**Matt Harris**  
**Rich Matteson**  
**Frank Foster**

**Honor Junior High School Band**  
**Honor High School Big Band - Class D**  
**Honor High School Big Band - Class C**  
**Honor High School Combo**

**GEOFF KEEZER**

**Lelanni's Mirror**  
**Small Ensemble - Selection to be announced**  
**Walkin'**

**Geoff Keezer**  
**arr. Geoff Keezer**

**Honor High School Big Band - Class B**  
**Honor High School Big Band - Class A**  
**Honor High School Big Band - Class AA**

**SAMMY NESTICO**

**Pleasin'**  
**A Walk in the Park**  
**Theme**

**Sammy Nestico**  
**Sammy Nestico**  
**Sammy Nestico**

**PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

**Concluding Selection will feature Adjudicators, Clinicians, and  
the UW-Eau Claire Jazz Ensemble I.**

**Oleo**

**Sonny Rollins**

## PARTICIPATING BANDS

### COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY BIG BANDS

Augustana	UM-Duluth
Bemidji State	UM-Moorhead
Gustavus Adolphus	UW-Stout
North Dakota State University	UW-Superior
Northern Illinois - Jazz II	

### COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY COMBOS

North Dakota State University	UW-Eau Claire
UM-Duluth I	UW-Superior
UM-Duluth II	

### HIGH SCHOOL - Class A

Austin	Menomonie
Burlington	Merrill
Cudahy	Oconomowoc
Eau Claire Memorial - Jazz II	Owatonna
Farmington	Sibley, Minn.
Kettle Moraine	Sun Prairie - Jazz II
LaCrosse Central - Jazz I	White Bear Lake, Minn.
Marquette University	

### HIGH SCHOOL - Class AA

Eau Claire Memorial	North Central, Ind.
Eau Claire North - Jazz I	Perry Meridian, Ind.
Eden Prairie, Minn.	Racine Case
Goodrich-Fond du lac	S.P.A.S.H.
Hartland-Arrowhead	Sun Prairie - Jazz I
Mounds View - Jazz Won	

### HIGH SCHOOL - Class B

Ashwaubenon	LaCrosse Logan - Jazz II
Chippewa Falls	Monona Grove
De Pere	New Richmond
Eau Claire Memorial - Jazz III	Oconomowoc
Fort Atkinson	Shawano
Hortonville	Waseca, Minn.
Hudson	Westosha Central-Salem
LaCrosse Central - Jazz II	



## PARTICIPATING BANDS

### HIGH SCHOOL - Class C

---

Amery	Lake City
Ashland	Merrill - Jazz II
Brussels Southern Door	Monona Grove - Jazz II
Denmark	New Richmond - Jazz II
De Pere - Jazz II	Richland Center
Eau Claire Memorial - Jazz 9	Whitewater
Fort Atkinson - Jazz II	

### HIGH SCHOOL - Class D

---

Colfax	Marshfield Columbus
Eleva-Strum	Oakfield
Ellsworth	Stratford
Fall Creek	Two Harbors
Janesville JWP	Waterloo, Iowa

### HIGH SCHOOL COMBOS

---

Ashwaubenon	Greendale
Burlington	Hartland-Arrowhead
Chippewa Falls	Marquette University H.S.
Denmark	Marshfield
De Pere	New Richmond M.S.
Eau Claire Memorial	Onalaska
Eau Claire North	S.P.A.S.H.
Ellsworth	St. Louis Park, Minn.

### HIGH SCHOOL - NON-COMPETITIVE

---

Aitkin, Minn.	LaCrosse Central
Blooming Prairie, Minn.	Marathon
Eau Claire North - Jazz II	Marquette
Eau Claire North - Jazz III	Sauk Centre, Minn.
Eau Claire North - Jazz IV	Shawano
Hudson	St. Louis Park, Minn.
Kettle-Moraine - Jazz II	White Bear Lake, Minn.

### JUNIOR HIGH ENSEMBLES

---

Apple Valley, Minn.	New Richmond
Chippewa Falls	Shorewood
Elk Mound	Stratford
Ellsworth	Theisen-Fond du lac
Fillmore Central	Valley
Hudson	



## GUEST ARTISTS

**Sammy Nestico** is considered to be one of the most prolific composer arrangers in the country today. He has arranged and conducted albums for Bing Crosby, Sarah Vaughn, Frank Sinatra, Pia Zadora, and many others. Nestico has been the composer arranger for the Count Basie Orchestra and has directed the recording of ten albums of original music, four of which have received Grammy awards. His first job was as director and arranger for the Airmen of Note and later was the composer for the White House Orchestra. In all, Nestico has co-written 63 albums for Capitol Records. In addition to this, he has also been extremely successful orchestrating for major film studios such as 20th Century Fox, Universal, Paramount, Warner Brothers, MGM, and Columbia. Numerous television credits can be added to his list of accomplishments. He also has several hundred published compositions/arrangements for educational circles, making him a household name from elementary to university levels.

**Geoff Keezer**, at only 22 years of age, is setting the standard for modern jazz piano styles. *Jazziz Magazine* notes that he is "arguably the most consistently electrifying and original young pianist of them all . . ." At the young age of 18, Keezer was already performing with Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers. This Eau Claire native has gone on to perform with such jazz artists as Benny Golson, Gerry Mulligan, Steve Nelson, Jon Faddis, Roy Hargrove, and Craig Handy. He also performed George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" with the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra in Los Angeles. In the past five years, he has recorded five CD's as a leader and eight more as a sideman. Currently, he is a pianist for The Art Farmer Quintet and a charter member of the Contemporary Piano Ensemble featuring James Williams, Mulgrew Miller, Harold Mabern, and himself.

The Twin Cities based quintet, **Hornheads**, is made up of Michael B. Nelson, trombone/horn arranger; Dave Jensen, trumpet; Kathy Jensen, saxophone; Steve Strand, trumpet; and Ken Holmen, saxophone. From 1991-94 members of the Hornheads were part of Prince and the NPG, performing for over 2 million concert goers in more than 15 countries. While associated with Paisley Park, they toured Japan, Australia and Europe in 1992 and the United States and Europe in 1993; they were involved in the Prince recordings "Symbol," "Greatest Hits," and "Gold," recordings by Tevin Campbell, Mavis Staples, Rosie Gaines, NPG and Carmen Electra. Prior to working with Prince, the Hornheads freelanced individually as top session and show players, performing and recording with Janet Jackson, James Brown, Dizzy Gillespie, Tony Bennett, Gladys Knight, Doc Severinson, Michael Bolton, Sammy Davis Jr., Karyn White, the Temptations, Celine Dion, and many others.



**Home Boppin' Network** is the hottest jazz to hit the Chippewa Valley in a long, long time. The group originally began as a university jazz combo, providing the players with an outlet for playing in a small group setting. Since their modest beginnings, HBN has become a serious performing group, having built a reputation through University appearances, including the Cabin, the UWEC Varsity Show, the Hunger Project Benefit Concert and the annual UWEC JazzFest. Currently HBN plays every Tuesday night at the Stone's Throw in downtown Eau Claire.

The breadth of talent showcased by HBN runs deep. Trumpet player James Simmons has performed in the UW-Eau Claire's Jazz Ensemble I, and has played at Disney World in Orlando, Florida, as well as Valley Fair in Shakopee, Minnesota. Saxist Jason Gillette, also a Jazz I veteran, spent his summer performing at Disneyland in Anaheim, California. Young guitarist Eric Kindstrom is in his first year at UWEC and has made a name for himself as an accomplished jazz player. His exposure in Jazz I has put him in constant demand as a small group player. Bass sensation Scott Pingle is not only first call bass player in Eau Claire, but he is also a frequent performer in Madison and Milwaukee. Drummer Andy Algire is a versatile and thoughtful musician and instructor, playing in a number of local and regional groups including the Foundation and World Burning. When he's not performing, Andy is the Drum Instructor for Schmitt Music Center as well as a member of the instructional staff at the Indianhead Arts Center in Shell Lake.

**Little Big Band** was formed by a group of musicians at jam sessions in the Spring of 1993. The group is made up of Chris Bates, bass; J.T. Bates, drums; Doug Little, alto saxophone; Mark Miller, trombone; Nate Shaw, piano; and Mark Sutton, trumpet. Inspired by past and present ensembles led by jazz masters like Horace Silver, Miles Davis and Anthony Cox, the Little Big Band began striving to form its own group sound. Initially, the band reworked other people's songs, and soon moved on to performing compositions written by members. Far from alienating audiences, fans requested those originals and word about the innovative new group from Minneapolis spread.



## **UW-EAU CLAIRE FACULTY**

**Robert Baca** is Associate Professor of Trumpet and Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, teaches Jazz Improvisation, Jazz History and directs the first and third Jazz Ensembles. He received his Bachelor of Music Education as well as his Masters of Music from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. His prolific work as a performer has given him the opportunity to play for some of the greatest performers, and has sent him around the world. Highlights of his career include performing with Frank Sinatra, Buddy Rich, Tony Bennett, Andy Williams and the Jazz Ensemble of the People's Republic of China. Mr. Baca has also performed with the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, the Milwaukee Symphony and the Costa Rica National Symphony Orchestra. He is also a frequent performer at the Ordway Music Theatre in St. Paul. In the past four years, Mr. Baca has been the director for honors jazz ensembles in Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. In addition to his teaching and performing obligations, Mr. Baca is the president of the Wisconsin chapter of the International Association of Jazz Educators (IAJE).

**Ron Keezer** is an Associate Professor of Music, Director of Percussion Studies, and is the conductor of the Percussion Ensemble, Marimba Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble II at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. As a composer, adjudicator, clinician, and author of a number of articles for a variety of music periodicals, Mr. Keezer is widely known throughout the country as a premiere educator and performer. Mr. Keezer is the president of the Wisconsin chapter of the Percussive Arts Society, a faculty member of the Indianhead Center for the Arts in Shell Lake, Wisconsin, and a clinician/artist for the Ludwig Drum Company.

## **UW-EAU CLAIRE JAZZ ENSEMBLE I**

The award winning University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Jazz Ensemble I has been recognized as one of the premiere jazz ensembles in the Midwest region. During the last five years, the ensemble has toured throughout Europe and the Pacific Rim. Travels have included performances at the Montreux Jazz Festival, the Graz International Music Festival and at a number of locations within the People's Republic of China. Jazz I's most recent travels took them to London just two weeks ago. Closer to home, the group has made special appearances at numerous conferences. Jazz Ensemble I has two CD's to their credit, and both have met with critical acclaim from across the country.



Following are reviews of the second Jazz I CD, Jazz in Clear Water, (In Transit), released in October 1994.

This edition of the band is one of the finest college bands that I have heard in many years. The ensemble has a wonderful, polished sound and its own distinctive personality. It is a highly disciplined unit that swings like mad. The individual sections are outstanding and the soloists are well-schooled, gifted and thoroughly professional. The charts being played are interesting, well-written, uniformly exciting and cover a wide spectrum of styles.

David Baker - Composer, Performer, Jazz Educator  
Director of Jazz Studies, Indiana University

I am tremendously impressed with the maturity and musicality (particularly) of the ensemble work on the CD. I could write three or four pages of laudatory analysis of the music on "In Transit." Let's just leave it at the fact that I am pleased to know that this kind of integrity and artistry still exist in jazz education in this country.

Bob Freedman - Arranger, Composer, Producer  
Producer of Wynton Marsalis "Hot House Flowers" Album  
Former Faculty Member, Berklee College of Music in Boston

WOW! I can't believe where things have come . . . Also impressed by how equitably the "wealth is shared" in solo and feature opportunities . . . you've got it down!

Fred Sturm - Director of Jazz Studies  
Eastman School of Music

After hearing this fine collection of big band material, I can only shake my head in amazement at the skill, energy, and enthusiasm that the students bring to this music.

Ted Pease - Composer, Performer, Jazz Educator  
Berklee School of Music

### Jazz Ensemble I Personnel

**Robert Baca, Director**

#### Saxophones

Jason Gillette, Alto  
Tom Luer, Alto  
Clay Pufahl, Tenor  
Ryan Lehman, Tenor  
Chris Gumz, Baritone

#### Trumpets

Jeremy Miloszewicz  
Matt Mealey  
Tim Hoffman  
James Simmons  
Kyle Newmaster

#### Trombones

Jeff Ilse  
Adam Bever  
Eric Songer  
Matt Franko  
Tim Roddel

#### Rhythm Section

Jason Craft, Piano  
Derek Machan, Piano  
Eric Kindstrom, Guitar  
Scott Pingel, Bass  
Aaron Doty, Bass  
Andy Algire, Drums  
R. James Andrews, Drums  
Tony Mazzone, Drums

## ***Thank You***

Special thanks to the UW-Eau Claire chapter of IAJE which began a year ago and now supplies the student staff for the Jazz Festival.

### ***Sight reading music provided by:***

Hal Leonard Music  
Kendor Music  
Barnhouse Music

### ***Scholarships provided by:***

The International Association of Jazz Educators  
Indianhead Arts Center at Shell Lake  
Birch Creek Music Camp

### ***Special thanks to:***

Eau Claire North High School  
Eau Claire Memorial High School  
Dixie Duffey

We also wish to thank the members of IAJE, MENC, Phi Mu Alpha, ECCNAMTS, Sigma Alpha Iota, and the students, faculty, administrative and custodial staff of the UW-Eau Claire Department of Music who without their help the smooth running of this festival would not be possible.

### ***JazzFest Committee:***

Robert Baca, Chairman  
Ron Keezer, Assistant Chairman  
Wendy Montgomery  
SAI Sorority, Official Tabulator

### ***Student Staff:***

Eric Songer, Student Festival Coordinator  
Tim Hoffman, Student Festival Coordinator  
Karen Andraschko, Service Manager  
Tammy Riste, Volunteer Coordinator  
Todd Schendel, Operations Manager  
Dave Fehr, Sound Technician  
Mary Jo Falkofske, Transportation Coordinator