

September 9, 2013

Dear Instrumental Music Teacher,

I hope this letter finds you well and in good spirits. I find it hard to believe that it is almost mid-September. I sincerely hope that those of you that are immersed in marching band are not too weary of drill charts, field paint, and long rangers.

We at Fort Lewis College are looking forward to an outstanding year. We have seen a boon in enrollment numbers and our ensembles are off to terrific starts. FLC has several outstanding events on the horizon that we hope you and your students may take advantage of. The world-famous Canadian Brass will be in residency on campus October 1-2, culminating with a performance at our Community Concert Hall on the evening of October 2nd. Internationally sought composer Julie Giroux is the guest for FLC's annual Select Band Festival February 7-8, 2014 along with Dr. Andrew Trachsel of Ohio University and Elizabeth Elliott from Piedra Vista High School in Farmington, NM. The selection process is slightly different than in years past. Only the top ensemble will require a taped audition be submitted via e-mail or snail mail. Selection in the other high school and middle school groups will be by director recommendation. If a student submits a recording for inclusion in the top high school group and is not selected for that ensemble, they will automatically be considered for other bands. It is our hope that this will challenge advanced students, while giving the less developed a chance to participate in this wonderful event.

Other happenings that you will receive information at a later date include our bi-annual Day of Percussion, which will feature percussionist Ted Atkatz and take place on March 1, 2014; the annual FLC Jazz Festival with jazz bassist Christian McBride on March 6, 2014; and several faculty and student performances. If you plan on attending the Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, the Fort Lewis College Concert Band will be performing on Thursday January 23, 2014.

I wish you and your students continued passion and success in the art of music making, and hope our paths cross very soon!

Musically yours,



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