
HCC Jazz Festival is next weekend

The 21st annual Holyoke Community College Jazz Festival opens Friday, March 9, with a concert featuring renowned musician and composer Jeff Holmes as the festival's guest artist, playing drums, piano and trumpet with the Amherst Jazz Orchestra under the direction of David Sporny.

Holmes' wife, jazz vocalist Dawning Holmes, will join performers on stage for the Friday night concert.

The two-day festival of musical workshops and performances begins at 8 p.m. in the Leslie Phillips Theater in the HCC Fine and Performing Arts building, on the campus at 303 Homestead Ave.,

Holyoke. Tickets are \$15 for the general public, \$10 for seniors and non-HCC students, and free for HCC students, staff and faculty with a valid ID.

The festival continues on Saturday, March 10, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the Leslie Phillips Theater with big band and jazz combo performances by high school and HCC jazz students. Jazz clinics, workshops and jam sessions will be held throughout the day in the HCC Recital Hall, FPA Building, Room 137.

Holmes will conduct two music clinics, one at 11 a.m. and another at 1 p.m.

A concluding concert will be held in the theater Saturday from 4 to 5 p.m.

This will feature Holmes performing with a select combo of students representing each of the participating high schools, HCC students and festival faculty.

All Saturday events are free and open to the public. Individuals who wish to participate in workshops will be charged a nominal registration fee.

Also on Saturday, Gerry's Music in South Hadley will have a display booth showcasing instruments, music and accessories.

For more information, contact Robert Ferrier at 413-552-2480 or rferrier@hcc.edu.
