



News Release

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WESTERN'S DAVID BENNETT FEATURED IN NOONTIME SERIES

St. Joseph, Mo. —Jan. 2, 2003 —David W. Bennett, professor of music at Missouri

Western State College, will be presented in recital Jan. 9 as part of the First Thursday Downtown Noon Concerts at First Presbyterian Church, 7th and Jules, from 12:10 to approximately 12:45 p.m. The audience is invited to bring lunch, and beverages will be provided. The series is presented by the church in cooperation with the Western department of music.

The program will include two sonatas by Domenico Scarlatti, two preludes and fugues by the fictitious P.D.Q. Bach (a product of Peter Schickele), the preludes in b minor and e-flat major by Sergei Rachmaninoff, the "Three Novelettes" of François Poulenc and Felix Mendelssohn's "Variations serieuses."

Bennett is a native of Detroit, and has been a member of the Western music faculty since 1982. He holds degrees from Albion College, Ball State University and the University of Iowa, and has studied piano with Anthony Taffs, Pia Sebastiani, Pauline Lindsay, Kenneth Amada, John Simms and Jerry L. Anderson.

His chamber music performances have involved members of the Western faculty and members of the Kansas City Symphony. Other responsibilities in the department of music

include serving as musical director for musical theatre productions, most recently "Man of La Mancha," and as director of the performing group Western Legacies. In addition, Bennett serves as director of Western's Honors Program. Last summer he was the recipient of the Mayor's Outstanding Arts Educator Award.

In order to help defray expenses and to insure the continuation of the series, a free will offering will be taken. The suggested minimum donation is two dollars. Additional financial assistance has been provided by the Missouri Arts Council and Commerce Bank of St. Joseph. For further information, contact Jerry L Anderson at anderson@mwsc.edu or 233-4368.

Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.

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