



News Release

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“EXPERIENCE WESTERN! DISCOVER THE TREASURE” INCLUDES GREAT ENTERTAINMENT

St. Joseph, Mo. —March 21, 2005—An outstanding array of free entertainment will add fun and variety to “Experience Western! Discover the Treasure” April 9 at Missouri Western State College.

Western’s Steel Drum Band, Western’s Jazz Ensemble and Western’s Chamber Singers all will be performing, along with the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

Members of Sigma Kappa chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity at Western will demonstrate their “Step Show,” a combination of a skit, dancing and stepping on the Fulkerson Center stage. The show is performed by four members of the fraternity, and each routine lasts about 10 minutes. Show times are 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

The Steel Drum Band, under the direction of Dr. Dennis Rogers, will entertain in the lounge area of the first floor of the Nelle Blum Student Union at 11:30 a.m. and 12:40 p.m. Each show is 50 minutes. Dr. Rogers is a professor of music at Western and director of percussion studies. The band features “pan drums” and singers, and many of their numbers have a “Caribbean” flavor.

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Page 2 – Experience Western Entertainment

Also appearing in the Student Union first-floor lounge area will be the Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Bob Long, for one 30-minute performance at 2:15 p.m. There are 19 members, playing brass instruments, drums, piano and guitar. The ensemble has performed at the Mobile (Alabama) Jazz Festival, the Elmhurst Jazz Festival in the Chicago area and the Wichita Jazz Festival.

The Chamber Singers, directed by David Benz and appearing on the Fulkerson Center stage, have been featured at many community events. The group has toured England and seven European countries. They will present two 20-minute performances, at 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.

“These student groups are outstanding,” commented Kristy Hill, director of public relations and marketing for Western, and coordinator of “Experience Western!” “Their performances are very entertaining, and their talent will astound you.”

Western Institute’s Center for Culture and Arts is sponsoring voice students, who will perform a “Broadway Review” on the Fulkerson Center stage. They will give one 15-minute performance at 1 p.m.

For more information, call 816-271-5651 or visit the website at www.mwsc.edu/experiencewestern.

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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.