



News Release

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RENOWNED DRUMMER OFFERS MASTER CLASS AT WESTERN

St. Joseph, Mo. —Aug. 4, 2006—Prior to the 8:30 p.m. performance of the Dave Weckl Band at Trails West! Aug. 18, jazz drummer Dave Weckl will present a master class at 1 p.m. in Thompson E. Potter Hall theater at Missouri Western State University. The class, sponsored by the Allied Arts Council and Western, is free and open to the community.

“He’s an amazingly talented drummer,” said Mark Elting, an instructor in the recording arts program at Western who helped coordinate the class. “Everyone can learn something from him.” Elting noted that the class would be beneficial to all musicians, not just drummers, and to musicians of all ages. He especially encouraged band directors and music teachers to attend.

Born in St. Louis, Weckl has been a mainstay on the jazz and pop scene since his New York City days performing with Simon and Garfunkel, Peabo Bryson, George Benson, Madonna, Robert Plant and Diana Ross. In 1985 he was asked to join legendary keyboardist Chick Corea in the Elektric and Akoustic Bands; Weckl stayed seven years, earning a Grammy award along the way. *Modern Drummer* inducted him into their Hall of Fame and named him one of the 25 best drummers of all time.

As a solo artist, Weckl has recorded and produced 10 albums, and the Dave Weckl Band, which was formed in 1998, has released five studio records. He has also produced instructional DVDs and play-along packages.

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