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OUACHITA
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NEWS

For immediate release

Ouachita to present joint concert featuring Ouachita Sounds and Jazz Band Feb. 28

By Katie Smith

Feb. 20, 2017

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at newsbureau@obu.edu or (870) 245-5208

ARKADELPHIA, Ark.—Ouachita Baptist University's Department of Music will present a joint concert featuring Ouachita Sounds vocal ensemble and the OBU Jazz Band on Tuesday, Feb. 28. The concert will be held at 8 p.m. in Jones Performing Arts Center. Admission is free and open to the public.

The Jazz Band will perform "Come Out Swinging" by Larry Neeck, "Smooth" by Rob Thomas and Itaal Shur, "Don't You Worry 'Bout a Thing" by Stevie Wonder and "The Best of Sly and the Family Stone" by Silvester Stewart. The Jazz Band will also perform two songs by Sting, "Wrapped Around Your Finger" and "Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic." Ouachita's Jazz Band, which includes 22 student musicians, is directed by Dr. Craig Hamilton, OBU's Lena Goodwin Trimble Professor of Music and director of bands.

Soloists Micah Brooks, a sophomore musical theatre major from Rockwall, Texas, and Clay Mobley, a freshman music business major from Wylie, Texas, will perform Norman Gimbel's and Pablo Beltran Ruiz's "Sway" with the Jazz Band. The Jazz Band also will perform "God Bless the Child" by Arthur Herzog, Jr. and Billie Holiday accompanied by Kayla Walker, a senior musical theatre major from North Little Rock, Ark. Aaden Jones, a senior musical theatre major from Little Rock, Ark., will sing Stevie Wonder's "You Are the Sunshine of My Life" with the Jazz Band.

All members of Ouachita Sounds will perform with the Jazz Band for two numbers. They will perform the *GLEE* arrangement of Freddie Mercury's "Somebody to Love" and "My Shot," a song from Lin-Manuel Miranda's *Hamilton*.

Ouachita Sounds also will perform five other songs, including Kristen Anderson-Lopez's and Robert Lopez's "Let It Go," John Mayer's "Waitin' on the World to Change," Edwin Hawkins' "Oh Happy Day," James Huey's "When I Think about the Lord" and Victor Young's and Edward Heyman's "When I Fall in Love."

"My favorite song is 'My Shot' from *Hamilton*," said Kayla Walker, a singer in Ouachita Sounds and a senior musical theatre major from North Little Rock, Ark. "It's a super fun song, we all get into it and the band just sounds amazing on it!"

Performing together allows the two groups to explore a wide range of music styles and allows the members of both groups to perform in a different concert atmosphere from their typical performances.

"We will be performing a big variety of music, from jazz standards to pop a cappella to contemporary music theatre numbers," said David Stanley, director of Ouachita Sounds and instructor of music. "There will be a little something for everyone."

"I think the audience will enjoy the pieces that Jazz Band and Sounds do together," Walker noted. "It really does feel like a professional concert when you have a full band behind you."

“You get a dose of big band jazz, a cappella voices and then a smooth combination of the two worlds,” said Blake Turner, a junior music major from Forth Worth, Texas, and first chair trumpet in the Jazz Band. “This concert has a lot to offer, and I’m really excited for it.”

For more information, contact Dr. Craig Hamilton at hamiltonc@obu.edu or (870) 245-5137, or contact David Stanley at stanleyd@obu.edu or (870) 245-4160.

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FULL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AND PHOTO OF JAZZ BAND AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD
AT <https://www.obu.edu/news/2017/02/20/ouachita-present-joint-concert-featuring-ouachita-sounds-jazz-band-feb-28/>.