

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

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LANSING SYMPHONY BIG BAND TO PERFORM AT PATTENGILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

March 11, 2009 – Lansing, MI – The Lansing Symphony Big Band will swing into Lansing's **Pattengill Middle School** for its second concert of the 2008/2009 Season on **Sunday, March 22, 2009 at 3 p.m.** Famous for its authentic performances of classic tunes from the '20s, '30s and '40s, the Lansing Symphony Big Band is a guaranteed crowd pleaser that will leave you tapping your toes and humming along.

The Lansing Symphony Big Band is made up of 16 professional musicians from the Lansing area, led by Director John Dale Smith. Stepping in for this performance is Guest Director Jeff Kressler, who will also play piano.



Jazz and Big Band standards on the program include: “Blue Skies,” “Embraceable You,” “Ain’t Misbehavin’,” “The Lady is a Tramp,” “Mack the Knife” and more! You’ll hear tunes from Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, Johnny Mercer, Duke Ellington, and even Billy Joel. **Tickets for Lansing Symphony Big Band concerts are \$15 for Adults and \$7 for Students, available online at www.lansingsymphony.org or by calling (517) 487-5001.**

Pattengill Middle School is located at 626 Marshall St. in Lansing, on the corner of Saginaw and Marshall. Tickets purchased for the original Dart Auditorium location will be honored at the door.



Under the direction of John Dale Smith, the Lansing Symphony Big Band made its debut in the spring of 2001 at Jambalaya's in Laingsburg. The Big Band features musicians of the Lansing Symphony as well as other respected performers from throughout the state. It has been featured at several Jazz Fests in Lansing's Old Town and also performed at a 4th of July Celebration in Oldsmobile Park before an audience of 6,000. The Band's repertoire includes famous tunes written by composers such as Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Cole Porter and George Gershwin.

Director John Dale Smith has been involved with a variety of productions throughout the mid-Michigan area. As pianist and music director for the BoarsHead Theater, he was involved in the productions of *No Way to Treat a Lady*, *The All Night Strut*, and *The People vs. Friar Laurence*, *The Man Who Killed Romeo and Juliet*. Smith received a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from Bowling Green State University and a Master's degree in Piano Performance from Michigan State University. He is currently co-leader of J & J Sounds and head of the John Dale Quintet. He retired from Lansing Community College as Director of Communications and College Events, and now serves as Director of Music at Plymouth Congregational Church in Lansing. In addition, Smith is Executive Director for Lansing's BoarsHead Theater.

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra was established in 1929 and will soon celebrate its 80th season. More than 20,000 people attend LSO concerts each year, and more than 50,000 listeners are able to hear broadcasts of the orchestra's performances by NPR affiliate WKAR-FM Radio. The Symphony's highly acclaimed education programs reach 15,000 students in kindergarten through 12th grade in five counties.

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