



Friday, October 1, 2004

## October means Octubafest at OU

The deep booming sound and impressive size of the instruments in the tuba family demand attention, especially in the month of October when universities all over the country participate in the monthlong festival called Octubafest. Oakland University's **Department of Music, Theatre and Dance** is presenting their second annual Octubafest and audiences are expected to be bigger than ever, especially for the popular finale, the SPOOKTUBA Concert and Costume Party.

SPOOKTUBA is a rousing evening of Halloween music and fun where audiences of all ages come in costume, compete for prizes and even get to trick-or-treat with the musicians handing out the goodies. The Oakland University Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble performs the musical portion of the evening and a \$5 suggested donation will be accepted to benefit the music program.

Octubafest was the brainchild of Harvey Phillips, former tuba and euphonium professor at Indiana University, as a way to raise awareness of the tuba family of instruments, especially the euphonium, which many people think of as a baritone horn. It is actually a tenor tuba with a sound that is one octave higher than a traditional contra bass tuba.

"The reaction of most audiences is one of surprise that these instruments are as agile and capable as they are," said Associate Professor of Music Kenneth Kroesche. "The performance level is high and that is something the audience reacts to."

The euphonium recital Saturday, Oct. 2, by Kroesche, who is a low brass specialist, will feature pieces written specifically for the euphonium as well as transcriptions from Vivaldi and Leonard Bernstein.

The tuba and euphonium recital by OU students on Thursday, Oct. 14, will feature a movement from the Vaughan Williams Concerto. This was the first significant concerto written specifically for the tuba.

Special guest artist Casie Forbes, one of the few rising female tuba soloists, is holding a recital on Thursday, Oct. 21. Forbes, who is a former student of Kroesche, will feature a piece by Robert Schumann from the Romantic period.

All Octubafest events are free and held in Varner Recital Hall.

For more information, contact the Varner Box Office from noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Friday by calling (248) 370-3013 or e-mail [mtd@oakland.edu](mailto:mtd@oakland.edu).

### Octubafest Schedule:

- Oct. 2 at 8 p.m. — Kenneth Kroesche Euphonium Recital with Diane Helfers Petrella on piano
- Oct. 14 at 8 p.m. — Tuba and Euphonium Studio Recital by Oakland University students
- Oct. 21 at 8 p.m. — Tuba Recital by Guest Artist Casie Forbes with Lois Kaarre on piano
- Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. — SPOOKTUBA Concert and Costume Party with the OU Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble.

#### SUMMARY

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