

Musical nirvana: Boston Brass "Fanfares" to feature Palm Beach State professor's original composition

(Lake Worth, Fla. – Dec. 13, 2011) When the Boston Brass takes the stage at Palm Beach State College's Duncan Theatre on Jan. 14, the first notes they play will be from a composition written by Professor David Gible, who submitted the piece as part of the quintet's 25th anniversary "Fanfares" project. It will be the first time he will hear a piece of music he composed being played by an internationally renowned professional brass quintet.

The Boston Brass is on a nationwide tour celebrating its 25th anniversary as a group. To commemorate the milestone, the quintet has invited musicians and composers from across the country to submit an original musical composition. The goal of the "Fanfares" project is to have 25 original works written for Boston Brass, each of which will be premiered by the group at the venue most associated with that composer.

Gible titled his fanfare, a piece just under two minutes long, "Duncan Celebration," in honor of the Duncan Theatre's silver anniversary. He drew inspiration for the piece from the music of composer, conductor and pianist John Williams, who has written the theme music for countless Hollywood movies, including "Star Wars," "Jaws," and "Schindler's List."

As a classical trumpeter as well as an accomplished jazz musician, Gible has an ear writing for brass players, knowing what each instrument can do and how it will sound when played. But Gible found writing the fanfare--he spent over a month composing the music--took him out of his "comfort zone."



"This piece is very different than the music I've composed in the past. Most of my writing is for a jazz ensemble, where the composition is played by 17 musicians rather than the 5 involved in a quintet," he said. "I wanted this fanfare to sound very optimistic, very positive. You want to make it fairly easy for the musicians to play but at the same time make it flashy and showy enough to be a fanfare. It's the musical equivalent of a short story."

Gibble has been teaching music at the College for 17 years and hopes that once "Duncan Celebration" is played by an internationally renowned quintet, in a venue where he has conducted student musicians in concert, it will eventually be published.

Gibble will be in the audience to hear his work come to fruition. "When you hear a piece of music you've composed played for the first time, it's a head rush," said Gibble. "I've never had a group of this caliber play a piece of music I've composed for brass quintet."

Serving more than 51,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing bachelor's degrees, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida's first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

Editor's Note: High resolution images are available for this story. Please contact the College Relations and Marketing specialist below for more information.

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