Zéphyros Quintet breezes through Wintergarden

by Andrea Bolton staff writer

As the melodies of a tune by August Klughardt echoed off the walls of the Reed Wintergarden, the Zéphyros Quintet opened their performance as part of Music at Noon: The Logan Wintergarden Series. They breezed in for their audience of students, faculty. members, and community elementary school students on Wednesday, February 7, with a variety of music.

able to maintain a hectic schedule of concerts around the nation. The performance at Behrend was the last leg of a two-week tour that had the group in Ohio, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.

The Zéphyros Quintet has recently performed in Chautauqua, Boston, New York City at Merkin Concert Hall and Alice Tully Hall, and West Palm Beach at the Kravis Center. They have performed at the Norfolk Festival as guests to the New York Wind Quintet, and have been featured live on radio broadcasts for NPR and



PHOTO BY BECKY WEINDORI

The Zéphyros Quintet performed for the Behrend community as part of Music at Noon: The Logan Wintergarden Series on Wednesday, February 7.

As the audience listened, the Quintet played a myriad of tunes from three composers: August Klughardt, Jean Francaix, and Paquito D'Rivera. They captured their audience's attention with their dramatic combinations of flute, oboe. clarinet, bassoon, and horn.

While in Erie, the itinerary of the Zéphyros Quintet consisted of two performances at Diehl Elementary School on Tuesday, February 6, a presentation for the Music Appreciation class here at Behrend, and the performance at noon on Wednesday, February 7, in the Reed Wintergarden.

The Zéphyros Quintet, formed in 1994, has claimed fame as one of the country's leading young wind quintet. The Quintet, composed of graduates of The Curtis Institute of Music and The Julliard School, is

WNYC's "Around New York."

The group has two main focuses in their mission. They not only enjoy performing but also desire to educate students of all ages about music. Patrick A. Pridemore, the horn player for the group, said that the reason they place such a strong emphasis on educating students about music is because the students are "the musicians of the future." He said that one of their goals is gearing their music program toward students in order to inspire them to take part in music.

Pridemore also said that the reason that the Zéphyros Quintet accepted the invitation to play at Behrend is because the school is so focused on technical and scientific majors and they feel Behrend is lacking in fine and performing arts. Pridemore adds that their performance at Behrend serves as an educational tool and "exposes the students to things other than just reading books."

The Logan Series began eleven years ago and is supported through generous gifts from the Harry A. Logan, Jr. Foundation. Kay Logan, a local music teacher who had the desire to expose general students to the music field, is keeping her late husband's spirit alive through the Harry A. Logan, Jr. Foundation. Mrs. Logan married into the wealth of Harry Logan's family, and after he passed away, she became committed to carrying out her husband's dream in exposing and educating students in the fine and performing arts.

Mrs. Logan and Mr. Marty Merkeley, vice president and director of programming at the Chautauqua Institute, invite the musicians that participate in the Logan Wintergarden Series. Dr. Daniel Barnard, lecturer in music and director of the Logan Series and the Behrend College Choir, feels that the Logan Series is a blessing to Behrend. Behrend has the opportunity to open its doors to world-class musicians quite a few times a year. He says that the audiences that show up to Music at Noon are "a very eclectic mix of individuals." The audience members range from Behrend students, to members of the Erie community, and students from Diehl Elementary School.

Dr. Barnard feels that there is definitely potential for the Logan Series to become a permanent part of Behrend. He says that he has a "full teaching schedule and not enough time" to give the needed attention to this series. He believes that Behrend needs a specific faculty member to be working on the series full time. He also said that in order for this series to become a permanent part of Behrend, it needs funding. If something were to happen to the funds from the Harry A. Logan, Jr. Foundation, the series would be over. Dr. Barnard says that we need to find either more individuals to financially support the series, or seek money through an endowment for the arts so that the series may continue well into the future.



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