

STUDENT LIFE

Eclectic musicians make up Smith Concert Series

By Lauren Weaver
staff writer

The next installment of the Smith Concert Series will take place on November 5 at 3 p.m. A piano inauguration will be performed by five artists, two couples and an additional player, all from the local area who comprise the group 88 Keys, 4 Hands, 2 Voices. In this extraordinary feat, two musicians will be at the piano at all times and for certain pieces, two musicians will be singing as well. Kelly Shrout, Coordinator of Community Service and the Smith Chapel, says of the upcoming performance, "It's a little different, rather than having a typical solo performance. It will be a little more interesting I think."

The next performance in the Smith Music Series will be on February 6, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. It will feature another complex-sounding act called Four Organs, Ten Feet, Fifty Fingers, a performance co-sponsored by the Erie Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The final performance, April 15, 2007 at 3 p.m., is a harpsichord recital performed by Allan Slovenkay. The entire concert series will be performed by local musicians and is free to the public.

Shrout feels that these performances are a way to showcase the instruments at Smith Chapel. Many students and faculty at Behrend seem unaware of all that the Chapel has to offer and its international recognition. She said, "The acoustics are just so fantastic for music; people are willing to bring instruments in so students can hear them."

Shrout emphasizes the instruments by describing them as "top drawer, the best of the best." The organ, for one, was built by world-renowned pipe

organ craftsman Martin Ott, native of Göttingen, Germany. Ott comes from three generations of organ builders, and personally oversaw the installation and voicing of the Opus 100, designed specifically for the acoustics of the Chapel.

"Adding this organ brings the Smith Chapel to a glorious completion. The beautifully designed building, the forty-eight bells of the Carillon, and the organ make this a wonderful and inspiring place," Shrout said.

Upon viewing the organ, anyone would agree on its beauty. The hand inlaid panel on the front, the pull-stops written in German and its 1,200 pipes are unique on campus.

Another special attribute of the Chapel is the 48-bell carillon. In the summer spectators come from around the area toting their lawn chairs and lunches to sit in the grass and enjoy the wondrous music. Shrout recommends to any students that are in the area over the summer to attend the Carillon Concert Series. This year they're looking at bringing in a member of the International Carillonists from Japan to play the carillon, which isn't so unusual because," Shrout says, "the carillon is a fabulous instrument. People come from various countries to play these bells. They visit the U.S. and one way for them to see the States is to perform."

For more information regarding the 2006-07 Smith Chapel Concert Series, the Carillon Concerts or the Smith Chapel, contact Kelly Shrout at (814) 898-6609 or e-mail her at kaw128@psu.edu.

Mini-THON raises money, cancer awareness

By Alexis McKnight
staff writer

Behrend's second annual Mini-THON will take place on November 11 at 3 p.m. Held this year in the Junker Center, the event is a slimmed-down version of University Park's THON dance marathon.

At University Park, a huge 48-hour dance marathon is hosted by the largest student run charity there, THON. Over the past 30 years, they have raised over \$40 million for children with cancer.

Adopting this event, Behrend is preparing to hold its second 24-hour dance marathon, where yes, there is *no* dancing! It is an event to make you stand on your feet for a whole 24 hours. Allison Palermo, an SGA representative, stated, "The point of this fundraiser is to represent an ounce of pain these cancer kids suffer everyday." Don't worry, you won't be tortured and starved. There will be snacks and drinks provided at the event, and even chances to win "sit-down" time. Also, there will be plenty of bathroom breaks.

In order to participate, a \$50 fee is required. There are many ways to obtain the money to cover

this fee, whether it be by fundraising, getting donations or sponsoring a club member. This is a great opportunity for clubs and organizations because it may count towards community service, can give your club a chance to shine and advertise, and will also provide many more participants.

As stated earlier, this "dance" marathon has everything but dancing. There will be plenty of fun activities such as dodgeball, giant twister, versions of *Jeopardy* and *Deal or No Deal* and many others. Winners will receive prizes like restaurant certificates or 15 minute "sit-down" breaks. Also, towards the end of the Mini-THON, there will be a relaxing foot massage for each contestant. That should definitely feel good after standing on your feet for 24 hours.

If you would like to participate or want to learn more about this fundraiser, pick up a packet at the Reed Union Building's Information Desk. Also, you can contact Kathleen Vanderkolk, THON's director, at kev116@psu.edu.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Mini-THON takes place next weekend.

Oscar's already buzzing his bee

By Joshua Lane
contributing writer

It's not a secret in Hollywood that movie studios save their best films for the end of the year. It's a way for them to make sure that their movie is still fresh in people's minds when the Academy Awards roll around. The 79th annual Academy Awards will take place February 25, 2007, and here are two movies that are already generating Oscar buzz.

The Departed: Martin Scorsese doesn't know how to make a bad crime drama. *Goodfellas*, *Mean Streets*, and *Casino* are just a few films on his résumé. This movie will join the others as being one of his best. The film is about two moles; one is an undercover cop, played by Leonardo DiCaprio, who goes into the heart of Boston's organized crime world to take down their leader, played by Jack Nicholson. At the same time Nicholson's adopted son, played by Matt Damon, becomes a cop so he can keep his dad out of trouble by tipping him off when the police are on his trail.

This is only scratching the surface of how deep the movie goes. The acting is impressive, and the

view Scorsese gives of Boston wouldn't exactly make it into a tourist pamphlet. It's the best film of the year so far, and it's going to be tough to beat. Look for it to be nominated for Best Director, and Best Picture, but don't be surprised if there aren't a few Best Actor nods as well.

Flags of Our Fathers: Clint Eastwood has been the recent king of the Academy Awards, with *Million Dollar Baby* and *Mystic River* both getting their share of statues. This year's *Flags of Our Fathers* is a WWII story about the lives of three soldiers who were in the iconic photograph of the raising of the flag in Iwo Jima. Eastwood shows us again that he is one of the best American directors today, and one of the best story tellers. The acting is superb, with a cast including Ryan Phillippe, who gives the best performance of his career, but it's

Adam Beach who really stands out. You may know him as the Navajo translator from *Windtalkers*, but he hasn't been in much else. Look for him to get nominated for Best Supporting Actor, and the film to get nominated for Best Picture.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Beach stars in *Flags of Our Fathers*.

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—Wondering in Nashville

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