

WEST SHORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# CULTURAL ARTS

*Series*

2005-2006





## *Welcome*

At West Shore Community College we are proud of our cultural arts tradition. For many years, we have provided our region with high quality entertainment and community theater and music opportunities for our rich reservoir of local talent. We also believe that, through the arts, we play a role in enriching the quality of life and elevating the spirit of our beautiful region.

We provide the Cultural Arts Series as a co-curricular activity; that is, it is a teaching and learning opportunity for faculty and students, as well as a community service activity.

It takes strong community support to maintain a vibrant artist series anywhere in America. We are, therefore, most thankful for the loyal support of you, our patrons.

So, welcome, sit back, relax, and enjoy the show.

Very truly yours,



Charles T. Dillon  
President

WEST SHORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CULTURAL ARTS

*Series*

Edgar Struble  
& FRIENDS

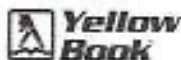
# HOLIDAY

December 17 (7 & 9 PM)

Center Stage Theater

West Shore  
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WEST SHORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CULTURAL ARTS

*Series*

Edgar Struble  
& FRIENDS

HOLIDAY

December 17 (7 & 9 PM)  
Center Stage Theater

West Shore Community College's Cultural Arts Series welcomes home for the holidays one of West Michigan's favorite musical sons with "*Edgar Struble and Friends Holiday Concert*."

"You just can't craft a finer musical evening than Edgar and his talented musician friends provide and I can't think of a finer way to get into the holiday spirit," said Dr. Rick Plummer, WSCC Professor of Theater and Director of Cultural Arts. Dolly Patron says that Edgar Struble is "one of the best musical directors and instrumentalists I have worked with." From his office in Burbank, California Struble says, "I love to do live shows, and I'm especially excited to be performing in West Michigan. There's no place like home!"

Edgar Struble is a successful composer, arranger, conductor, producer, multi-instrumentalist, vocalist and recording artist. Edgar and two other professional musician Scottville expatriates—Brian Burwell and Luke Rangel—just provided music for the American Music Awards, broadcast recently on ABC Television. He has plied his artistry with some of the brightest stars in show business. He is a true "music man" and a much sought after musical director for network television and movies.

Struble was an integral part of the Kenny Rogers phenomenon from 1976 to 1991. He toured the world with Rogers in his role as conductor, arranger, instrumentalist and vocalist. It was during this time that he also worked extensively with Rogers' touring partner, Dolly Parton. As Rogers' musical

director, he arranged for and conducted the Tonight Show Orchestra, as well as Rogers' "Summer Pops Concerts" at the helm of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Other arranging clients included Al Hirt, Dottie West, The Oak Ridge Boys, Lynda Carter, Leon Russell, and Ray Charles.

Working closely with Roger's manager, Ken Kragen, Struble was responsible for the musical content of many Kenny Rogers television specials, including the ABC special, "Kenny Rogers Classic Weekend," the NBC special, "Kenny, Dolly & Willie: Something Inside So Strong," and the CBS special, "Kenny Rogers: Keep Christmas With You."

It was the Rogers/Kragen connection which led to his participation as composer and/or musical director for many other projects including the CBS special, "A Day in the Life of Country Music," the CBS movie "Rio Diablo," and the CBS four hour miniseries, "Gambler V." The Kragen association also led to his role as music supervisor, composer, and music editor for the CBS movie "Big Dreams and Broken Hearts: The Dottie West Story," starring Michele Lee.

In 1991, marriage and family convinced Struble to leave the road. He settled in Nashville, where he commuted to Los Angeles and other cities where his talents were needed. In Music City he was much in demand as evidenced by some of his more visible assignments; musical director for the Nashville Network's series, "The Oak Ridge Boys Live From Las Vegas," musical director for "Company's Coming," another TNN special starring Dolly Parton, Vince Gill, and saluting the legendary Porter Wagoner. He also served as musical director for TNN's flagship program, "Prime Time Country," a five day a week effort in which he also appeared as an on-camera personality and a featured performer.

A 1999 move to Los Angeles brought Struble continued success in the TV and film business. He was called to supervise the filming of a musical scene in "The Huntley," a TBS movie starring Donald Sutherland. His recent composing credits include Dick Clark's "Your Big Break" and "Good" series, "Challenge of the Child Geniuses," "This is Your Chance of a Lifetime" and "The First Family's Holiday Gift to America" for FOX, as well as several documentary specials for TLC, A&E, and The History Channel.

Struble has produced recordings for Al Hirt, Michele Lee, the late Bobby Hatfield (of the Righteous Brothers who died recently on November 5, 2003), and for the comedian Gallagher's Showtime TV Specials.

Since his days as front man for many regionally popular rhythm & blues bands, Struble retains his zeal for live entertaining. An accomplished and highly versatile vocalist and instrumentalist, he plays acoustic and electronic keyboards, trombone, harmonica, percussion and guitar. Struble performs regularly in Los Angeles and other locales. His live concert, "Edgar Struble and Friends," a vibrant mixture of jazz and rhythm & blues, is a popular event in Struble's home state of Michigan.

Struble's most recent album, "No Rough Edges," is a mixture of smooth jazz and pop that displays his talent as a songwriter, vocalist, and instrumentalist. Prior to that, he released "Piano Country," a collection of top country hits performed on acoustic piano.

Struble's latest project, *The Leatherboot*, expanded his musical vision still further, when he was commissioned to capture the sounds and emotions of Morocco. More specifically, *The Leatherboot* underscores the uniquely Moroccan event, the Marathon de Sable, the most grueling, isolating and majestic marathon in the world crossing the most barren and daunting of all deserts, the Sahara.

Struble provided the underscore for video vignettes of the race, combining Berber tribal music, audio bites from the race itself, and his own poignant original score. "It is like no other music that I've composed," said Struble. "I juxtaposed the exotic sounds of Berber tribesmen singing and playing their native instruments and my score. The result is pretty interesting—haunting at times, prayer-like at others."

At home with his wife, Lauri, and their daughters, Bethany, Sarah, Hannah, and Rachel, Struble finds time to pursue lifelong interests in antiques, woodworking, gardening, and aviation.

Struble is a certified Private Pilot with memberships in Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), and Experimental Aircraft Association (FAA). Struble's professional memberships include: American Federation of Musicians (AFM); American Federation of Television & Recording Artists (AFTRA); The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (ATAS); and ASCAP.

The other artists performing with Edgar this weekend include:

**CHRIS BICKLEY, SAXOPHONE, FLUTE, KEYBOARDS.** Chris is an educator and clinician, as well as a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy. He was Director of Jazz at both Northwestern Michigan College and Central Michigan University. Chris has three recordings to his credit, including *Gonna Fly Now*, *"Swingin' at the Heaven,"* and *"Catch 38."* His performances include the 1988 Montreux International Jazz Festival in Montreux, Switzerland, the *"Jazz Cavalcade"* concert at Carnegie Hall in New York City in 1989, and the 1991 North Sea Jazz Festival at The Hague, Netherlands. Chris also toured with Kenny Rogers *"Home for the Holidays"* from 1994-1996. His television appearances include: CBS *"Big Dreams & Broken Hearts: The Dottie West Story,"* Dick Clark's *"Prime Time Country."*

Chris also performed with Herbie Hancock, John McLaughlin, Billy Cobham, Jon Faddis, Louie Belson, Chico Freeman, Bill Watrous, Richie Cole, Woody Herman's Thundering Herd, and more. His show performances include: Bob Hope, Mel Tormé, Marvin Hamlisch, Phyllis Diller, Peter Marshall, Jerry VanDyke, and more.

**RON JOHNSON, ALTO SAX & KEYBOARDS.** Ron was raised in Scottville, about two blocks from the Struble family home. Ron and Edgar enjoyed the benefits of the rich musical community going on in Scottville in those days—a world peopled by Stansells, Ericksons, Listings, and so many more extraordinary musicians and personalities, not to mention the renowned MCC band program and the Clown Band. Edgar went off to conquer the

world, but Ron stayed home and became a musical weekend warrior, having played jazz and rock & roll with about everybody in West Michigan, including Joespring, Cactus, the Boomers, and a thirty year stint as lead alto in the General Assembly. Ron played the Struble Holiday concerts in 1977, 1978, 1980, 1984, 1991, 1993, 1998, 2001 and 2003. Ron holds a BA from Michigan State University and Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan.

**REGINA LEIGH, VOCALIST.** Regina Leigh, a Marshville, North Carolina native, was there when a routine drive with her mother provided an indication of the future. "I was standing up in the car seat with my mama," Leigh remembers, "*Delta Dawn*" came on the radio and I just started singing. Mama couldn't believe I knew that song and that I was listening that closely. Of course, I'm sure I didn't have all the words right!"

Regina sang in church, and was singing in a country band at the age of 13. "My first gig was at Mineral Springs Music Barn," she recalls with a smile. "I made \$17 that night." The band began playing at area festivals. That same year she made her first record, "*Ha! The World Gave Crazy*," for Lamon Records, a label owned by a regional country act, the Moody Brothers.

Beginning at 14, she had a dance studio, where she taught clogging lessons for the next 11 years. At 15, she was singing in nightclubs and traveled to Nashville to be backed by Kenny Rogers' band on "*I Never Liked Waltzes 'Til Now*," a single released on the independent Roundhouse Records, which charted nationally.

While still in North Carolina, Regina won a developmental deal with a major Nashville label, but nothing was released. However, industry veteran Bobby Roberts was impressed enough with Leigh's work to recommend her for a job singing with the national country act, Dave & Sugar. After five years in the trio, she left to spend almost three years as one of Reba's background vocalists.

In 1996 while working as a staff background singer on TNN's Prime Time Country, Leigh landed a record deal with singing partner Regina Nicks on Giant Records. They toured the United States until September 1998 when Regina Nicks gave birth to her daughter. Leigh then spent the next two years as a background singer with legendary performer Engelbert Humperdinck.

"Singing has always been a huge part of my life. God blessed me with a talent, and I hope in some small way I can touch others with the wonderful blessings and opportunities He's allowed me."

**TOM LOCKWOOD, BASS.** After starting on clarinet in the fifth grade, Lockwood studied sax, flute and bass, and also arranged for and directed his high school's jazz, pep, and show bands. After two years at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, he finished two music degrees from Western Michigan University, studying with Trent Kynaston. At this time, he began working with some of the best jazz musicians in the Midwest, and performing in concerts and shows with everyone from David Liebman to Engelbert Humperdinck. In addition, he has diverse teaching experience, including teaching college courses and ensembles while at WMU. The jazz group he co-leads with pianist Steve

Talaga and saxophonist/trumpeter Rob Smith, Mind's Eye, has performed at the Montreux International, Ford/Detroit, Flint/King Cobra, Third Coast (Fremont, MI) and Lansing (MI) jazz festivals, and has just released its fourth CD, *Children of the Glacier*. Lockwood currently teaches at Hillsdale (MI) College, Cornerstone University (Grand Rapids, MI) and Kellogg Community College (Battle Creek, MI).

**SARAH & HANNAH STRUBLE, PERFORMERS.** The girls are in 3rd and 4th grades respectively, and they attend Peachland Elementary in Newhall, CA. They have both participated in local theatrical and musical productions.

**PHIL TARCON, GUITARIST.** In the 1980s Phil worked as a guitarist in Los Angeles playing on all types of recordings such as ad jingles and television and motion picture soundtracks. Other accomplishments during this time include composing, recording and performing as a member of the pop/rock band A.I.T.

Phil's academic background includes jazz and classical guitar studies at college and with numerable well known guitarists at Musicians Institute. A guitar instructor at Northwestern Michigan College (Traverse City), since 1992, Phil is currently a full time freelance guitarist in a variety of musical settings in Michigan and throughout the Midwest.

**JON WERT, DRUMMER, PERCUSSIONIST,** recently graduated from Western Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in music. In high school he studied music at the well-known Interlochen Arts Academy. At WMU Jon played in the internationally acclaimed jazz ensembles, Gold Company and the WMU Jazz Orchestra. He has performed with Bobby McFerrin, Randy Brecker, Jim McNeely, Slide Hampton, and Shawn "Thunder" Wallace, among others. He currently gigs and records extensively in West Michigan with such bands as the Hip Pocket, the AP Quintet, the Johnaye Kendrick Quartet, Rhetoric, and other diverse jazz and fusion groups.

**WILLIE SINGLETON, TRUMPET.** Willie Singleton, professionally known as Sweet Willie, is a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. During an eight year tour of duty in the Navy, Willie served as duty bugler at Arlington Cemetery for a year during the Vietnam War and as lead trumpet in the Admiral's Band. He also participated in the funerals of President John F. Kennedy and General Douglas MacArthur.

Following an honorable discharge, Willie pursued a degree in music from Southern University in Baton Rouge. During his college career, he received a National Endowment for the Arts Student Travel Grant to study with Clark Terry. After earning his Bachelor of Music degree in jazz studies with Trumpet concentration, Willie joined the Duke Ellington Orchestra and played lead trumpet with the orchestra for three years.

Following his years with the Ellington Orchestra, Willie played lead trumpet in numerous other bands, including the Count Basie Band, the Al Hirt Band, the Al Belleretto Big Band, the Clark Terry Big Band, the Blue Room

Orchestra, the Jimmy Noon Orchestra, the Kidd Johnson Orchestra, the Buddy Boudreaux Big Band, the Dave Bartholomew Big Band, the Herb Tassin Big Band, the Scandinavian Start Ship Band. He has played all the clubs, both large and small, on Bourbon Street in New Orleans, and played with the bands on the Steamboats that travel the Mississippi River. He lived in Paris for six months, playing lead trumpeter in the show, *Black and Blue*. He continues to tour with the Louisiana Repertory Jazz Ensemble, playing with symphony orchestras across the country—Boston Philharmonic, Princeton, Youngstown, OH, Indianapolis, Grand Rapids, MI, Delaware, Toledo, Richmond, IN. The Ensemble also has played for the Bay Chamber Concert Series in Maine, for the January Series at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, for the Little Rock (AR) Jazz Festival, for the Brevard Music Camp, and for the New York and Minnesota Chautauquas. During the 1990s Willie played lead trumpeter with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra under Wynton Marsalis.

Since moving to Grand Rapids in August 1996, he has been guest principal trumpet with the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra for the Lou Rawls, Ben Vereen, Mercedes Ellington, Monica Mancini, Starlight Trio, Capital Quartet, and Frank Sinatra, Jr. Concerts. He has played with many of the musical shows at both Circle Theater in the Park and Civic Theater. He has also formed his own group locally, called Sweet Willie and the Gentlemen of Jazz. The group lays for various events around town, e.g., the Saint Mary's Hospital Gala, the American Diabetes Association Fund Raiser, weddings, funerals, and private parties.

There isn't much in the field of trumpet playing that Willie hasn't done, as can be seen from his resume. In addition to jazz, Willie is classically trained on the trumpet and piano. You should hear him play baroque music; he can make it swing!

## BATTLE of the BANDS

Looking for TEN area Teen Bands\*  
indie and emo riffs,  
death metal, alternative  
rock, acoustic rock, etc.

West Shore Community College  
Saturday, February 4, 7-11 pm  
WSCC Recreational Center  
Gymnasium

**Cash Prizes for  
1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Places!**  
*Bands Are Now Applying!*

Deadline for application:  
**January 20, 2006**

Call or email for entry:  
**231-852-0952**

**[ludingtonrock@gmail.com](mailto:ludingtonrock@gmail.com)**

\*All members under 21 years.  
**DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE EVENT**

# 2005-2006

## WSCC FOUNDATION CULTURAL ARTS FUND DRIVE

\$5,000+

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\$3,000+

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\$300+

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*The Director's Circle members are individuals or couples that support cultural arts at \$500 or more and are invited to participate in unique opportunities.*

## CULTURAL ARTS

*Series* 2005-2006231-845-6211, ext. 3344  
tickets@westshore.edu

## *Come into the circle...*

Dear Friend of the Arts,

The West Shore Community College Cultural Arts Series has provided top quality entertainment and enjoyment to the people of our area, as well as to countless visitors, for over 20 years. Musicians, dancers, actors, comics, and other artists who have performed over the years have made our little corner of the state a more vibrant place to live. The arts give us hope and vision for the future, help us interpret the present, allow us to understand and preserve our past, and enable us to laugh and enjoy our lives to the fullest. I ask you to consider contributing to the future of this terrific series by becoming a member of our Director's Circle.

The Director's Circle honors and recognizes donors who make annual unrestricted gifts of \$500 or more to the Cultural Arts Series. Ticket sales account for less than a third of the series' budget and, as a not-for-profit institution, WSCC relies on the generous support from the community to continue exploring cultural enrichment by bringing you the very best in the performing arts.

Membership in our prized Director's Circle includes a complimentary season ticket, three week advance priority seating for events; first notice of upcoming special events, opportunities to attend selected "Afterglow" gatherings with the artists, participation in an annual event-planning session for next year's season, and an invitation to the annual Dinner Theater Gala for you and your guests.

The gift can be easily pledged in monthly, quarterly or semi annual amounts over the year and goes directly to support the Cultural Arts Series. Significant tax credits and deductions are also available to you.

For more information about the Director's Circle and how you can help ensure the continued success of this valuable arts series, please contact the WSCC Foundation office at 845-6211, extension 3107.

Warm regards,



Rick Plummer, Ph.D.

Professor of Theater and Director of Cultural Arts

Cultural Arts Box Office  
West Shore Community College  
3000 N. 56th Road  
Southville, MI 49454-0777  
800 848 5772, ext. 3344



# Calendar of Events

## SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

JULY 23, 29, 30 (8 PM);  
JULY 24, JULY 31 (3 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## World Famous SCOTTVILLE CLOWN BAND

SEPTEMBER 3 (8 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## MR. "B" (MARK LINCOLN BRAUN)

SEPTEMBER 17 (8 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## YELLOW ROOM GANG

OCTOBER 1 (8 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## FALL POPS CONCERT

OCTOBER 12, 7 PM, FREE ADMISSION!

Center Stage Theater

## Guy Lombardo's ROYAL CANADIANS w/ Al Piersol

OCTOBER 22 (8 PM)

Manistee High School Auditorium

## TARTUFFE- BORN AGAIN

NOVEMBER 4, 5, 11, 12 (8 PM);

NOVEMBER 13 (3 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## CONCERT CHOIR

DECEMBER 4 (3 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## JAZZ/CONCERT BANDS

DECEMBER 7 (7 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## THE COLLEGIATES

DECEMBER 10 (8 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## EDGAR STRUBLE & FRIENDS HOLIDAY

DECEMBER 17 (7 & 9 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## BATTLE OF THE BANDS

FEBRUARY 4 (7-11 PM)

Arena Stage, WSCC Recreation Center Gymnasium

## AIN'T I A WOMAN!

FEBRUARY 17 (8 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## MID-WINTER CONCERT

FEBRUARY 22, 7 PM, FREE ADMISSION!

Center Stage Theater

## NIAMH PARSONS with Graham Dunne

MARCH 4 (8 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## KATHY MATTEA

MARCH 17 (8 PM)

Peterson Auditorium - Ludington

## PETE HUTTLINGER

APRIL 8 (8 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## 'NIGHT, MOTHER

APRIL 20-22 (8 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## JAZZ/CONCERT BANDS

APRIL 26 (7 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## AMERICA 1900, The 1st Decade of a Great Century

Robert Trentham, Tenor & Linda Jones, Pianist

APRIL 29 (8 PM)

Center Stage Theater

## CONCERT CHOIR

MAY 14 (3 PM)

Center Stage Theater

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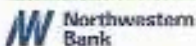


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