

UNLV offers unique music theater program

by Gary Puckett

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas has acquired a great deal of prestige for its sports programs. It may now acquire similar prestige for its new program offering the Master of Fine Arts in Music Theatre. This university is now one of only three schools in this country to offer a similar program.

The program is directed by Dr. Robert Brewer, a former faculty member of the famous Julliard School. Brewer emphasized that this program will use a "conservatory approach." The emphasis is on talent, and applicants to this school must display their talents to be admitted.

Admission to this program is only by audition. This can be done live or by videotape.

"Talent is something indefinable," Brewer said. Applicants are scrutinized extensively. Brewer said that only about six applicants will be accepted per year. So far this year he has received about 50 applications and he said, "It's early yet."

Applicants for the Master of Fine Arts in Music Theatre program must be versatile as well as talented. In addition to having acting and singing abilities, students must demonstrate skills and knowledge in such diverse categories as classical literature, contemporary literature, comedy, tap

dance, voice dialects, acrobatics and circus techniques.

Obviously, people accepted into the program must possess unique and varied abilities. They must also immerse themselves almost entirely into the program.

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Students are only accepted on a full-time basis. The program is of a three-year duration with all courses related and no courses optional.

"It's the one program that cuts across three of the four departments," said Interim Dean of Fine

& Performing Arts Mike McCollum. "It is destined to be the flagship of the programs in our college."

Being located in the "entertainment capital of the world" doesn't hurt the status of this "flagship" either. Students are exposed to some of the great talents in music theatre. Listed in the flyer from the program are Liza Minnelli, Bernadette Peters, Nell Carter and Diana Ross.

According to Brewer, the main emphasis of the program is to pro-

duce "training for a very competitive field." Graduates of the program should be thoroughly prepared to enter the professional world of entertainment.

Students at UNLV, as well as other citizens of Las Vegas, will benefit. A direct result of the program will be more productions in musical theatre and higher quality in these productions. In spite of the already existing fame of this town as an entertainment center, all of us can only profit from the addition of these productions.

The New World Brass Quintet showcases the best of everything

One of Las Vegas' most outstanding chamber ensembles, The New World Brass Quintet, will perform at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 16, in the Artemus Ham Concert Hall as part of the Chamber Music Southwest season.

"The Best of Everything" will showcase the diverse talents of the ensemble and feature works from the standard reper-

toire, original compositions by quintet members Thomas Gause and Walter Blanton and the quintet's own arrangements of J.S. Bach and Theolonius Monk.

Chamber Music Southwest was established in 1976 by the UNLV department of music, in order to bring internationally and nationally acclaimed ensembles and soloists to Las Vegas and to

provide an outlet for musicians from Southern Nevada to perform.

Chamber Music Southwest is funded in part by grants from the Nevada State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and UNLV.

For ticket information, call the Performing Arts Box Office at 739-3801.

It's time for the 25th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade

The Las Vegas Sons of Erin announce their 25th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and Block Party will be held Sunday, March 17, in downtown Las Vegas.

Nevada Gaming Commission Chair John O'Reilly is grand marshal and will kick off the parade at 11 a.m. down Fremont Street. Leading the parade will be John Stafford, lord deputy mayor of Dublin, Ireland.

For the first time since 1972, the Irish official will march the streets of Las Vegas. Joining Mayor Stafford will be the world-famous Dublin Fire Brigade Marching Drill Team, one of more than 150 parade



entries. This year's parade will feature marching bands, colorful floats, Miss Nevada contestants, local dignitaries and many surprises.

Perhaps the most special entry for 1991 will be the Desert Storm Support Group of Nevada. Sons of Erin President Ken Murphy has announced "this year's parade is dedicated to all the U.S. service men and women for their efforts in defending freedom."

For early birds, follow the signs to the brand-new Irish Village, which will open its doors on Fremont and Third Streets at 9 a.m. to host the Irish

Block Party. The village will feature many booths offering traditional corned beef and cabbage and other gourmet delights. Refreshments, souvenirs and live entertainment will be offered throughout the day and evening.

For more information, contact Ken Murphy at 255-4900.

Museums to visit:

American Museum of Historical Documents: 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Wednesday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Thursday-Friday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday; 12-5 p.m., Sunday. 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S. 731-0785.

Guinness World of Records Museum: open daily. 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S. 792-0640.

Imperial Palace Auto Collection: 9:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. daily. 794-3174.

Las Vegas Art Museum: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday; noon-3 p.m., Sunday. Lorenzi Park, 3333 West Washington Ave. 647-4300.

Las Vegas Museum of National History: 384-3466.

Liberace Museum: 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday; 1-5 p.m., Sunday. 1775 East Tropicana Ave. 798-5595.

Lied Discovery Children's Museum: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues-

day-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Thursday, noon-5 p.m., Sunday, 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N. 382-KIDS.

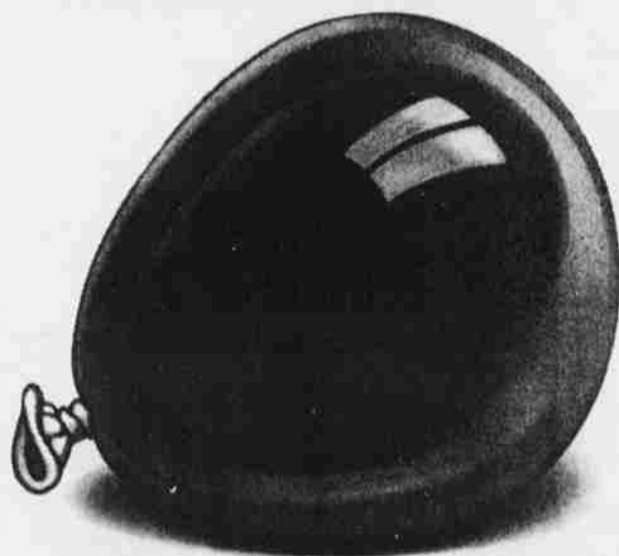
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society: 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday; 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. Lorenzi Park. 486-5205.

Old Las Vegas Fort: 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday and Monday; noon-3 p.m. Sunday. Las Vegas Blvd. N. at Washington (entrance from Cashman Field parking lot B only). 382-7198.

Ripley's Believe It or Not: 9 a.m.-midnight Sunday-Thursday; 9 a.m.-1 a.m. Friday-Saturday. Four Queens Hotel. 385-4011.

Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, UNLV campus. 739-3381.

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