

NEWS RELEASE

Annual Free Christmas Band Concert

Come one, come all! It's time again for a free Christmas band concert for the whole family by the Willamette Valley Concert Band.

The Willamette Valley Concert Band's performance will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, at Linn-Benton Community College's Russell Tripp Performance Center, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, (on Highway 99E) just south of Albany.

The 70-minute performance will feature a wide variety of old and newer Christmas music. The concert will open with a *Festival Fanfare for Christmas* written by James Wasson for the Dallas Winds. The piece features antiphonal brass and is based on *O Come All Ye Faithful* and *Joy to the World*. Also featured will be a beautiful setting of *Away in a Manger* as played by the Manhattan Steamroller Orchestra and a delightful arrangement of *Baby It's Cold Outside* with duo solos for alto saxophone and trumpet and tuba and piccolo.

Other selections will include *Christmas Festival* by Leroy Anderson, *Brazilian Sleigh Ride* by Percy Faith, *March of the Toys* from Victor Herbert's musical *Babes in Toyland* and *Variations on Joy to the World* by James Christensen.

The concert also will feature a collection of traditional carols in the Celtic style entitled *A Celtic Christmas* and the ever-popular *Sleigh Ride* by Leroy Anderson, complete with the sounds of horse hoofs, whip cracks and the famous horse whinny at the end.

Closing the concert will be the traditional audience sing-a-long of *O Come All Ye Faithful*.

Audience members may make a free-will donation at the door to help defray costs of presenting this free concert, which is sponsored by Russell and Duffy Tripp through the LBCC Foundation.

The Willamette Valley Concert Band is a community ensemble based in Albany that was formed in 1970. Its membership includes about 50 musicians ranging in age from teens to senior citizens who live in Benton, Linn, Marion and Polk Counties.

Directors of the band are Dr. Richard Sorenson, emeritus director of bands at WOU, and Christine Barreto, a retired Lebanon music teacher.

For further information go to www.wvcband.org or call 503-838-3474. You can also find the band on Facebook.