



## **PROMINENT MUSICIANS JOIN TEMPLE UNIVERSITY'S JAZZ PROGRAM**

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Terrell Stafford likes to think big. When it comes to building the faculty in the Jazz Studies program at Temple University's Boyer College of Music and Dance, of which he is the director, he draws from a professional rolodex includes some of the biggest names in jazz. Starting this September, Buster Williams (bass), Wycliffe Gordon (trombone), Nick Marchione (trumpet), Elio Villafranca (piano/Latin jazz ensemble), Tim Warfield (sax), Walt Weiskopf (sax) and John Fedchock (trombone) join a faculty roster that already includes Stafford, (trumpet) Dick Oatts (sax) and Bruce Barth (piano), among others.

"As does the entire faculty at Boyer, I just want our students to learn from the best," said Stafford.

"Studying with musicians who perform at venues around the world not only makes students better players, but gives them a realistic perspective on what it's like to be a full time professional musician. It's the 'real world' experience our faculty brings to the table that can be as valuable to students as the one-on-one time in the studio."

Celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> year in 2007, the jazz program at Temple has steadily gained a national and international reputation as one of the best in the country. With numerous ensembles under the leadership of Stafford, Oatts, Greg Kettinger and Dan Monaghan, students can be heard performing at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, Dizzy's Club *Coca-Cola*, the Hague Jazz Festival in Amsterdam, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Mellon/PSFS Jazz Festival, Detroit Jazz Festival and the International Association of Jazz Educators Conference. Artists-in-residence and guest artists have included the Vanguard Orchestra, Slide Hampton, Huston Person, Benny Golson, Clark Terry, Joe Wilder and Frank Wess.

Students have garnered top awards, including the National Trumpet Competition, North American Saxophone Alliance Competition and have been recognized by *Downbeat Magazine*.

Stafford takes advantage of his connections with some of the top names in jazz and takes little credit for the department's reputation for churning out up-and-coming professional musicians. He will always credit students first and leave the business of teaching to the faculty.

"Terrell and I have had a personal and musical friendship for well over two decades." Said Warfield.

"I'm honored to be joining Temple's faculty under his tutelage and look forward to helping students foster their talent and personal musical identity."