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Office of University
Communications

September 11, 2014

Performances During Parents' Weekend Activities to Feature Cole Porter Classics

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – A select group of Gardner-Webb University faculty and friends will present “The Story and Classic Love Songs of Cole Porter” as part of a cabaret entertainment event during GWU’s Parents’ Weekend, with performances scheduled Sept. 19-20 at 7 p.m. and Sept. 21 at 2 p.m. in Gardner-Webb University’s Millennium Theatre (located behind the Communication Studies building). Due to a limited number of seats per show, reservations are required.

Produced by Dr. Joseph Webb, professor of communication studies, the cabaret will feature members of his “Jazz Revue” group, including GWU faculty members Mary Roby, dean of Libraries, and Matt Whitfield, professor of Music, along with community members Jim Sansing, Don Hardin and jazz pianist Phillip Howe, a former Gardner-Webb student.

“In 2013, we did a cabaret program on campus with three performances of the music of George and Ira Gershwin, which was very well-received,” said Webb. “We have since performed shows at other locations in the community and are back with another evening of cabaret, this time with the story and music of Cole Porter, one of a handful of the greatest composers of the 20th century.

Porter (1891-1964) was an American composer and songwriter. Born to a wealthy family in Indiana, he defied the wishes of his domineering grandfather and took up music as a profession. Classically trained, he was drawn towards musical theatre. After a slow start, he began to achieve success in the 1920s, and by the 1930s he was one of the major songwriters for the Broadway musical stage.

Songs featured in the show are “Night and Day,” “In the Still of the Night,” “I’ve Got You Under My Skin,” “Begin the Beguine,” “Love for Sale,” and many others.

Admission to the event includes refreshments. Tickets for Gardner-Webb University students are \$2, while university faculty and staff tickets are \$5. Community tickets are \$10, and youth under the age of 15 will be admitted for \$5. For reservations or more information, call 704-406-4372.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University was founded in 1905 and is home to nearly 5,000 students from 37 states and 21 foreign countries. Gardner-Webb seeks a higher ground in higher education—one that embraces faith and intellectual freedom, balances conviction with compassion, and inspires in students a love of learning, service and leadership.