Music students prepare for concert

Sean Goodwin & Ashly Hernandez, Staff Writers | Posted: Monday, February 12, 2018 3:15 pm

The Department of Music is hosting the fifth annual Songwriting Summit designed to help songwriters improve original works.

Students participating were chosen based on auditions held in January, who will perform at the 15 annual Songwriter Showcase in spring 2018.

Professor Arthur Wine produces both events. The Songwriting Summit will take place at 2 p.m. February 15 in the Music Recital Hall.

“During the master class, there will be two things going on, onstage students will be playing original songs for some of the experts, while other experts are in practice rooms doing one-on-one consultations with other songwriters,” Winer said.

The event provides a unique opportunity for students to receive critique from professionals in a performance environment.

Students of all majors are welcomed and encouraged to attend the summit at no cost.

This event also provides an opportunity for anyone to get a sneak peek at the 15 annual Songwriter Showcase.

“Experts will be sitting in the audience in the front row, while pre-selected students go onstage and play a song, while experts make suggestions” Winer said.

Professionals in attendance will range from young artists, to veteran musicians.

Returning musicians who attended since the first summit will include, Vicki Peterson and Kelly Jones, and new experts like Sonja Midtune will be participating for the first time.

“The nice thing about different experts is they all have different perspectives,” Winer said.

There will be nine musicians in total, including Winer, who will help students hone their songwriting skills.

The goal of the event is to prepare students for their performances at the 15 annual Songwriter Showcase.
and provide advice to those who were not chosen to perform.

“I heard about 50 songs, and I accepted about 20,” Winer said.

The music department is dedicated to making resources available to as many people as possible.

Choosing to condense all master classes down to a single day was a format that proved very useful to everyone involved and allowed for a higher level of participation.

Every year during winter quarter all students, regardless of major, are allowed to audition to participate in the concert.

“If they’re interested in creating songs, then the music department has ways to support that even if you’re not a musical student,” Winer said.

The Music Department fully supports creativity and is available to assist any student who finds solace in music.