Percussion master class, Feb. 2

Christina Berberian, Staff Writer | Posted: Monday, January 29, 2018 12:42 pm

Music lovers are excitedly awaiting an expert percussionist to visit Cal Poly Pomona.

CPP is hosting a Percussion Master Class Friday, Feb. 2.

The master class being held is the Theater Percussion: “Hamilton vs. Old School Broadway” with Bruce Carver.

Bruce Carver is a world-renowned percussionist, and has played in over 80 musical performances.

He has performed in multiple orchestral concerts including the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

His experience with musicals is what has brought him to campus to discuss the musical theater industry.

“We bring people who are renowned in their field to give advice to students from their expertise, and to hear students play and even critique their work,” Music Publicist for CPP Teresa Kelly said.

“It gives students a different perspective to hear from someone other than their professors.”

Kelly explains the music department at CPP does a series of these master classes every quarter, bringing in different experienced musicians to give advice and share their expertise with students.

This master class, ‘Hamilton vs. Old School Broadway,’ is discussing the musical Hamilton.

Carver will be discussing how playing music in productions such as Hamilton is very different today than it was before in classic Broadway musicals.

Hamilton is a Tony Award winning musical on Broadway based on the American Founding Fathers and following the life of Founding Father Alexander Hamilton.

The play, written by Lin-Manuel Miranda, has become a worldwide phenomenon.

“I think the music in theater is very interesting,” fourth-year biology student Michael Ngo who plays piano on his free time said.

Musical theater enthusiasts and percussionists have a lot to learn from this master class.

Percussionists in particular will gain valuable information by listening to what Carver has to say regarding music and about how musical theater has changed over the years.
Hearing details from someone who has already spent years within that field can be vital knowledge when looking for work after graduating.

“Guest speakers can be really beneficial to learn from,” second-year music education student Mariela Gomez said.

Students will gain advice and learn how someone got to where they are today.

They can also find out how the day in the life typically is for someone working in musical theater.

Hamilton has been hard to miss in the news lately.

The soundtrack to the musical has done exceptionally well in the charts.

Hearing about the music from a professional percussionist could be a fascinating experience.

Along with learning how musicals like Hamilton have changed how playing in a musical works.

The percussion master class ‘Hamilton vs. Old School Broadway’ with Bruce Carver will be held 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2 in Building 24, Room 105.