

Ka Lono **Hanakahiki**

"News of People Working Together"

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO

VOLUME 21, NO. 8, APRIL 2006

Catch-up funding/capital improvements top UH Hilo wish list

by Ken Hupp

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo's enrollment growth over the past eight years has impressed many in both political and academic circles. The student population, which has grown by more than 25 percent since 1997, most recently surged to an all-time high in Fall 2005 when enrollment reached 3,431 students.

While UH Hilo's educational quality, individualized instruction and living laboratory all bode well for the future, the University is not without some barriers to continued growth that lawmakers are being asked to address in this year's legislative session. With private initiatives underway to provide more on-campus housing, University officials are hoping to secure additional staff and faculty personnel in the supplemental budget for Fiscal 2007.

University Relations Director Gerald De Mello says UH Hilo's dynamic growth has been all the more impressive since it has occurred without a corresponding increase in staff and specialists. But that has also produced some unintended consequences.

"Take our Student Services section as an example," De Mello said. "Despite the growth in enrollment, we are still operating with the same number of employees who register, advise, counsel and service our students. But now they are responsible for 25 percent more students and expected to maintain the same high quality of service."

The University is also facing challenges in maintaining campus infrastructure due to the recent growth of its physical facilities. After more than 20 years without any new buildings, UH Hilo has added several new structures over the past four years, including the three-story University Classroom Building, the Marine Science Building, and the covered walkway and pavilion. Again, tremendous growth in the size of the campus has not been accompanied by an increase in maintenance personnel.

"The increase in our physical facilities has simply stretched our work

Capital Improvements - continued on page 2.

SPOTLIGHT

Ostertag receives NSF CAREER grant

by John Burnett



Rebecca Ostertag

Young academics face several uphill battles to start their careers. One common struggle, especially for those in the sciences, is competing against established and more experienced scientists for limited grant resources to do research. Another is publishing enough quality

research to impress a tenure committee.

Dr. Rebecca Ostertag, an assistant professor of biology in her fifth year at UH Hilo, received a major leg up on the battlefield with the news of her selection for a Faculty Early Career Development Program award, also known as a CAREER grant, from the National Science Foundation.

"It's very much like a regular NSF grant except that you cannot have tenure when you apply," Ostertag said. "For this grant, the faculty member has to develop a five-year research and education plan -- elaborating on a research theme and how one's research will be linked back to students and educational goals. It's about \$100,000 per year for a five-year period. So it gives young faculty a chance to develop their research and education program, giving them the ability to support technicians, graduate students, undergraduate students, travel, research supplies and equipment."

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Capital Improvements

Continued from page 1

force too thin," De Mello said. "Our maintenance crews are working longer and harder to cover more territory, but there's no getting around the fact that we have got to have more people on the ground in order to maintain health and public safety."

Another major budgetary initiative is start-up money for the establishment of the College of Pharmacy. The \$1.4 million request would fund 12 full-time positions, including the dean and associate dean, faculty and various support positions, equipment and lease payments.

Initiatives for Native Hawaiian students and the Office of International Affairs are also contained in the University's budget request. Funds are being sought to develop a Native Hawaiian Student Center, institutionalize a support services program and consolidate much of the existing Native Hawaiian programs. Such efforts are viewed as important steps toward increasing Native Hawaiian student enrollment, retention and graduation.

The Office of International Affairs would be enhanced through a request to develop an office to expand international student exchange agreements and provide opportunities for faculty and students to engage in international exchanges and study abroad.

Other requests include funding to increase women's athletic opportunities by awarding more scholarships, and boosting salaries for coaches in women's sports consistent with NCAA Title IX requirements. And additional funding is being sought to strengthen initiatives for entrepreneur training and to staff an EEO/AA office.

Heading the list of proposed capital improvements is \$5 million for construction of a new Science and Technology Building. Lawmakers last session appropriated \$20 million for the facility, which has already completed planning and design. The additional money would complete funding for the building and clear the way for construction to begin.

The University is also seeking \$21 million for the addition of a new student services building and renovation of the existing structure. The current building, which formerly housed the Office of the Chancellor and related offices, lacks adequate space to accommodate large groups of prospective students and house the necessary operations to service a rapidly growing student body.

The new facility, already planned and designed, would be located on the embankment abutting the current facility, providing quality office space, confidentiality and space for the University to welcome students in a professionally designed space. More importantly, the building would enable the University to implement a one-stop shop approach to student services.

De Mello envisions the services presently contained in the existing facility being complemented by other services such

as the Business and Parking offices, which would relocate to the new facility.

"You could register, apply for financial aid, pay bills, tuition, parking, etc., with all essential services for students together in a one-stop-shop facility," De Mello said. "This creates a good synergy by making the most efficient use of our facilities."

The University is also seeking \$750,000 again this year to update its long-range development plan. With UH Hilo's enrollment approaching 5,000 as spelled out in its long range strategic plan, officials want to modernize the school's planning blueprint, which will spell out where to add new programs and expand existing ones. The study would replace the existing plan, conducted more than 10 years ago, and prior to the University's rapid growth.

Lawmakers are being asked this session to fund a number of high profile initiatives in the areas of education, school maintenance and repair, energy, affordable housing and tax relief. Despite optimistic revenue forecasts, the legislature will not be able to fund every request. Still, De Mello is cautiously optimistic UH Hilo will do well, once the dust is settled.

"The Big Island delegation of elected officials has been very responsive to UH Hilo's supplemental requests," De Mello explained. "They have worked together as a team to coordinate and collaborate our legislative requests and fully embrace the goal of a comprehensive University for the State of Hawai'i. With a team like that in your corner, you can't help but feel good about your chances." 🗣️

(Editor's note: Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)



University Classroom Building

Five honored with Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards

Five people were honored February 24, 2006 as the UH Hilo Alumni and Friends Association held its 7th Annual Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards Banquet in the UH Hilo Campus Center Dining Room.

Dr. Gregory Chun, president of Bishop Holdings Corporation and general manager of Keauhou Resort, Dr. Henry Lee Loy, a Hilo physician specializing in internal medicine, and Jim Melody, a teacher at Honoka'a High School, were honored as Distinguished Alumni of UH Hilo for their professional accomplishments.

State Representative Dwight Takamine, chairman of the House Finance Committee and Robert Fujimoto, retired chairman of the Board of Hawai'i Planning Mill, were presented Distinguished Service Awards in recognition of their tireless contributions to the Big Island.

The UH Hilo Alumni and Friends Association also held a silent auction at the event to help raise scholarship funds for students attending UH Hilo. The silent auction funds will be augmented by the proceeds of the Associations' 3rd Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament, which is set for Saturday, October 14, 2006 at the Hapuna Beach Golf Course.

For more information about the alumni scholarship and golf tournament, please visit <http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/alumni/> or call x47643 or x47501. ☎



L-R: Robert Fujimoto, Dr. Gregory Chun, Jim Melody, State Representative Dwight Takamine, Dr. Henry Lee Loy, and Chancellor Rose Tseng.

International Nights 2006 is April 7 and 8!

The UH Hilo 'ohana is reminded that *International Nights 2006* is April 7 and 8 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. The annual event is presented by the UH Hilo International Student Association.

Each night showcases a different program of cultures from around the world in an array of performances by students and community members.

Tickets are available at the Box Office. For more information, call x47313. ☎

CAFNRM/Summer Session highlight April Focus on UH Hilo

Focus on UH Hilo features programs on the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management (CAFNRM) and Summer Session 2006 during the month of April. The program is hosted by Chancellor Rose Tseng, and airs Wednesday evenings during the instructional year from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

New CAFNRM Dean Dr. William Steiner will appear on the April 5th program. Steiner, who is currently serving his first year as dean, will discuss his goals and objectives for the College.

The April 19th program will feature the annual preview of Summer Session classes. Guests will include Dori Yamada, program coordinator for the College of Continuing Education and Community Service (CCECS) along with Dr. Walter Dudley, professor of marine science, marine geology, oceanography and co-coordinator of the Marine Option Program. Dr. Richard Lee, associate professor of music, will also appear to preview an upcoming faculty recital featuring various classical, folk and jazz offerings.

Focus on UH Hilo highlights UH Hilo programs, up and coming developments and the University's partnerships with various community organizations. ☎

Hats off to...



Linda Golian-Lui

Linda Golian-Lui, University Librarian, had her article on "Internet resources for education reference" published in the *Journal of Library Administration*, Vol. 43, number 3 / 4, 2005.

Terrance Jalbert, Associate Professor of Finance, had his paper, "Founders versus Non-founders: An Empirical Analysis of CEO Educational Backgrounds" published in *Review of Business Research*. The paper is co-written with Mercedes Jalbert.



Terrance Jalbert

Anneliese Worster, Assistant Professor of Education, and **Michele Ebersole**, Assistant Professor of Education, co-presented "Contextualizing Curriculum: Identity and Sense of Place" and "Obstacles to Place Based Education: Four Stories of Teacher Candidates" at the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) annual conference in Chicago, IL this month.



Anneliese Worster

Michael Marshall, Associate Professor of Art, was chosen to jury the Spring 2006 *All Hawai'i Juried Art Exhibition* at the East Hawai'i Cultural Center. The exhibition is open to Hawai'i Island artists who work in two- and three-dimensional media. The exhibition ends on April 28. Gordon Lee of Hawai'i Community College served as co-juror.



Michele Ebersole

Judith Gersting, Chair of Computer Science, and her co-author, Michael Schneider of Macalester College, had new editions of their two college-level computer science textbooks published. *Invitation to Computer Science, C++ version, 4th edition*, and *Invitation to Computer Science, Java version, 3rd edition*, are published by Course Technology.



Mike Marshall

Todd Belt, Assistant Professor of Political Science, received notification that his forthcoming book, *We Interrupt this Newscast*, is being published by Cambridge University Press. The book,



Judith Gersting



Todd Belt



Wayne Miyamoto

due out later this year, is co-authored by Marion Just of Wellesley College and Tom Rosenstiel of The Project for Excellence in Journalism.

Wayne Miyamoto, Professor of Art, participated last month in the 20th International Juried Show presented at the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey. The exhibition was juried by Patterson Sims, director of the Montclair Art Museum in Montclair, NJ. Additionally, Miyamoto served on the Acquisition Award Selection Committee for the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. The committee reviewed the 2006 Art Maui Annual Juried Exhibition in the Schaefer International Gallery in Kahalui on March 10.

Karla Hayashi, Instructor of English, attended the AFT-NEA Higher Education Summit, Sharing our Successes, Challenges, & Strategies, in Orlando, FL last month where she co-presented at a session on "Collaboration for College Readiness" with Anne Friedman from City University of New York. She spoke about the GEAR UP Articulation project involving Hilo High School, Waiakea High School, Hawai'i Community College and UH Hilo's English faculty evaluating student writing samples to identify and align expectations about writing skills students should demonstrate as they leave high school and begin 100-level English courses in the UH System. Additionally, she received a Certificate of Completion for the NEA's Emerging Leader Academy after attending three training sessions between June 2005 and March 2006.



Karla Hayashi

John Hamilton, Instructor of Physics and Astronomy, last month presented a report on the Ashra Site 1 Status at the 4th International Ashra meeting on High Energy and Cosmic Rays, hosted by UH Hilo's Department of Physics and Astronomy. Ashra (All-sky Survey



John Hamilton

Hats off - continued on page 5

Hats off

Continued from page 4



Robert Fox

High Resolution Air-Shower Detector) is a joint project with the University of Tokyo Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, UH Hilo, and UH Manoa. Other UH Hilo presentations included student Stephen Guarino and Physics and Astronomy Chair **Robert Fox**. 📍

Corporate support steps up UH Hilo recruitment

by Margaret Shiba



Matson Navigation Company Representative Russell Chin presented UH Hilo Chancellor Rose Tseng with a \$5,000 check from the Alexander and Baldwin Foundation at the Chancellor's Advisory Board meeting in January.

The funding will be used for UH Hilo's marketing and recruitment efforts to promote the campus to high school students and counselors statewide. UH Hilo Marketing Director Yu Yok Pearing said A & B's support will underwrite the "Hilo Reigns" campus visitation day, which brings high school

counselors to Hilo for direct exposure to the UH Hilo campus, faculty and students.

"A & B Foundation has been a steadfast supporter of our University for several years, and their funding has been invaluable in supplementing our core marketing and recruiting strategies," she said.

A & B Foundation Representative Meredith Ching added, "It is a pleasure to be among your consistent supporters, knowing that our funding will enable the University of Hawai'i at Hilo to attract students from O'ahu and the Neighbor Islands, retaining many who might otherwise study out-of-state."

This is the eighth year that UH Hilo has benefited from generous support from the Alexander and Baldwin Foundation. 📍

(Editor's note: Margaret Shiba is director of development.)

One performance only! "Mostly Mozart" set for April 30

Experience the sublime beauty of a "Mostly Mozart" concert, which will have as its centerpiece the composer's immortal masterpiece *Requiem* in D minor. What better way to celebrate the 250th anniversary year of Mozart's birth than with a performance of his hauntingly beautiful *Requiem*, in a new revision by Mozart scholar Robert Levin? The concert will be held on Sunday, April 30 at 4 p.m. in the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center.

Singers from several choruses around the Big Island will join the UH Hilo Orchestra and Choral Ensembles, with soloists from the Mae Z. Orvis Opera Studio in Honolulu, as Maestro Ken Staton conducts this performance of Mozart's inspired setting of the *Requiem*..... "a breathtaking tableau of Baroque and Classical style."

The UH Hilo Orchestra will open the concert with "Ballet Music" from Mozart's opera "IDOMENEO." Michael Russell, orchestra director at Kamehameha Schools in Kea'au, will then join the orchestra as soloist for Mozart's "Concerto for Violin, no. 5 in A major ("Turkish"). Over 200 performers will be involved in the concert.

The concert is underwritten in part by the Orvis Foundation and Dr. John Stover of Hilo Oral and Facial Surgery.

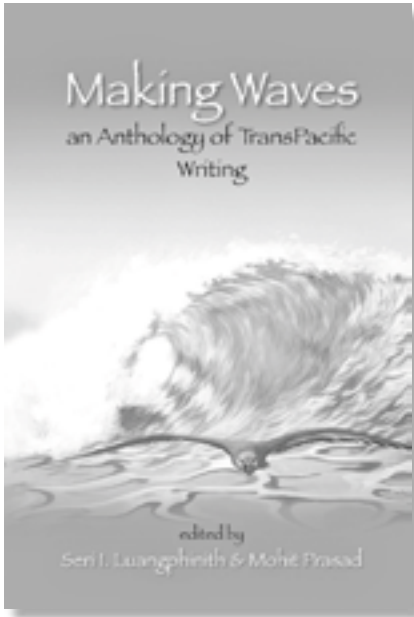
For ticket information, contact the Box Office at x47310 or order online at <http://performingarts.net/Theatre/tickets.htm>. 📍

photo credit Alvis Upitis



Maestro Ken Staton conducting.

Luangphinit and students make waves



Making Waves: an Anthology of TransPacific Writing, will be launched Thursday, April 6 by Ka Noio A'e 'Ale Press. The first 1,000 copies of the book will be available free to UH Hilo and HawCC faculty, staff and students starting Friday, April 7 at the UH Hilo Student Activities Council office.

The 175-plus page anthology, according to a letter to colleagues and friends by Dr. Seri I. Luangphinit,

assistant professor of English at UH Hilo and general editor of the paperback, "is the first joint collection of creative writing in the Pacific and includes a number of indigenous Pacific Islanders. Furthermore, this book represents the first major compilation of Micronesian writers—8 of the 22 authors boast ties to FSM."

The book, according to Luangphinit, was the offspring of "an experimental teaching venture which brought together two creative writing classes, UH Hilo's English 399 with LL 331 of the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji." Mohit Prasad, an Indo-Fijian poet and lecturer in Literature and Language at USP, is the book's co-editor. Twenty-one students, 16 from Luangphinit's ENG 399 and five from Prasad's LL

331, are involved in the writing of *Making Waves*.

UH Hilo student Avery Allan Berido created the front cover art, a *noio*, or brown noddie tern, flying low just ahead of a wave breaking into a perfect tube. He also contributed several additional illustrations to the book.

Contributing writers from UH Hilo are Engelbert Danis, Rhonda Emwalu, Aचना Narlyn Finik, Jason Michael Foxworthy and Lori Beth Griffin, Raenette 'Anela Fujikawa-Marino, Jeffrey J. Jacklick, Jeanne L. Kroenke, Mona K. Livsey, Lori Reuney, Bobby H.K. Richards, Kathreen Roby, Brandy-Alia Serikaku, Laura Mika Tsunehiro, T.J. Ungeni, Sheila Yangilmau and Luangphinit. Foxworthy and Griffin also served as student editors, while Livsey, head of UHHSAC, "devoted hours of input, networking and paper-pushing to help ensure the funding and printing of this publication," according to Luangphinit. The UH Hilo/HawCC Board of Student Publications provided an \$8,400 grant for the first edition. Reuney, a member of the Chuukese Student Association, "solicited the support of key Micronesian officials for this anthology," Luangphinit wrote. USP contributors to *Making Waves* include Jan Bodo-Lessman, Priscilla Priyanka Govind, Amelia Narawa, Toxie Polyn-angikimama'o, Mepa Taufu-Vuni and Prasad.

Luangphinit traveled to Fiji in August 2005 for research and development. She credited three of her colleagues with helping her procure funding for the trip: Michael Marshall of the UH Hilo Diversity Council; Dr. Craig Severance of UH Hilo's Anthropology Department and Pacific Island Studies Certificate chair; and Dr. Dan Brown of the Research Council. Kana'e Keawe, Larry Kimura, Ka'iu Kimura, Pila Wilson and Jason D. Cabral, faculty members at UH Hilo's Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikolani College of Hawaiian Language, consulted in the proper use of 'olelo Hawai'i.

"... [T]his has been an experience of a lifetime and a chance to really make a few waves in Pacific literary history," Luangphinit noted in the book's foreword. "... [I]t is an exhilarating privilege to be able to take flight." 🌀

Faculty Recital set for April 23

The Performing Arts Department presents Dr. Richard Lee in a Faculty Recital on Sunday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. Admission is free, and an optional \$3.00 donation is requested to support the Performing Arts Department.

"This concert will be an eclectic mix of musical styles, including classing flute sonatas, traditional folk music with flute and Appalachian dulcimer, and a jazz ensemble playing original compositions and jazz standards," Lee noted.

Lee will be accompanied by UH Hilo students Ginny Wong, Lisa Lilja, Megan Venegas, and Darren Roberts, as well as former UH Hilo student and current UH Hilo applied music instructor Trevor Veilleux. Other contributing artists include Gary Washburn, Danny Steiner, and Terry Duggins. 🌀

Spotlight

Continued from page 1

Ostertag's specialty is tropical forest ecology, and the research portion of her grant involves the study of nitrogen and phosphorous use in Hawaiian forests.

"Nitrogen and phosphorus are both vital for photosynthesis, and because they are often in short supply, they limit plant growth in many natural and managed ecosystems," she explained. "Hawai'i is unique because due to the differences in island age, it has examples of both nitrogen limitation in young soils on the Big Island and phosphorus limitation in old soils on Kaua'i. I will be developing a research program to determine if forests that are limited in nitrogen work differently than forests that are limited in phosphorus. The results will give us clues whether or not it is possible to overcome nutrient limitation by fertilization."

According to Ostertag, the educational component of the grant involves the development of career resources specific to the environmental sciences.

"(That's) so students are exposed to the variety of environmental careers and environmental professionals, and gain an understanding of the job market in these fields and the types of skills and training required," she noted.

As for Ostertag, her career path was decided at an early age.

"I knew I wanted to be a biologist from age 10," she said. "I knew I wanted to study tropical forests the first time I stepped into one at Lamington National Park in Australia at age 20. It's not something that I can explain in words. There are many rewarding parts to this career, but people sometimes naively think that this is a glamorous career. It involves a lot of hard work and physical labor under difficult conditions -- those in my field can encounter everything from torrential rain, mud, machete accidents, mosquitoes, leeches and malaria. You do it because you love forests and really want to unlock their mysteries -- and want to see them conserved in some manner."

Ostertag teaches several field-based labs, so her students learn to brave those same obstacles. Some also have the opportunity to get actively involved in her research, so they can also help her unlock the mysteries of the tropical forest.

"We spend a lot of time outside, but do some work in the lab as ecology also involves a lot of quantitative analysis," she said. "I really enjoy working with students on research projects as they learn how to go through the entire scientific method from project design to analysis. I have had students work with me mainly as interns through two UH Hilo programs -- the Keaholoa STEM Program and the Pacific Internships for Exploring Science (PIPES). I've also had several students funded by Hawai'i EPSCoR work with me on gathering preliminary data."

Ostertag says she loves Hawai'i and its "incredible diversity of habitats, landscapes and people." The NSF CAREER

grant affords her the opportunity to continue exploring that diversity.

"I enjoy what I am doing and hope to keep doing it," she said. "My future directions will be pursuing the nitrogen and phosphorus questions in this grant. I'm also working in lowland wet forests, which have traditionally been ignored because they are so heavily invaded by plants and animals. With a group of collaborators, we are trying to establish what species are left in these forests, why the non-native plants are so successful, and how do these new groups of species now work together."

Ostertag stressed that one of the keys to unlocking the secrets of the tropical forest lies in their conservation.

"Tropical forests gain a lot of attention because of their high diversity and are under numerous threats from development," she concluded. "Those reasons alone point to their importance. But all natural ecosystems provide us with many goods and services. These include products such as wood, food, fiber and medicines and processes such as cycling of wastes, filtering of air and water, erosion control and mitigation of storms. In modern society, many of us spend a lot of time distanced from the natural world. We think food comes from a grocery store and water from the tap. My job as an educator is to help people see that protecting natural ecosystems is not an esoteric pursuit, but is vital for their survival." 🍌

(Editor's note: John Burnett is a public information officer.)

Ka Lono Hanakahi is published by the Office of University Relations on the first of the month during the academic year for the faculty and staff of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. News and submissions are welcome. Deadlines are on the fifteenth of each month for the following first of the month publication. Contact Alyson Kakugawa-Leong, Director Media Relations, Beaumont Cottage, (808) 974-7642 or email alyson@hawaii.edu. 🍌



Campus Events

April

1	Vulcan baseball vs. Univ. of California-Santa Barbara, 4 p.m., Wong Stadium, Admission	10	Last day to submit credit-by-exam results to the Registrars' Office
3	"I" removal deadline: instructor to Registrars' Office	10-13	Early advising for Fall 2006
	Last day to apply for 2006 summer graduation	12	<i>Europa, Europa</i> , 5 p.m., UCB 118
	Last day to apply for 2006 fall graduation	14	Holiday: Good Friday
4	Vulcan baseball vs. San Jose State Univ., 6 p.m., Wong Stadium, Admission		Vulcan softball vs. Chaminade Univ., 1:30 p.m., UH Hilo Field
5	Vulcan baseball vs. San Jose State Univ., 3 p.m., Wong Stadium, Admission	15	Vulcan softball vs. Chaminade Univ., Noon, UH Hilo Field
	<i>Focus on UH Hilo</i> , 8 p.m., Channel 55	17	Early registration for classified students
7, 8	<i>International Nights 2006</i> , 7:30 p.m., Performing Arts Center, Admission	19	Cheese tasting presented by Euro Club, 6 p.m., CC 301, \$5.00
8	Vulcan baseball vs. Hawai'i Pacific Univ., Noon, Wong Stadium, Admission		<i>Focus on UH Hilo</i> , 8 p.m., Channel 55
	Vulcan softball vs. Hawai'i Pacific Univ., 1:30 p.m., UH Hilo Field	20	<i>A Choreography Showcase</i> , 7:30 p.m., Performing Arts Center, Admission
9	Vulcan baseball vs. Hawai'i Pacific Univ., 11 a.m., Wong Stadium, Admission	23	Faculty Recital featuring Dr. Richard Lee, 7:30 p.m., Performing Arts Center, Donation
	Vulcan softball vs. Hawai'i Pacific Univ., Noon, UH Hilo Field	30	<i>Mostly Mozart</i> concert, 4 p.m., Performing Arts Center, Admission 