

The Idaho Statesman

Tuesday, May 13, 2003

Established in 1864 • Idaho's capital newspaper • IdahoStatesman.com

50 cents

All-about-jazz program is coming to Boise students

Statesman staff

The Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, a non-profit educational organization, will introduce its "Jazz In America National Jazz Curriculum" to hundreds of public school students in Boise this week.

"Jazz In America" is the institute's new Internet-based jazz curriculum available to all fifth-, eighth- and 11th-grade students in public schools in the United States.

The tour will consist of a major jazz assembly program and a series of jazz band clinics.

The assembly program will feature a five-piece jazz combo, led by vocalist and recording artist Vanessa Rubin and saxophonist Bobby Watson.

As a part of the assembly, J.B. Dyas, project director of the institute's national jazz curriculum, will give a brief presentation titled "What is Jazz?"

The assembly is scheduled from 8:50 to 10 a.m. Thursday at Riverglen Junior High, 6801 N. Gary Lane.

The schedule for the jazz band clinics is:

► 7:50 a.m. Thursday at Riverglen Junior High.

► 2 p.m. Thursday at Boise High School, 1010 N. Washington St.

► 8:15 a.m. Friday at East Junior High, 415 Warm Springs Ave.

► 8:45 a.m. Friday at East Junior High.

The "Jazz In America" curriculum presents an introduction to jazz as it evolved in America and spread throughout the world.

It defines the characteristics of jazz, explains how to listen to the music, details the many styles of jazz, and highlights some of the musicians who have advanced the art form.

The curriculum also focuses on the development of jazz in America by highlighting the major cities that influenced the music.

Each lesson plan explores the social, economic and political contexts within which jazz evolved.

The effort is backed by The Allen Foundation for Music, which supports creativity, innovation and public participation in all forms of American popular music.

At IdahoStatesman.com

Learn more about the "Jazz in America" music curriculum

