

March 30, 2009

## **ASU Symphonic Band finishes year with two performances**

With the school year winding down, the Albany State University Symphonic Band has two performances to go. On April 3, the band will travel to Atlanta to participate in the HBCU-National Band Directors Consortium Fifth Annual Convention, an event in which the band participated in 2007.

The band will play a total of six selections; “The Marriage of Figaro, Overture,” “Suite Française,” “The Unknown Soldier,” “I Am What is set in Motion,” “Florentiner Grande Marcia Italiana” and “Emblem of Unity, March.”

Dr. Michael Martin, ASU associate professor of music and director of the Symphonic Band, said he chose these pieces for two reasons.

“I wanted to expose the students to standard pieces, pieces played all over the world,” he said. “The other reason I chose some of the pieces is because the Consortium requires each band to play two pieces by black composers. ‘The Unknown Soldier’ and ‘I Am What is set in Motion’ are both written by black composers.”

The final concert of the year will take place on April 9 at 8 p.m. in the ACAD Auditorium. This performance will be the seventh annual joint concert with the Albany Marine Band. With the exception of one piece, “Pageant,” the Symphonic Band will perform the same pieces as the April 3 performance.

Martin said that he wants his students to gain a lot from the performance.

“I want the students to gain more knowledge of standard music, but I really want them to see what it takes to prepare a polished performance,” he said.

For more information on the performances, contact Martin at 430-3658 or [michael.martin@asurams.edu](mailto:michael.martin@asurams.edu).