2014

Joe Negri Tribute

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Duquesne University and the Mary Pappert School of Music celebrated the career of Pittsburgh icon and guitar faculty member Joe Negri with *A Tribute to Joe Negri: A Celebration in Support of the Joe Negri Jazz Guitar Endowed Scholarship*, on Friday, April 26, 2013 in the Power Center Ballroom.

A Tribute to Joe Negri featured a cocktail reception and dinner, followed by a performance by Negri and local jazz musicians including Max Leake, Tony DePaolis and Tom Wendt, as well as Mary Pappert School of Music faculty members Mike Tomaro, Maureen Budway, Sean Jones and Joe Dallas. In addition, four of Negri’s guitar students—Mike Boroski, John Morrison, Ben Sherman and Spencer Geer—performed alongside fellow music students Ben Rossman (bass) and Cory Caruso (drums) as part of the Duquesne University Jazz Guitar Ensemble, directed by Mark Koch.

A nationally acclaimed performer, composer, actor and educator, Negri founded the jazz guitar program in the School of Music in 1973. He currently serves as an adjunct professor of guitar at Duquesne, as well as at Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh. Negri holds an honorary doctorate from Duquesne, which was presented to him in 2002.

Among his many accolades, Negri was named Man of the Year by the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust in 1988 and again in 2008 by the Audia Caring Heritage Foundation. In addition, he received the Hillman Foundation’s Elsie Award in 2004, an honor presented to those whose life’s work has demonstrated a love of community and compassion for others and who have made a positive impact on society through communication.

Proceeds from the event went to support the Joe Negri Jazz Guitar Endowed Scholarship. If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, please visit duq.edu/negrischolarship.