

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST TO AWARD AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS DEGREE AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to award an honorary doctor of humane letters degree to Himie Voxman at Winter 2008 Commencement.

Executive Summary: The University of Iowa wishes to recognize Professor Voxman for his national and international contributions to music and music education, and for his vital role in advancing the excellence and distinguished reputation of the University of Iowa School of Music.

Details on Professor Voxman's Accomplishments:

- ◇ Professor Voxman began his teaching career at the University of Iowa in 1939. Under his guidance, the University School of Music became one of the first institutions to award a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree (DMA) in Music Performance.
- ◇ From 1954 to 1980, Professor Voxman served as director of the School of Music. During that time, he served as graduate advisor to hundreds of music students in addition to being a mentor and teacher. Under his leadership, the School added new courses, advanced degrees, and faculty, thereby increasing the School's scope and national prominence. By offering workshops and summer music sessions for high school students and teachers, the School of Music provided a public service to the state of Iowa and further developed the University's reputation.
- ◇ Professor Voxman's area of research was the woodwind repertoire, particularly from the 18th and 19th centuries. During a 30-year period, he traveled to Europe in search of early, unpublished scores for woodwinds. To date, he has contributed 366 folders of repertoire to the Rita Benton Music Library. These manuscripts, currently in the Himie Voxman Research Archive Collection, are a vital asset to the School of Music.
- ◇ Professor Voxman has contributed substantially to the music repertoire through his publication of numerous method books and editions of music for brass and woodwind instruments, which are used around the world. These publications are innovative in their ability to help students progress musically at a consistent pace from beginning to advanced levels while performing high-quality literature. Such a system did not exist prior to his publications. The National Federation Interscholastic Music Association estimates that one million high school musicians use Professor Voxman's method books every year. These books have become a fundamental part of American middle and high school band literature.
- ◇ Throughout his career, Professor Voxman has remained active in the music community. He has contributed countless articles to publications, such as the *International Clarinet Journal* and the *Journal of the International Association of Music Libraries*.

- ◇ Professor Voxman has held numerous offices in the Music Educators' National Conference and the Music Teachers' National Association, and has served as vice-president of the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors. He has served as chairman of the Commission on Graduate Studies for the National Association of Schools of Music, and contributed to health and welfare by serving on the National Commission for Accreditation of Teacher Education and Welfare. He has also served as a member of the Academic panel for cultural exchange projects for the U.S. Department of State.

- ◇ Professor Voxman has received numerous honors and awards, including the following:
 - 📖 Honorary Life Membership from the Iowa Bandmasters' Association.
 - 📖 Medal of Honor from the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic.
 - 📖 Distinguished Service Award from the Iowa Music Educators' Association.
 - 📖 Award of Merit from the Federation of State High School Music Associations.
 - 📖 Silver Baton Award from the Bell System for contributions to the musical arts.
 - 📖 Edwin Franko Goldman Citation from the American Bandmasters' Association.
 - 📖 Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Clarinet Association (the 3rd person and 1st American to receive this award)

Throughout his career, Professor Voxman has promoted music and music education in the U.S. and beyond. He remains an influential figure on an international level, and has contributed to the stellar reputation of the University of Iowa and its School of Music.