

FRIDAY NIGHT OPENING ACT

Get ready for Friday night when the swinging seventeen piece Indianapolis Jazz Orchestra, Indiana's first permanent repertory jazz orchestra dedicated to the music of the big bands, will open for and with The Four Freshmen. Composed of outstanding professional instrumentalists from central Indiana, The IJO was created to represent and to preserve the dynamic history of the big band, patterned after the great musical groups like Glenn Miller, Stan Kenton, Tommy Dorsey, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, among others. Under the musical direction of lead trumpeter, Jeff Anderson, and as an ongoing project of the Jazz Arts Society of Indiana, the band's members have performed all across the country and the world with touring acts, on cruise ships, at theme parks, with military bands and collegiate groups. Most have played in back-up bands and orchestras for nationally known entertainers and for world famous jazz artists. Collectively, they can account for nearly two dozen degrees in music and continue to be heavily involved in the field of music education.

Leader Jeff Anderson holds degrees from Morehead State, Eastern Illinois, and Ball State Universities. Along with being named "Best Lead Trumpet Player" at the Elmhurst (Chicago), Kansas City, Ohio State (Columbus), and Aquinas (Grand Rapids) jazz festivals, Jeff has been a professional musician for more than 25 years. He regularly performs in Indianapolis, Cincinnati, and Louisville and has directed instrumental ensembles and taught privately at Ball State and Eastern Illinois Universities. For the past 17 years, he has taught jazz studies and directed a variety of instrumental ensembles at Taylor University. He has lead the IJO in a number of musical tribute concerts featuring the music of Frank Sinatra and Glenn Miller. In memory of the important musical relationship between The Four Freshmen and the great Stan Kenton bands, expect to enjoy a number of arrangements performed by the IJO in the Kenton style. Following the band's set, they'll join the Freshmen for a few arrangements to open the evening's performance by the fabulous Four Freshmen. Indeed, this promises to be a most memorable event.

