

Press Release: Uptown Music Collective to present tribute to Pink Floyd in celebration of its 10th Year in Business

Who: The Students of the Uptown Music Collective

What: Shine on You Crazy Diamond- A Tribute to the Music of Pink Floyd

Where: The Community Arts Center, 220 West Fourth St. Williamsport, Pa

When: April 17th and 18th at 7:30pm

Cost: \$10.00/ Advance- \$12.00/ Door

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On April 17th and 18th, at 7:30pm, the students of the Uptown Music Collective will present "Shine on You Crazy Diamond," a theatrical tribute to the music of Pink Floyd, at the Community Arts Center in Williamsport. The performance tells the story of Pink Floyd's troubled founder Syd Barrett through video segments and a live cast, and includes the albums "Wish You Were Here" and "Dark Side of the Moon" performed in their entirety.

As well as live bands performing the music of Pink Floyd, the concert will also feature a professional sound and light show and a full-scale video component prepared by Scott Francis and students from the Uptown Music Collective's Audio Video Recording Arts program. In addition, a team of students will operate a Moog Modular synthesizer, an analog synthesizer invented in 1966 and used by the band on their recordings. The Moog, which is on loan from Lycoming College, is an excellent educational device for students interested in electronic music and its origins.

The Uptown Music Collective is a 501(c) (3) non-profit school of music that offers lessons, classes and workshops in several instruments, and educates student musicians in a variety of skills and styles, as well as offers classes on songwriting and music theory. Since its founding in 2000 by director Dave Brumbaugh, the UMC has earned a reputation for its talented students, comprehensive music education, and virtuosic student performances that take place throughout the year. Today, the UMC is seen as the premier source for music education in the area.

In the past, the Uptown Music Collective has presented theatrical productions of Pink Floyd's "The Wall," The Who's "Tommy," "Woodstock," Pink Floyd's "Dark Side Of The Moon," "Lollapalooza" (a tribute to the 90's rock festivals), "Let It Be" (a tribute to the Beatles' album & film of the same name), and last year's "Achilles' Last Stand" (a tribute to Led Zeppelin) among others, and all of these shows have met with rave reviews and standing ovations from local audiences.

As the UMC enters its 10th year in operation, Brumbaugh and his staff of teachers have decided to revisit Pink Floyd's "Dark Side of the Moon", the music that inspired the very first large scale show performed by the collective in spring of 2004. The students and teachers of the Uptown Music Collective hope that by reexamining the music of their very first show, they can examine their progress and continue to grow as an organization and as individual musicians.

As has become the tradition, "Shine on You Crazy Diamond" is written, directed, and organized by a committee of student directors in cooperation with Brumbaugh. The committee for the show consists of Jonah Walters, a junior at Lewisburg High School, Katie Shaw and Bryan Stillman; both seniors at Williamsport Area High School, Josh Hines a junior at Jersey Shore High School, Jeff Mach a Junior at South Williamsport High School and Torey Harding a senior at Montgomery Area High School. Rehearsals have been in progress for more than three months, and students are growing more and more excited to perform this innovative and important music onstage.

Pink Floyd's albums "Dark Side of Moon" (1973) and "Wish You Were Here" (1975) are seen as two of the most important rock albums ever recorded, and document the band's experiments with odd time signatures, adventurous songwriting, and abstract sounds created through the use of synthesizers. Both are "concept albums" describing the life of guitarist Syd Barrett, Pink Floyd's mentally ill founder who left the band prior to their rise to fame in the 1970's. Alongside his story are Pink Floyd's common themes of rebellion against a dystopic record industry and disillusionment with the fame they felt strangled their creative progress.