

# Rebirth for Oakland U performing arts



By CORINNE ABATT

Sometimes Laszlo J. Hetenyi, new acting dean of Oakland University's school of the performing arts, must feel he's walking a tightrope or a balance beam.

The performing arts school has always been there but until very recently, it's been inactive. But with the recent appointment of Hetenyi, it's having a rebirth. And in conversation as he disclosed some of his ideas for the school, he sounded like just the person to launch the fledgling program and give it another chance to fly.

The tightrope part comes as he explains his ideas, as he did in writing, when he took office. While this statement has not been approved officially, it does contain his philosophy for the future of the school.

Outlining how the three areas of dance, theater and music will eventually be brought under one academic roof, Hetenyi said: "It is easier to say what we cannot do than what we can do. We cannot try, in the music end, to run a conservatory on a state school basis in competition with University of Michigan. . . . If we try to buck Ann Arbor head on, we are foolish."

HE SPOKE with a firsthand knowledge of the University of Michigan. He completed his master's in musicology there and then taught music, humanities and philosophy at Michigan State and later at the University of Florida. He just recently returned from a sabbatical at University of Southern Florida.

In fact, once all the legislation and paperwork and reshaping of music, dance and theater departments are completed, Hetenyi said he will be stressing programs to produce "niches of excellence" rather than trying to buck the giants, whether the University of Michigan, the professional ballet theater schools or the theater's American Wing.

So if Hetenyi doesn't want to battle the world's major training grounds for first-rank musicians, dancers and actors, then where does he want to go?

About the niches of excellence, he said, "The faculty will have to develop these, but I do have some hunches."

He views the cooperative university/orchestra enterprise, which resulted in the Pontiac Oakland Symphony, with great optimism.

He spoke in rhetorical questions. "What about a string quartet or a

woodwind quintet in residence? Maybe we could emphasize early music or prepare students for careers in the popular music field with the help of the successful Meadowbrook Estates? We have a fairly strong choral program. Or might we not try to train musicians for second-line orchestras rather than the Philadelphia or Pittsburgh symphony orchestras?"

He mentions in his personal view statement that his thoughts turn to preparing students for some of the less glamorous jobs in the performing arts field — directors and choreographers for regional theaters, with solid background training in acting, directing, design, stagecraft and lighting.

These would be degree programs designed to prepare students to teach or be one of a few paid professionals in community or regional performing arts programs.

In his statement he mentions "off-neglected areas such as play directing (or box office management). . . ."

AT ANOTHER point he said, "We can, and should, produce solid church organists, choir directors, public school and private teachers, music librarians, etc. We certainly should serve the many students who seek musical training for avocational purposes. We may even produce graduates headed for music management careers."

While he is putting down his ideas for long-range planning, Hetenyi is also going about the business of building a performing arts school. That means that many courses once offered under arts and sciences will be shifted. Budgets have to be changed and re-evaluated and new degree and non-degree courses established and policies put into perspective.

But all this is stimulating to the man who was formerly dean of the school of human and educational services. He has a great love of the arts, especially opera from which he draws many quotes. He is also a realist and has a degree in business administration.

All of this makes him a practical, arts-oriented person. And that's what it takes to wrestle with budgets, personnel problems, students and the performing arts all in one day.

He walks the tightrope easily — not quite sure yet how he will get across to the other side, but certain that it can be maneuvered successfully.



Lynn Eby of Pontiac (left) and Chris Ciccone of Rochester were featured in the April 4 Dance Theatre program which marked the formal opening of Oakland University's school of performing arts. (Staff photo by David Frank)

Laszlo Hetenyi thinks the newly reactivated school of performing arts at Oakland University could serve a need by training specialized professionals for work in community and regional arts organizations. (Staff photo by David Frank)

**This Summer HAVE FUN!**  
Camp De Sales 240 Acres on Vineyard Lake For boys 7-14

**1980 SCHEDULE**  
• July 6—July 18  
• July 20—August 1  
• August 3—August 15  
OPERATED BY OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES  
Fee \$199 for 2 weeks

Accredited by the American Camping Association  
WRITE FOR A FREE BROCHURE  
Camp De Sales  
Vineyard Lake  
Brooklyn, Michigan 49230  
Phone (419) 243-6165

**ENERGY. We can't afford to waste it.**



Only the very best in hand-painted originals  
**helene's gourmet needlepoint**

- Original Oriental Designs
- Original Contemporary Designs
- Copies of the Old Masters
- 25% Off all Canvases (Yarns Included)

Located on 1st floor, west entrance . . . with

**Grant Genologists**  
Jewelry Designers & Manufacturers  
854-7333  
31313 Northwestern Farmington Hills

**NAMEBRAND CUSTOM WINDOW TREATMENT**

**30% OFF LABOR DRAPERIES**  
Offer expires 5-7-80  
**TRI COUNTY WINDOW COVERINGS OF BIRMINGHAM**  
CALL TODAY **642-7018**  
Mon-Thurs 11-7, Sat & Sun 12-4

## Manufacturing Makes the Big Difference

- Canadian Lynx full length ..... \$4000
- Canadian Lynx jacket ..... \$2500
- Canadian Coyote Coats fully let out ..... \$1995
- Stone Martin Coats full length fully let out ..... \$8000
- Zorina Jackets ..... \$1095

DUTY & SALES TAX REFUNDABLE PLUS EXCHANGE ON U.S. FUNDS, CURRENTLY 18%

establ. 1935  
**Allerwais FURS**

762 Ouellette Avenue 2 blocks from tunnel exit  
1-519-253-2111 Hours: 9-6 Daily

**ALL THE WEATHER, ALL THE TIME**  
From Detroit's Weather Command!

**WWJ NEWSRADIO 95**

Over 50 Different Styles of Shower Curtains at

**1/2 OFF**

Some with matching window draperies

Our everyday prices are other peoples' "sale prices".

**Long's**  
Fancy Bath Boutique

**28% Off ALL WALLPAPER**  
No Freight Charge  
50c per roll added to all orders less than Full Case (24 rolls)  
We Have the Largest Library Around  
Over 100,000 Patterns to Choose From

**SHADES 20% Off**  
Woven woods, Verticals, LevoLors, Room Darkening

Interior Latex Flat  
**PAINT \$888** Gal.

White and Over 1500 Custom Colors  
Open Daily 10 to 8 Sat. 10 to 5

**Green's CREATIVE HOME CENTER**

107 N. Center (Next to Schrader's)  
Northville 349-7110

**Citizen is for Remembering the Unforgettable Times.**

Choose a Citizen Quartz Cryston for unmatched accuracy



Because Citizen is one of the world's largest watch companies, producing more than 15 million watches annually, you can depend on Citizen accuracy and unmatched dependability. Give a Citizen Quartz Cryston for this very special day.

Men's dimensional dial, bilingual day/date Quartz, Yellow Stainless Steel

**CITIZEN**

The Great Performer in Time  
Citizen Watch Co., Ltd. Tokyo, Japan

Located in Novi-Ten Plaza  
**HOOK'S JEWELRY, INC.**  
Est. 1946—34 Years' Experience  
In the Farmington-Northville-South Lyon  
Wixom-Bloomfield Hills Area—348-3040

A Brand New  
**Frames Unlimited**

- Somerset Plaza in Troy
- West Maple at Coolidge
- PROFESSIONAL PICTURE FRAMING SERVICES
- STRETCHING AND FRAMING NEEDLEWORK
- DESIGNING, MATTING, MOUNTING
- QUALITY PHOTO FRAMES
- SILVER, GOLD, BRONZE METAL KITS
- HUNDREDS OF READY-TO-USE FRAMES
- SHADOW BOXES

**20% OFF**  
Any purchase at any of our stores on presentation of this ad.  
Offer expires April 30, 1980

**Frames Unlimited**

NORTH: West Maple at Coolidge, Troy  
NORTHWEST: West Maple and Telegraph, Bloomfield Plaza  
WEST: Merriman and Five Mile Road, Livonia  
ALSO in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, East Lansing, Kentwood, Ann Arbor, Jenison, Mt. Pleasant, Ypsilanti, South Bend