

From: [News Services](#)
To: [Shelly L Armstrong](#); [Archive](#)
Subject: Steelband Performs Percussion Traditions
Date: 10/03/2007 02:33 PM

Included below is a press release regarding the Southpaw Isle Steelband, part of the Performing Artist Series at Ferris State University. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

For Immediate Release
Oct. 3, 2007

Leah Nixon
Ferris State University
Assistant Director of News Services
leahnixon@ferris.edu, (231) 591-5604

Performing Artist Series features Southpaw Isle Steelband

BIG RAPIDS – The Ferris State University Performing Artist Series is featuring Southpaw Isle Steelband at 7 p.m. on Oct. 5 in the Big Rapids High School Auditorium. Student ticket prices are \$3. General admission is \$5.

Southpaw Isle performs two of the world's melodic-percussion traditions: Caribbean steel pan and the East African embaire. The ensemble's repertoire of music includes that of the Basoga people from southern Uganda and a variety of jazz, classical and calypso compositions.

Southpaw also performs with one of the world's largest xylophones, the Kisoga embaire, a 10-foot long xylophone that has 21-keys played by six people.

Although they were the only non-Caribbean group to take part at the recent World Steelband Festival in Trinidad, Southpaw Isle was rated one of the top eight steel pan ensembles in the world by Pan-Trinbago, the world governing body of steel pan.

Tickets are available through the G. Mennen Williams Auditorium Box Office at Ferris State University Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Or, visit www.ferris.edu/arts/ticket_office.htm.

- 30 -

Megan Dusnik
Marketing and Communications Assistant
FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY
NEWS SERVICES AND MEDIA RELATIONS
UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT AND MARKETING
420 Oak Street, Prakken Building 108
Big Rapids, Michigan 49307
Phone: (231) 591-2373
Fax: (231) 591-2985

Assistant Director of News Services
Leah Nixon

Phone: (231) 591-5604
E-mail: LeahNixon@ferris.edu