“The Synthesis concert by [the] BYU jazz musicians was incredible! I knew they were good, but wow! What a great evening!”

*Kent Walter, Director of Music and Arts, International School, Aberdeen, Scotland*

“Your band was the highlight of the entire convention … One of the finest student performances I have ever heard.”

*Jeff Benedict, Jazz Professor, Cal State Los Angeles*

“I want you to know BYU’s Synthesis was the hit of the latest cruise. They distinguished themselves musically with their outstanding performances for dancing and in concert. ...Standing ovations followed each performance. ...The nearly 2000 passengers recognized them as young, attractive, brilliantly gifted players that really understand how to perform Big Band Swing and Jazz. ...In a word, they were sensational.”

*Kenneth R. Jensen, Laguna Woods, California*

“The BYU Synthesis jazz band performed always in an outstanding and very professional way... National and local media reported the various events very positively...The public was involved by their joy, their unity, and their great music sound and sense of humor. All performances terminated with requests of encore ... They are special and dedicated people. We loved staying with them all, getting acquainted and learning from their good spirit. We will always keep a sweet memory of these days that we spent together.”

*Giuseppe Pasta, National Director of Public Affairs, Terni, Italy*

“The visit of BYU Synthesis was a wonderful experience to those . . . who had the opportunity to come in contact with the members of the group. And the performance with Dr. Ray Smith as a conductor was a memorable treat for all people who had a chance to hear them. We wish you the best of everything, and we would like to see you here again in the future.”

*Hilkka Oksi, Public Relations Coordinator, Tampere, Finland*

“I would like to thank you, Ray [Smith], not only as a super conductor and a soloist, but as a master of ceremonies, [who] created such a special atmosphere and a warm contact with the audience.”

*Victor Tregoubov, Big Band Director, Novosibirsk, Russia*

“What a wonderful experience to have you in our Siberian cities of Tomsk and Novosibirsk. The performances were well attended and everyone who went felt the magic of your mood as you lit up the room with enthusiasm and energy . . . For two hours they [the audience was] treated to something much, much more than a well-done concert. They were swept away in the power of oneness . . . Thank you our dear young talented [performers] for remembering Siberia . . . For us, the warmth of those encounters will remain fresh for a long, long time. If grandeur and opulence do not matter to you, then please know that you have performed to one of the best audiences you will ever have.”

*President B. John Galbraith, Novosibirsk, Russia*
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