



Hall of Fame Inductee

Name: JIM BOWERMASTER

Instrument: Drums

Year Inducted: 2006

As a high school student in Fairfield, Iowa, Jim Bowermaster's drumming skills earned him the title of a National Rudimental Champion. In his senior year, he placed a "drummer for hire" ad in *Downbeat* and began his "gigging" career with area bands. After attending the University of Iowa, Jim decided to pursue a career in journalism, eventually landing a job with a Des Moines advertising agency in 1963. After joining the West Des Moines Kiwanis Club, word got out that Jim was a drummer, and an Iowa jazz tradition was born – the West Des Moines Dixieland Band.

Although Jim set down his drumsticks in 1986, he never lost his passion for music. He was known to thousands of central Iowa's as "The Jazz Man," hosting a show for 15 years on KRNT Radio. Jim died on July 20, 2005, but his legacy lives on in his son Kurt, also a drummer and "trad" jazz advocate.

