

Minnesota Music Hall of Fame Inductee



The Sammy Jensen Orchestra

Inducted in 1998



The Sammy Jensen Orchestra, first organized by a young Sammy Jensen in 1939 after his high school graduation, was made up of local musicians. As the music library expanded, so did the band.

When Sammy's health began to fail, he sold his band to Irv Peterson. Over the years, Irv played with many bands and came back to the Sammy Jensen Orchestra as members of the Ambassadors began to retire.

Since 1981, Irv has expanded the playing area of his group and is heard throughout the Midwest and south to Texas and west to California. They play about 200 dates each year in some of the larger and more popular ballrooms in the country.