Balancing a Performer’s Needs… Programming is first and foremost a balancing act between what you can do and what you’d like to do. Consider the technical, musical and physical demands of your pieces as you put them together: by way of example, I prefer to start somewhat easy, but I’m confident enough in my physical and mental endurance not to be too worried of putting two longer pieces back-to-back. Through an honest assessment of your strengths and weaknesses as a performer, you can use program placement as an extra “lifeline” and make life on stage just a bit easier. …with Your Audience’s Needs. Similar consideration should be given to those loving and supporting souls who chose to spend their evening listening to you. The first couple performers performed in the piano, each with a delightful choice of music. The first student to perform was Ashley Huizenga, who chose Nocturne in C# Minor, KK Iva, No. 16 by Frederic Francois Chopin. I found her presence very appealing, and the piece she chose was very delightful. OcTUBAfest Madsen Recital Hall What a corny name. However corny it seems to fit the event, and musicians. Being an ex-tuba player myself (first chair all-city during my glory years in junior high school), I thought that I would enjoy the concert.