

**Clark College Jazz Festival**  
**RULES/REGULATIONS**  
***MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ ENSEMBLES***

**1. ELIGIBILITY**

- 1.1. The festival is open to all accredited middle school instrumental jazz ensembles of this region.
- 1.2. All jazz ensemble members must represent a school and be actively enrolled in the school at the time of competition.
- 1.3. Middle school level magnet schools may only perform in the Blue Division.
- 1.4. Competing jazz ensemble students may only represent **one jazz ensemble and one school** during the course of the festival.
  - 1.4.1. If a jazz ensemble student is participating in more than one jazz ensemble/school during the course of the festival, then the other jazz ensemble/school they perform in must register in the Blue Division.
    - This only pertains to one instrument – example: a student who plays trumpet in the 1<sup>st</sup> band would be allowed to perform on bass in the 2<sup>nd</sup> band.
    - Middle school students who perform with their middle school will be allowed to perform with one high school group to which they feed.
- 1.5. Jazz ensembles must be under the supervision of a qualified state certified school teacher.
  - 1.5.1. A faculty member must be responsible for the ensemble throughout the festival.
  - 1.5.2. An assistant or student may front the ensemble.
  - 1.5.3. **GROUP SIZE RESTRICTIONS** – Due to restricted space on Gaiser Hall Stage, we can only accommodate a limited number of students in order to provide the most positive performance experience to you. We will adhere to the ten minimum rule but please check in with us for maximum capacity.
- 1.6. Faculty, directors, or professional musicians are not allowed to perform in the ensemble unless they choose to perform in the Blue Division.

**2. REGISTRATION**

- 2.1. There are two middle school divisions, Blue and Silver. Registration for each division will be at the director's discretion based on the following criteria:
  - 2.1.1. Blue Division – non-competitive (optional non-competitive score)
    - Little or no jazz festival experience
    - Beginning or no soloists
    - Rhythm section at new or developing proficiency
    - Limited access to private lessons
  - 2.1.2. Silver Division
    - Accomplished and/or established group
    - Festival experience and/or past recipient of awards or recognitions
    - Developing soloists
    - Students are taking lessons
- 2.2. You will not be officially registered until we have received your registration fee check, PO number, or credit card payment. Schools that apply early have a better chance of getting desired time slots. Please review *Directions for Registration*: [http://www.clark.edu/special/jazz\\_festival/registration.php](http://www.clark.edu/special/jazz_festival/registration.php)
- 2.3. Applications must be accompanied with a completed personnel list – **please limit chaperons to only four per jazz ensemble including the director**.

2.4. Upon arrival at the Clark College campus, ensembles should immediately register at the registration desk in Gaiser Hall and receive festival credentials and information.

2.4.1. Ensemble members, chaperons, and directors must have a wristband to gain admittance into the festival.

### 3. **PERFORMANCE**

3.1. **JAZZ ENSEMBLES HAVE 20 MINUTES TO PERFORM, INCLUDING SET-UP AND TEAR-DOWN.**

3.1.1. 20 minutes begin when the first member of your jazz ensemble enters the stage.

3.1.2. Ensembles exceeding 20 minutes will receive a 10 point penalty per adjudicator.

3.1.3. Rhythm sections should be back stage 40 minutes before your scheduled performance time.

3.1.4. Clark College will furnish an acoustic piano, drum-set, bass amp, guitar amp, vibes, and music stands on stage.

3.2. Under no circumstances are stage microphones to be moved or tampered with.

3.2.1. You will be provided a sound set-up form to inform the audio technician of your audio needs; make sure to turn this in to your runner with your other staging forms to ensure your needs are met.

### 4. **FINALS AND AWARDS**

4.1. Finals competition will be held Thursday night beginning at 7:00 p.m.

4.2. At the lunch break, outstanding musician awards will be awarded and one Blue Division band will be recognized and invited to perform at the beginning of the finals competition.

4.3. Three ensembles from the Silver Division will be selected to perform in the evening finals competition.

4.4. Preliminary scores will be disregarded for the evening finals competition.

4.5. If any Silver Division ensemble cannot perform in the evening finals competition, the next highest scored ensemble will be invited back.

4.6. Ensembles will have 15 minutes or two selections (director's choice) to perform for the finals competition (no time disqualification).

4.7. Ensembles are not required to play new music for finals.

4.8. Trophies and outstanding musician awards will be distributed following the finals competition.

4.9. Three trophies for first, second, and third place will be presented to each division.