

Dear Jazz Ensemble Director,

The Jazz Institute of Chicago welcomes you to the 5<sup>th</sup> annual **Jazz in the Chi Essentially Ellington Regional Jazz Band Festival**. This packet is assembled with the intent to contain all the information you need to make your participation successful and enjoyable. You will find the following included:

- A Festival Summary with details you will need, including directions to the site, procedures, equipment provided, events and more
- 2024 Special Session Schedule
- Sample adjudication sheets
- Nearby Dining Options
- Campus Map

Make sure to bring:

1. Four (4) copies of any and all big band musical scores
2. Three (3) copies of any and all combo musical scores/lead sheets

**We expect all participants to be on site 12:30-1:30 PM so that ensemble directors can participate in the special Ensemble Director's Luncheon with the *Essentially Ellington* clinicians. At the same time, your students can take in a Midday Concert with our guest, the Columbia College Jazz Ensemble! All participating schools are also expected to attend either the 11 AM or 2PM master class/workshop depending on when they perform.**

We're excited to have you at Jazz in the Chi! Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at [darius@jazzinchicago.org](mailto:darius@jazzinchicago.org).

Keep Swinging!

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## Jazz in the Chi Regional *Essentially Ellington* Jazz Band Festival

### FESTIVAL SUMMARY

Jazz in the Chi is an educational, non-competitive jazz festival, designed so that participants can have the most enriching jazz experience possible! Beyond each participating school's own performances, participants take part in other activities happening throughout the day. These include master class/workshops; jam sessions; a vendor fair with colleges, universities, arts organizations and music merchants; and performances by other participants. **Make sure you and your group attend the Essentially Ellington Ensemble Directors' Luncheon and Midday Concert!**

### Location and Directions

The site for the Jazz in the Chi Regional *Essentially Ellington* Jazz Band Festival is:

**Whitney M. Young Magnet High School**  
**211 S Laflin St.**  
**Chicago, IL 60607**

This address will get you to the campus if you use your mapping app or service. However, there are three main buildings on campus and this address will direct you to the main entrance of the *Academic Building*. Jazz in the Chi, however, will largely take place in the *Arts Building* (across Jackson Blvd to the south of the *Academic Building*), bounded on the east by Loomis St., on the south by Van Buren St., on the west by Laflin St. and on the north by Jackson Blvd. If you take I-290 (Eisenhower Expressway), you will probably get off at Ashland Ave. (exit 28B), head north to Jackson Blvd., and then head west to the school. [See the Campus Map.](#)

### Drop-off and Parking

The bus drop-off location is on the south side of Jackson Blvd. (which is one-way eastbound) between Laflin Street and Loomis Street. Enter the Whitney Young High School Arts Building through the double doors underneath the building-to-building bridge that crosses over Jackson Blvd. Busses may then circle the block and park in the parking lot immediately south of the Arts Building, entering from Van Buren St. To depart, participants may board busses at the same location as drop-off or in the parking lot.

### Check-in

Upon entering the building, directors must go to the check-in table inside of the Arts Building lobby. **There, directors will turn in four (4) copies of all big band music scores and three (3) copies of all combo music scores/lead sheets.** From the check-in location, a Whitney Young student guide will escort your group to your assigned homeroom. At the appropriate time, a guide will also escort your group to your warm-up room and performance space. High School big bands will be escorted off-stage to a separate room for their post-performance clinic with an *Essentially Ellington* clinician.

## Homerooms

Homerooms assignments will be given upon arrival. These are regular classrooms where your group can call “home” for a portion of the day during the festival. No musical equipment is provided in the homerooms. Your homeroom is not a warm-up room. A student guide will come about 5 minutes before your assigned warm-up time to escort your group to your warm-up room. A student guide will take your group back to your homeroom after your performance. **If your group performs in the morning session, please “move out” of your homeroom by 12:30 PM**, or before the Midday Concert. Your homeroom in the morning session may be the homeroom for another group arriving for the afternoon session.

## Equipment Provided

Certain instruments and equipment will be provided in each of the spaces ensembles will use at the festival. We encourage groups to use the provided equipment as much as possible due to time limitations. Vibraphones are only provided on the performance stages. **The following are not provided at all:** basses, guitars, patch cables, or other instruments not-listed in the chart below.

Equipment by Room	Big Band Warm-Up	Big Band Performance	Big Band Clinic	Combo Warm Up	Combo Performance
Piano/Keyboard	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Guitar Amp	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bass Amp	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Drum Set (no cymbals) <sup>1</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Vibraphone <sup>2</sup>	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Congas	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Vocal Mic	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Music Stands	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

1. Performers must supply their own cymbals. Cymbal stands will be included with the drum set.
2. A vibraphone may not be available for your performance if you did not request one.

## Warm-Up

Each group’s warm up time begins 30 minutes before their performance time. A guide will lead your group to the warm up room and then lead your group from the warm-up room to the performance space at the appropriate time. Some musical equipment may not be available in the warm up room compared to the performance spaces. See the “Equipment by Room” chart.

## Performances – High School Big Bands

High School big bands will have 30 minutes to set-up, tune, perform and exit the stage. **High Schools can perform three selections, at least one of which must be from the *Essentially Ellington* library.** Please announce all soloists from the stage. During your performance adjudicators will provide audio and/or written feedback as well as complete the numerical ratings for a festival adjudication sheet. **Following the performance, high school big bands will move to a separate room to receive a 25-minute clinic with one of the *Essentially Ellington* clinicians.**

### **Performances – High School Combos and Elementary/Middle School Jazz Bands**

High school combos and elementary/middle school jazz bands will have 30 minutes to set-up, perform, **receive a clinic with the adjudicators** and exit the stage. We recommend playing for 14-16 minutes to allow time for a brief clinic. Please announce all soloists from the stage. During your performance adjudicators will record audio and/or written comments as well as complete the numerical ratings for a festival adjudication sheet.

### **Score Sheets and Recorded Comments**

We will endeavor to give each group their adjudicators' score sheets before they depart. Stop by the check-in table on your way out if you have not received your scores by that time. If they are not ready before you depart, we will have them delivered to you. We will email a link to the adjudicators' recorded comments pertaining to the performance of your ensemble(s) within a week or two after the festival. See the sample adjudication forms.

### **Master Classes, Workshops and Jam Sessions**

Master class/workshops and jam sessions, lead by outstanding musicians and educators, will take place at specified points during the day. We encourage you and your students to attend and participate to make the most of the day! These provide opportunities for participants to learn, enjoy themselves, network and keep themselves occupied. Please see the Special Session Schedule.

### **Essentially Ellington Ensemble Directors' Luncheon**

All participating ensemble directors are invited and expected to attend the Ensemble Director's Luncheon in the middle of the day, between the morning and afternoon sessions. This will take place on the festival site (room TBA) and will be catered. The *Essentially Ellington* clinicians lead the discussion. This is a great opportunity to network with the other participating educators and the adjudicators.

### **Midday Concert**

At the same time as the Ensemble Director's Luncheon, your students (and adults attending the festival with you) may enjoy the Midday Concert. We know the directors might like to take in the concert too, but you'll have to let your students' tell you about it!

### **Awards**

Jazz in the Chi is a non-competitive jazz band festival in that, participant scores are not announced and no awards for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place, etc. are given. However, the adjudicators may choose outstanding soloists and sections to recognize. Additionally, **the Jazz Institute of Chicago invites candidates from among the ensembles receiving high marks from the adjudicators to perform at the Chicago Jazz Festival later in the same year!** Outstanding soloist/section certificates will be delivered to the schools within a week or two after the festival. Directors invited to have their ensembles perform at the Chicago Jazz Festival will be notified individually when the scheduling framework for CJF is determined; likely by the end of April.

## 2024 SPECIAL SESSION SCHEDULE

**11:00 AM**                                    **The Taste and Feel of Harmony**  
Room 198 - Band Room                Victor Garcia

Success navigation in an improvisational setting relies on your ability to recognize and respond to the moving harmony. Victor Garcia will help you make sense of typical harmonic movements by helping you “see with your ears!”

**12:30 PM**                                    **MIDDAY CONCERT: Columbia College Jazz Ensemble**  
WYHS Theatre                                Scott Hall, *conductor*

**12:30 PM**                                    **ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON ENSEMBLE DIRECTORS' LUNCHEON**  
Room 197 - Drama Room                Alexa Tarantino and Greg Bunge, *Essentially Ellington Clinicians*

A working luncheon for ensemble directors and adjudicators only, hosted by the *Essentially Ellington Clinicians*.

**2:00 PM**                                    **A Creative Approach to Practicing Jazz Improvisation**  
Room 198 - Band Room                Geof Bradfield

Many young musicians know what to practice to improve on their instrument: scales, etudes, parts for band, and so on. Practicing improvisation, however, is infrequently addressed in depth in even the best middle school or high school band programs, and many students are unsure where to begin. In this workshop we'll demystify the process of practicing improvisation, offering an organized and creative method to develop your skills as a jazz improviser whether you are a beginning, intermediate or experienced musician.

**3:00 PM**                                    **Jam Session with Jazz Institute of Chicago Alumni House Band**  
Room 198 - Band Room

Join in an open jam session led by alumni of the Jazz Institute's Jazz Links education programs.

# REGIONAL *ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON* HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND FESTIVAL ADJUDICATION FORM 2023

Instructions:

Rate each item on the scale 1 to 10, ten being the highest. Each selection can total up to 50 points. After listening to the three selections, add them all together. This will give you the grand total, which is a maximum of 150 points.

Selection #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Selection #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Selection #3 \_\_\_\_\_

	Selection #1	Selection #2	Selection #3
<b>SOULFULNESS</b> – swing, spirit (1-10 pts.)			
<b>RHYTHM SECTION</b> - Groove, balance, pulse, timekeeping, communication with soloists, swing feel (1-10 pts.)			
<b>SOLOING/ IMPROVISATION</b> - Constructing improvisations through harmonic progressions in the style of the piece (1-10 pts.)			
<b>INTERPRETATION</b> – Expression, stylistic choices, maintaining integrity of the original piece, cohesive ensemble sound, beauty (1-10 pts.)			
<b>BASIC MUSICIANSHIP/ TECHNIQUE</b> – Articulation, precision, intonation, rhythm, attacks, releases, dynamics, accents, tempo, phrasing, blend, control, projection, clarity, melodic line, tone (1-10 pts.)			
<b>TOTALS</b> (5-50 pts.)			

**GRAND TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adjudicator's signature

REGIONAL *ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON* HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND FESTIVAL  
ADJUDICATION FORM 2023

General Comments

Recommended Resources for your band:

**REGIONAL *ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON* HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND FESTIVAL  
ADJUDICATION FORM 2023**

**Comments - Selection #1**

Please comment on the areas in the scoring rubric:

SOULFULNESS - swing, spirit	
RHYTHM SECTION - Groove, balance, pulse, timekeeping, communication with soloists, swing feel	
SOLOING/ IMPROVISATION- Constructing improvisations through harmonic progressions in the style of the piece	
INTERPRETATION - Expression, stylistic choices, maintaining integrity of the original piece, cohesive ensemble sound, beauty	
BASIC MUSICIANSHIP/ TECHNIQUE - Articulation, precision, intonation, rhythm, attacks, releases, dynamics, accents, tempo, phrasing, blend, control, projection, clarity, melodic line, tone	

**Additional Comments on Selection #1**



**REGIONAL *ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON* HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND FESTIVAL  
ADJUDICATION FORM 2023**

**Comments - Selection #2**

Please comment on the areas in the scoring rubric:

SOULFULNESS - swing, spirit	
RHYTHM SECTION - Groove, balance, pulse, timekeeping, communication with soloists, swing feel	
SOLOING/ IMPROVISATION- Constructing improvisations through harmonic progressions in the style of the piece	
INTERPRETATION - Expression, stylistic choices, maintaining integrity of the original piece, cohesive ensemble sound, beauty	
BASIC MUSICIANSHIP/ TECHNIQUE - Articulation, precision, intonation, rhythm, attacks, releases, dynamics, accents, tempo, phrasing, blend, control, projection, clarity, melodic line, tone	

**Additional Comments on Selection #2**

**REGIONAL *ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON* HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND FESTIVAL  
ADJUDICATION FORM 2023**

**Comments - Selection #3**

Please comment on the areas in the scoring rubric:

SOULFULNESS - swing, spirit	
RHYTHM SECTION - Groove, balance, pulse, timekeeping, communication with soloists, swing feel	
SOLOING/ IMPROVISATION- Constructing improvisations through harmonic progressions in the style of the piece	
INTERPRETATION - Expression, stylistic choices, maintaining integrity of the original piece, cohesive ensemble sound, beauty	
BASIC MUSICIANSHIP/ TECHNIQUE - Articulation, precision, intonation, rhythm, attacks, releases, dynamics, accents, tempo, phrasing, blend, control, projection, clarity, melodic line, tone	

**Additional Comments on Selection #3**

## NEARBY DINING OPTIONS

Name	Address	Cuisine Description	Hours (Sat.)
<b>Billy Goat Tavern</b>	1535 W Madison St Chicago, IL 60607 <a href="http://billygoattavern.com">billygoattavern.com</a>	Well-known hub specializing in cheeseburgers, plus hot dogs & other fast food in a no-frills venue.	7 AM–10 PM
<b>Crave Kabob</b>	1521 W Madison St Chicago, IL 60607 <a href="http://cravekabob.com">cravekabob.com</a>	Contemporary, quick-serve outpost offering Mediterranean wraps, hummus & falafel bowls.	11 AM–9 PM
<b>Dunkin'</b>	1519 W Madison St Chicago, IL 60607 <a href="http://dunkindonuts.com">dunkindonuts.com</a>	Long-running chain serving signature breakfast items & a variety of coffee drinks.	5:30 AM–6 PM
<b>FROTH</b>	1515 W Monroe St Lobby Chicago, IL 60607 <a href="http://froth.cafe">froth.cafe</a>	Coffee, cocktails, pastries & classic brunch dishes in an industrial-chic cafe with a terrace.	8 AM–7 PM
<b>Harold's Chicken Shack West Loop</b>	1501 W Madison St Chicago, IL 60607 <a href="http://haroldswestloop.com">haroldswestloop.com</a>	This no-fuss counter-serve institution dishes up simple meals of fried chicken & sides.	11 AM–5 AM
<b>La Lagartija Taqueria</b>	132 S Ashland Ave Chicago, IL 60607 <a href="http://orderlalagartijataqueria.com">orderlalagartijataqueria.com</a>	Festive eatery decorated with multicolored lizards, serving taco-shop favorites & margaritas.	9 AM–8 PM
<b>Palace Grill Restaurant</b>	1408 W Madison St Chicago, IL 60607 <a href="http://palacegrillonmadison.com">palacegrillonmadison.com</a>	Classic diner serving up 3-egg omelets & black coffee (plus lunch & dinner) since 1938.	7 AM–2 PM
<b>Ranalli's West Loop</b>	1326 W Madison St Chicago, IL 60607 <a href="http://ranalliswestloop.com">ranalliswestloop.com</a>	Pizza restaurant, American Food	10 AM–3 AM
<b>Ricano's Restaurant</b>	230 S Ashland Ave Chicago, IL 60607 <a href="http://orderricanosrestaurant.com">orderricanosrestaurant.com</a>	Traditional Mexican eats in a tranquil, family-friendly spot with outdoor seating & delivery.	8 AM–9 PM
<b>SoJu BBQ</b>	36 S Ashland Ave Chicago, IL 60607 <a href="http://sojubbq.com">sojubbq.com</a>	Servers do the grilling at this spare, modern Korean eatery with updated cuisine & delivery.	12–11 PM
<b>Subway</b>	1525 W Madison St, Chicago, IL 60606 <a href="http://subway.com">subway.com</a>	Casual counter-serve chain for build-your-own sandwiches & salads, with health-conscious options.	8 AM–8 PM

# CAMPUS MAP

