

Festival Registration Guidelines

Festival Registration Information

- 2 months prior to the Festival Date Online Registration will open on www.majazzed.org
- Registration closes 6 weeks prior to the Festival Date
- Festival sites include Central, Northeast, Southeast and Cape Cod Coastal
- \$300.00 per ensemble (Comments only is \$200.00)
- The second group from schools with multiple groups can move up or down a division regardless of school size

Divisions for Senior Festival

- Schools register for different divisions based on school size
 - Division I (1099-2000)
 - Division II (0-1098)
 - Division III (Comments Only)

Divisions for Junior Festival

- Schools register for different divisions based on grades within the ensemble
 - "Division I" up to and includes grade 9
 - "Division II" up to and includes grade 8
 - "Division III" up to and includes grade 6
 - "Comments Only" will not receive a medal rating

Festival/Performance Forms

- All Forms should be completed online 2 weeks prior to festival at www.majazzed.org
- Outstanding Musician Form: chosen by directors (Student Name & Instrument)
- Announcement Form: Titles, Arrangers/Composer and Soloists (Improv or Prepared)

Student Eligibility

- All participants must be enrolled as full-time students in the district music department at the time of the Festival. (Directors are not allowed to perform with their groups.)

Performance Time Limits

- The only time restriction is on the maximum performance time. In order to keep the festival running smoothly it is important that bands do not exceed a **20-minute time limit**. The timing will start on the first note of music and end with the last note of music, the time between tunes will count towards the overall time.

Festival Literature

- Each Band will be required to perform 3 selections. There is no minimum time requirement. Failure to adhere to this guideline may necessitate a drop in the Medal Award for Ensemble. **It is suggested that each band perform a variety of styles, i.e. blues, ballad, latin, fusion, etc..**

Score Copies

- Copies of scores for adjudicators are not required.

Festival Day Guidelines

Upon Arrival

- Please arrive at least 1 hour prior to your scheduled performance time.
- Directors must immediately report to the registration desk.
- At that time, you should confirm all fees and forms are completed.
- An assigned host will then escort you to the assigned warm-up room.

Before Performance

- 30 minutes before your performance you'll be brought to the warm-up room.
- 15 minutes before your performance time, the host will escort your rhythm section to the setup area where they will prepare equipment to be transported to the stage.
- 5 minutes before your performance time, the host will escort the others in the group to the setup area and a stage crew will prepare the stage for your performance.

After Performance

- After the performance bands will be escorted to the clinic room where the band will work with a judge for 20 minutes.
- At the end of the clinic, please take ALL of your equipment out of the room and back onto the bus or holding tank.
- Students are then encouraged to hear as many other groups as possible.

Awards

- Overall band awards will be given out to each band as determined by the judges in the following Medal categories:
 - Participation
 - Medal of Merit
 - Bronze
 - Silver
 - *Gold*
- In addition to the overall band awards each group will receive 3 outstanding musicianship awards determined by the band director.
- The judges will also select a MVP award for each division at each of the district festivals.
- (*Gold Medals - Please confirm your ensembles participation with MAJE President within 48 hours after the conclusion of your district performance/festival.)

After Awards

- Final adjudication sheets and awards will be given to directors upon conclusion of the award ceremony.
- Judge's recordings will be placed into the Google Drive shared with you prior to the festival. Please keep this email or add the folder to your google drive upon receiving the email. You may also wish to share this folder with your students.

After Festival

- Any judging concerns or questions should be addressed to the chief adjudicator.

A note on the role of improvisation in performances

- Jazz has at its roots a strong connection to the oral tradition. MAJE believes that improvisation is a critical attribute of an excellent jazz performance.
- High School directors are expected to include improvisation as an important part of their bands performance.
- Middle school directors should be seen as providing pathways for students to improvise through: student created written solos and or improvised solos on basic jazz forms (such as blues, and 32 bar Dorian based melodies.)

Equipment

The following equipment will be supplied for all participating groups to use:

- (1) Chairs
- (2) Music Stands
- (3) Risers
- (4) Sound system will include 6 microphones (Piano/Sax/Solo). **Directors will be given a chance to sound check to set bass and sax levels. Groups are allowed to ask the soundman to adjust a microphone during a performance between selections.**
- (5) Piano (recently tuned acoustic)

Any equipment not listed above must be provided by each participating ensemble, please contact site host if you have any questions regarding equipment.

Food

Concessions *may be made* available by the festival hosts. Prices and selection are up to the discretion of each site host. If possible, please support your host by purchasing concessions from them to support their program.

