

EAST BAY JAZZ

HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STARS ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

General Information

The East Bay Jazz High School All-Stars is an after-school program for high-caliber music performance for young jazz musicians. East Bay Jazz's two ensembles, Big Band and Combo, rehearse on a weekly basis and frequently perform from January to June. In East Bay Jazz students sharpen their skills within the jazz idiom, gain real-world performance experience, and share our love of music with the East Bay community and beyond. East Bay Jazz's educational programs are fully supported by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center.

How to Audition

- 1) Submit the online application
- 2) Email the "Student/Band Director Consent Form" to sksussman@eastbayjazz.org
- 3) Sign up for a time slot at the rehearsal space on the audition day. Time slots on a first come, first served basis.

Audition Requirements

Interested students may apply to be in the Big Band, Combo, or both. Students will be evaluated based on their sight-reading ability, technique, musicality, and command of the jazz language. Auditions generally last no longer than 10 minutes.

Horns: Two sight-reading pieces of contrasting styles, and an option to improvise over "Take the A Train" or "There Will Never Be Another You." Trumpet players: please specify if you are planning on auditioning for the lead trumpet role. Trombonists: please specify if you are planning on auditioning for the bass trombone role. Brass musicians may be expected to demonstrate range.

Piano/Guitar/Bass: Three sight-reading pieces of contrasting styles, and an option to improvise over "Take the A Train" or "There Will Never Be Another You." A mixture of notated music and comping (or walking for bassists) over chord changes will be included. Amps and piano will be provided.

Drums: Three sight-reading pieces of contrasting styles. Be prepared to demonstrate a variety of grooves including the following: swing (medium, up tempo), straight eighth ballad (with brushes), medium bossa, funk. Drum set and cymbals will be provided.

Vocalists: Sing along with one piece of your choice—auxiliary cable will be provided. Be prepared to sing one or all of the following: major scale, mixolydian scale, dorian scale.

Rehearsals

All rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings from 6:00-9:15 PM in the Amador Valley High School Choir Room in Pleasanton. The High School All-Stars Big Band meets from 6-8 PM, and the combo rehearses from 8:00-9:15 PM.

Participation

The cost of participation in the program is \$500, which covers over 60 hours of rehearsal time and performances. A limited number of scholarships are made available to students in need of financial assistance. Those interested may speak with the director.

Students must also be enrolled in their high school jazz ensemble in order to be a part of the All-Stars. While students are expected to commit to all rehearsals and performances, their high-school ensembles and coursework must be held at a higher priority. The purpose of this program is not to replace commitments to school ensembles, but instead provide supplemental performance and educational experience.

Dates

In the 2020 season both ensembles will begin rehearsing mid-January. Each will continue to rehearse on a weekly basis through the beginning of June. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances. A rehearsal/performance calendar will be provided for accepted students at the beginning of the season.

Communication

Students and parents will communicate with the director via email at sksussman@eastbayjazz.org. Mr. Sussman will also provide important details regarding performances during rehearsals and in weekly emails. Upcoming gigs will also be found on the band's website, www.eastbayjazz.org.