

Jazz Selection Guidelines

AUDITIONS

- Only students whose names are submitted through the NMEA nominations website will receive an audition date and time.
- Teacher and student parents will receive an email when audition times are assigned.
- **THERE ARE NO AUTOMATICS FOR ANY JAZZ GROUP.**
- No walk-ins will be permitted to audition.
- All Jazz candidates **MUST** audition.
- Students may participate in only one All-County performing group. Auditioning for jazz assumes that this is the student's first choice and that, if accepted, their name should not be nominated for any other All-County ensemble.

INSTRUMENTAL JAZZ REQUIREMENTS:

*****PLEASE NOTE*****

DIVISION 1-2 REQUIREMENTS ARE DIFFERENT FROM DIVISION 3-5

- **DIVISION 1-2** applicants are permitted to audition with an **excerpt of a jazz NYSSMA solo or an excerpt of music that demonstrates that the student can play in the swing style (including drumset)**. Students are **not** permitted to play along with a recording for this portion of the audition. Students will sight-read as well.
- **DIVISION 3-5** applicants are required to perform a solo selected from the Jazz solo section of the current NYSSMA manual and sight-read in the Jazz idiom. Students are **not** permitted to play along with a recording for this portion of the audition.
- Improvisation is not graded, therefore not required, but is strongly recommended. Students may improvise on the Concert Bb Blues (CD track #7) or Concert F Blues (CD track #8) from Volume 1 of Jamey Aebersold's "Jazz: How to Play and Improvise." Students are not required to bring this to the audition. The judges will have this CD selection at the audition. Students also have the option to solo on a selection from the Jazz section of the NYSSMA manual that is level-appropriate. If they choose that option, they must bring the audio track, as well as a device on which to play it. (ie. CD and CD player, MP3 device, and speaker).
- Students may participate in only one All-County performing group. Auditioning for jazz assumes that this is the student's first choice and that, if accepted, their name should not be nominated for any other All-County ensemble.
- A drum set, amplifier, and patch cords will be provided at the audition site. Drummers must bring their own sticks.

JAZZ DRUM SET REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Demonstrate several measures of groove (time) in each of the following styles:**
 - Jazz - Swing time** (several tempos selected by the adjudicator)
 - Rock Time** (one tempo selected by the adjudicator, may play a funk beat or rock beat)
 - Latin Time** (one tempo selected by the adjudicator, may play a samba,