

St. Louis Suburban Music Educators' Association

Missouri IAJE Unit

Date: September 15, 2009

To: St. Louis Suburban HS Band Directors

From: Kevin Cole, SLSMEA Jazz Vice President

Re: 2009-2010 All-Suburban Jazz Band Auditions

Please make this information available to all your jazz students regarding the 2009-2010 All-Suburban Jazz Band Auditions. Please note that both the All-Suburban Concert Band and the Jazz Band auditions will be held on the same evening at the same site.

WHEN:

Monday, November 2 from 4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

WHERE:

Ladue Horton Watkins High School
1201 S. Warson Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63124

Registration for high school district honor jazz band is online. Go to the SLSMEA website which is:

www2.csd.org/slsmea

Find the High School Honor Jazz Band page and click on the "Online Registration Link"

APPLICATION/REGISTRATION:

- Registration for auditions will be done by you or your students online by going to the SLSMEA website. Fill out the online application and click "save record." Students will receive a confirmation that their application has been received. It **WILL NOT** give them an audition time. Students will be assigned an audition time based on the order that they register. Audition times and room assignments will be EMAILED to directors the week of October 26.
- ***REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN Monday, October 5 at 6:00 a.m. REGISTRATION will conclude Friday, October 16 at MIDNIGHT.***
- For students auditioning for more than one instrument they will need to register separately for each instrument. Once the registration process is completed and submitted, band directors will

receive an EMAIL the week of October 26 with all of their students who have registered along with their audition times and rooms. There will be no need for students to register. They will have this information with them already and will just need to proceed to their audition room at the appropriate time. Their audition number is their audition time. In addition, the EMAIL will include an invoice for the TOTAL AUDITION FEE due.

- The audition fee is \$10.00 per audition and you must pay for all students that have been registered. If you register 10 students and only 5 actually come on November 2, you will still owe \$100.00 for all that have registered. This is consistent with the state audition process.
- On November 2, directors/school representatives will need to check-in and pay the entire audition fee for their school based on the number of students who registered. **ONE CHECK SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO SLSMEA** and brought with you to the auditions. Schools that do not pay the night of the auditions will cause their students to be **NOT ACCEPTED** to the honor band. Please, no purchase orders.
- Students will not be permitted to audition without an application on file.
- Remind your students that they will be assigned an audition time and that they are required to adhere to that time, or may forfeit their audition. Students that may have a conflict with after school activities should wait to register closer to the deadline to get a later audition time.
- **Students auditioning for more than one instrument (or more than one ensemble) will need to register separately for each instrument and each ensemble.** All students auditioning should then check in at the jazz table on the night of auditions. Be sure to arrive early-jazz auditions typically run much faster than concert.

AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS:

- Students will not be given an audition number. The audition judge will only recognize you by your audition time. You will be met at your audition room by a room monitor who will double check with you as to your audition time and confirm your name. This information will not be made available to the judge.
- Audition times and room assignments will be EMAILED to band directors by the end of the week of October 26.
- Show up for your audition at least 1/2 hour prior to your audition time. You may warm-up in the Commons area of Ladue High School. You may not practice in the hallways or outside your audition room.
- Report to your audition room 10 minutes prior to your audition. The room monitor will call you by your audition time when it is your time to audition.
- Avoid talking to the judge. If you have any questions, ask the room monitor.
- Failure to report to your audition at your assigned time may result in you not being able to audition.

EQUIPMENT:

A drum set, piano, amps, and music stands will be provided. Latin percussion and vibes will be provided.

MUSIC:

All information can be found at the MOAJE website - <http://www.mojaje.org/>, and etude excerpts (Set 2) may be purchased at St. Ann Music or Shattinger Music. Please consult the website for EXACT requirements. I would also advise printing a requirement sheet for each student auditioning.

'Un Calor Seco' (by Mike Kocour) audition excerpts **WILL BE REQUIRED** at auditions and are available for (legal) download on the MOAJE website. A short sightreading excerpt will also be required.

In addition to the above required music, piano and guitar players must demonstrate comping styles. Bass players must demonstrate walking bass lines. Drum Set players should demonstrate samba, swing, bossa, shuffle, waltz, and brushes at a variety of tempo. A drum pattern worksheet is available on the website.

RESULTS:

Results will be emailed to directors. If students are selected for both the jazz and concert groups, they will be asked to choose one as soon as results are determined. Please instruct your students to be available at home after the audition on Nov. 2 to receive a possible late evening phone call asking for their ensemble choice. Any student selected for both ensembles **WILL BE ELIGIBLE** to audition for each ensemble at the state level, regardless of his or her choice at the All-Suburban level. This includes all alternates.

ATTENTION DIRECTORS:

If you or a school representative are not in attendance at the evening of auditions, your students will not be eligible to participate in the All-Suburban Jazz Band. (Please see MSHSAA Bylaw below) All-Suburban concert and jazz auditions, rehearsals, and performances are considered MSHSAA interscholastic activities. Those activities are governed by MSHSAA Bylaw 103.

Bylaw 103: Responsibility for Supervision

No individual student, team, or activities group shall be permitted to participate in interscholastic events without being accompanied and supervised by a representative of the school faculty or administrative staff.

REHEARSALS/CONCERT:

Rehearsals will be held on the following dates at Ladue Horton Watkins High School:

Monday, November 30 – 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Monday, December 7 – 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Rehearsals will be held on the following dates at a site yet to be determined:

Friday, January 8 – 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 9 – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The concert will be held at a site yet to be determined on:

Sunday, January 10 – 2:00 p.m.

CLINICIAN:

This year's All-Suburban guest director will be Mr. Steve Wiest. *Arabesque Recording* artist Steve Wiest is in great demand as a featured soloist, composer/arranger and clinician. He has performed extensively in the U.S., South America, Australia, Japan, and Europe.

From 1981-1986, Steve was the featured trombonist and one of the arrangers for Maynard Ferguson's Band. While with Maynard, he recorded two CDs: 'Form' and 'Live From San Francisco.' Steve reunited with Maynard for a final performance at the Blue Note in New York for 12 sold out shows in July, 2006. The all-star MF alum group then went into the studio to record what would be Maynard's final CD, to be released in early 2007. Included on this release will be Wiest's arrangements of 'Besame Mucho' and 'Ain't No Sunshine When She's Gone'

Following his years with Ferguson, Steve completed a Masters Degree in Jazz Studies at the University of North Texas. While at UNT, he was the lead trombonist and one of the featured arrangers for the UNT 1:00 Lab Band. His composing, arranging, and trombone playing can be heard on the following UNT CDs: 'Lab '86,' 'Lab '87,' 'Lab '88,' 'With Respect To Stan,' 'Live From Australia,' 'The Best of The 1:00,' and 'Fifty Years of Jazz at North Texas.' Steve also contributed a chart to 'Lab 89.' In 1997 in celebration of the 50th year of the UNT Jazz Studies Program, Steve was a featured soloist with an all-star band of UNT alumni that included: Tom Malone, Ed Soph, Marvin Stamm, Lou Marini, and Jack Peterson.

After a two-year stint as Assistant Director of Jazz Studies at The University of Texas at Arlington, [1988-1990], Steve became Director of Jazz Studies and Trombone at The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. During his tenure at UW-Whitewater, Steve was also a regular member of the Doc Severinsen Big Band and recorded 'Swingin' The Blues' with Doc on Azika Records in 2000.

Wiest's new solo CD: 'Excalibur: The Steve Wiest Big Band' was released in August of 2006 by Arabesque Jazz to wide critical acclaim. Steve was appointed Assistant Professor of Jazz at the University of North Texas in 2007 and teaches jazz composition and jazz trombone.