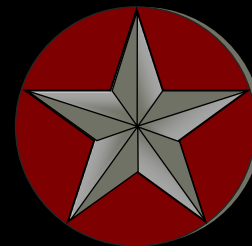




Texas Jazz Educators Association Newsletter



Highlighting Jazz Activities in the State of Texas

February 2017

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Texas Jazz
Educators,

I hope the new year finds you excited and motivated to keep bringing this vital music to your students. I believe that we are very fortunate to teach music in this State, and I think that we should all feel the necessity to advocate for music education in our public schools more than ever, on behalf of our students and the music itself.

TMEA is as you know right around the corner, and I hope you will try to attend as many jazz clinics and concerts as you can! A few highlights of this year's convention are the concerts by the **UT Jazz Orchestra** under the direction of **Jeff Hellmer** and this year's Invited High School Jazz Ensemble, **Harlingen HS** under the direction of **Ronnie Rios**. There are also a lot of really exciting jazz clinics, including one by our own Executive Director **Alex Parker** called "*Teaching Improvisation: Simple Ways to Help Students Make the Changes*". Another is by Jazz at Lincoln Center's **Sharon Burch** titled "*Hands-On Jazz for Young People*" and a clinic by TMEA featured clinician **Patrick Ware** entitled "*Hip Cats and Cool Kids: Jazz in the Classroom*".

Please be sure to visit TJEA.org for information on grant applications, and do consider submitting your high school big band's recording for TMEA Invited High School Jazz Ensemble consideration. We will be discussing all of this, as well as the TMEA All-State jazz audition process and other new business at our [General Membership](#)



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Meeting at TMEA, 1:00-2:00pm on Thursday February 8th in CC305.

I would like to sincerely thank Executive Director **Alex Parker** for all of his hard work and advocacy for jazz in Texas, as well as the rest of the TJE board for their service. I would also like to welcome and congratulate TJE President-Elect **Sarah Roberts** on her election to the board. The Symposium will be in her hands this year, and I think that she has some exciting things in store, to be announced soon. Finally, thanks to the tireless **John Goode** for his hard work on this newsletter

year in and year out, and to webmaster **Cathy Benford** and Treasurer **Heather Mensch** for keeping the wheels of TJE turning constantly.

I hope to see you all at TMEA in a few weeks. If we've never met and you see my name tag, please stop me and say hello! Thanks again for your service to music education.

Best regards,

David Lown
President, TJE

College of the Mainland Jazz

COM Trumpet student **Ronnie Howard** has been selected to play in the Texas Community College All-State Jazz Ensemble which will perform at TMEA in February. Last year Ronnie performed with the Texas Community College All-State Symphonic Band. Ronnie is a student of **Sparky Koerner**.

College of the Mainland Jazz Ensemble will join other Gulf Coast Intercollegiate Consortium colleges such as Alvin Community College, Brazosport College, Lone Star College – North Harris, San Jacinto College – Central and maybe others for the GCIC Jazz Festival 2017 to be held March 26, 2017 in Kemah on their outdoor stage. Previous participants still pending include HCC, Lee College and Lone Star CyFair. Each group will include a guest artist.



Sparky Koerner with trumpet student Ronnie Howard at College of the Mainland.

GCIC Jazz Festival 2017 - Confirmed bands and artists:

Alvin Community College – Kelly Dean
Brazosport College – Keith Vivens
College of the Mainland – Johnny Gonzales
Lone Star North Harris – David Caceras
San Jacinto College- Central – Shelly Carrol (pending)

Continued next page...

The COM ensemble will have its *Evening of Jazz* with the **Texas City High School Jazz Ensemble** on April 1, 2017 at the Texas City High School. Guest artist this year will be **Dr. Debra Scott** – Professor of Trombone and Director of *The Swingin' Axes Jazz Ensemble* at Stephen F. Austin University. The *Evening of Jazz* is in Celebration of Jazz Appreciation Month.

Sparky continues to perform at the Tremont House Hotel in Galveston a few times a month with **Trio Du Jour**. So if you're in Galveston on the weekends (Friday or Saturday) stop in the lobby and enjoy some jazz from 6 to 10 pm.

Southwestern University's jazz director, David Guidi

Kudos to David who was the clinician for the TMEA Region 32 All-region Jazz Band clinic and concert held December 9th-10th. The concert was at Glenn High School in Leander, on December 10th. The program included:

Don't Get Sassy by Thad Jones, arr. Mike Carubia

Mambo Inn words and music by Grace Sampson, George Woodlen, Mario Bauza, transcribed and adapted by Jon Harpin

Big Heart Lament by David Guidi

Hooked by David Guidi

El Nino by Joey Calderazzo, arr. Vince Norman

Moanin' by Charles Mingus, arr. Sy Johnson

David is director of the Southwestern University Jazz Band and part-time assistant professor of music and applied saxophone.

guidid@southwestern.edu

Bari Woodwinds Artist

www.davidguidi.com

**Be Sure To Attend Your TJEAA Membership Meeting During TMEA.
Thursday, Feb. 8th
1:00 – 2:00 PM / CC 305
Texas Jazz Educators Association Meeting**



Angelina College

3500 South First (Hwy 59 South)

Lufkin, Texas 75902-1768

AC Jazz Festival

Entry Form

Thursday March 2, 2017
Hudgins Hall Auditorium

Featuring Joe Eckert

Former lead alto saxophonist
And director of the legendary world famous
"Airmen of Note Jazz Ensemble"

"Without a doubt, Joe is one of the finest and strongest lead alto players, and accomplished soloists, in the world today." -Mark Channon, Thursday Morning Jazz Host, 91.3 FM, WWUH radio, West Hartford, CT

"...one of the best classical/jazz saxophonists ever to attend the University of North Texas. Joe is an outstanding musician who is comfortable performing/teaching all styles of music at a very high level." - Jim Riggs, Regents Professor of Saxophone (retired), University of North Texas

The Jazz Festival is open to all beginner to advanced Middle School and High School Big Bands and Combos. This is a non-competitive event and schools have the option to perform for ratings and/or a clinic with Joe Eckert after your performance. Free concert at 7:30 PM featuring Joe Eckert with the AC Combo and Big Band.

Entry Fees

Big Band: \$100

Combo: \$50

Deadline: February 24, 2017

School Name: _____

Mail, Fax, or email:

Director Name: _____ School Phone _____

Angelina College

Email Address: _____

Attn. Larry Greer

Address: _____

P.O. Box 1768

City, State, Zip _____

Lufkin, TX 75902

Combo \$ _____ Make Checks payable to: Angelina College Jazz Festival

Big Band \$ _____ Contact info: Larry Greer 936-633-5236

Total \$ _____ lgreer@angelina.edu





Angelina College Jazz Band, Larry Greer, Director. See the Angelina College Jazz Festival entry information on the previous page.

Weatherford College Jazz Band 2016-2017



Coyote Jazz Fest 2017! Friday, March 24
Ensemble Performances/Clinics; Improvisation/Jazz Theory Workshops;
Sight Reading Ensemble; Master Classes for all Instruments.

Register online at www.wc.edu/jazzfest-2017-registration-form

March 4th 2017
Lamar High School 1400 W. Lamar Blvd.
Arlington, TX



Hosted by Lamar High School in Arlington, TX 76014

For Registration and more information visit:

www.VikingJazzFestival.weebly.com

For any questions please contact:

T. Jarred Carlton III at TCarlton@aisd.net

VIKING
JAZZ
STUDIES

Resources for Jazz Festival Success

by John Goode, editor

It's festival season! Many of you are diligently preparing your jazz ensembles for one or more jazz festivals coming up soon. What follows is a small guide to resource material to expand your skill set. Hopefully some of the suggested sources will be new to you and will provide just the inspiration or that long-sought-after rehearsal technique that will make your group truly superior in their festival endeavors.

An excellent starting place is an article by **David Berger**. His name may be familiar for many reasons but also as the transcriber of most, if not all, of the Duke Ellington arrangements compiled and published for the annual Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition sponsored by *Jazz at Lincoln Center*. The easy to follow article takes you through band set up, amplification, repertoire and programming, intonation, running through charts, your job as the conductor, the rhythm section, phrasing/articulations, dynamics, vibrato, stage behavior and attire, vocalists and suggestions on timing out the program. It might be the only resource you need. Follow the link to read Mr. Berger's suggestions. [Notes on Conducting Jazz Ensembles by David Berger](#)

Next is a short pdf file from the University of Florida jazz department. The author is not listed and the article is targeted for individuals preparing for an audition but much of the information is usable by any band director preparing their ensemble for festival performance. One example is where the article states, "About a week or so before you take an audition you should make it a point to increase your listening to no less than 2 hours a day.....Make sure, when listening, to identify the qualities you like in every section of the recording you are listening to." Even though the article mentions "having a Walkman headset or a mini-disk player" (remember those?) the concept is still relevant and useful for full bands. Many bands do not listen enough. And the listening and analysis process ideally should start long before the festival date approaches. But adapting this idea to your own bands situation can make for a winning contribution to their jazz education.

The article covers other topics such as preparing the mind for the performance by counting rhythms and types of number

Are you creative? This question may seem out of place in this article but it goes to the root of the matter.

Creative thinking can be practiced, I believe. If you read one of these source articles and think, "That won't work with my group", you have terminated your creative thinking prematurely. A better response would be to ask yourself, "That works for the author now how can I adapt it for my group". Then do mental experiments. Ask yourself, "What if I tried doing it this way?", "What if we did 5 minutes of that at a slower tempo each day?", "What if I used that approach earlier in the year because we just don't have time for it now?".

By thinking in a way that reassembles the information you've read in a new order or with a different application you are improvising pedagogically. That is, you're being a creative teacher. A jazz musician takes up the life-long task to improve as an improviser so a good teacher strives to be a creator of new techniques that improve student performance. To do that one simply has to apply Clark Terry's often quoted advice to be a better musician but apply it to be a creative teacher. That advice was, "Imitate, Assimilate, Innovate". Take what you've read and copy the ideas, learn from the ideas then adapt to create your own version that meets the needs of your specific situation and students. Be a creative teacher!

Continued next page...

visualizations, suggestions for brass players to develop the inner ear to more accurately hear note entrances, what to do the day of the performance and even thoughts on personal diet and exercise to raise the performance level. Read the details at [How to Prepare for an Audition](#).

If you are serious about improving the time of your ensemble and their sense of internal swing, then the next resource is for you. Be forewarned, it is not for the timid or the teacher with a short attention span. The author is Antonio J. Garcia, a performer, composer/arranger, producer, clinician, educator and author in both instrumental and vocal genres. The article takes the reader through a series of ever challenging group exercises intended to bring self-awareness to the students' deficiencies in keeping and maintaining an accurate pulse. It goes on to develop an

internalized pulse in the individual band members through group movement exercises. Each director would need to adapt the information to their own specific needs but the benefits might be substantial. The page contains its own links to other sources for more topical reading. Make a cup of your favorite beverage, find a comfortable place to sit and click the link to this very interesting article. [It's About Time: Improve Your Groove by Antonio J. Garcia](#).

Contest and Festival preparation does not begin a few weeks or a month before the event. It begins on the first day of class and continues every teaching day of the year. Hopefully you will find something in the above resource articles that will take both your ensemble and your teaching skills to the next level.

TJEA NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The *TJEA Newsletter* is compiled four times a year, in February, May, September and November. Articles should be sent by email to the editor in a [Word formatted attachment](#). Avoid sending PDF files, transfer to Word before sending. Photos should be placed in the Word formatted article or sent as separate JPEG images.

Email should be sent to the newsletter editor, John Goode, at newsletter@tjea.org.

DEADLINES:	January 15	(Feb. Edition)
	April 15	(May Edition)
	August 15	(September Edition)
	October 15	(Nov. Edition)

Texas Jazz Newsletter reserves the right to approve and edit all materials proposed for distribution.

BE SURE TO ATTEND
TMEA 2017 !!

JAZZ EVENTS AND CONCERTS AT TMEA

Thursday

10:00 – 11:00 AM / CC STARS AT NIGHT BALLROOM 1-2

Concert: University of Texas Jazz Orchestra

Conductor: Jeff Hellmer, UT/Austin

President: Joseph Muñoz, Pearland HS, TMEA Band Vice-President

1:00 – 2:00 PM / CC 305

Texas Jazz Educators Association Meeting

President: David Lown, Carroll Senior HS, TJEA President

2:30 – 3:30 PM / CC STARS AT NIGHT BALLROOM 1-2

Pedagogical Methods for the Jazz Band Rhythm Section

Clinician: Daniel Cavanagh, UT/Arlington

President: Richard Armstrong, Waxahachie HS

Demonstration Group: UT/Arlington Jazz Orchestra Rhythm Section, Daniel Cavanagh
In a jazz big band, the musicality and energy of the jazz rhythm section (bass, drums, piano, guitar) is often the difference between a performance that pops with excitement and one that falls flat. Cavanagh will present specific pedagogical methods for all four instruments and focus on creating a driving, energetic, straight-ahead swing feel. Miking and equipment will also be covered.

2:30 – 3:30 PM / CC HEMISFAIR BALLROOM 1

Hip Cats and Cool Kids: Jazz in the Classroom

TMEA Featured Clinician: Patrick Ware, Fitzgerald ES, Woodbridge, Va.

President: Darlene Davis, Tyrrell ES

Explore the world of jazz in the general music classroom. Be prepared to scat, swing, move, and groove as we mesh the Schulwerk with America's music—jazz! You will experience all aspects of the Schulwerk, from speech and song to rhythm and movement—student success guaranteed.

2:30 – 3:30 PM / LOCATIONS BELOW

All-State Rehearsal: Techniques and Best Practices

Observe an All-State clinician/conductor in rehearsal.

TMEA Jazz Ensemble 1: CC 209

TMEA Jazz Ensemble 2: CC 211

ATSSB Jazz Ensemble: Hyatt Regency Rio Grande

Continued....

4:00 – 5:00 PM / LOCATIONS BELOW**All-State Rehearsal: Techniques and Best Practices**

Observe an All-State clinician/conductor in rehearsal.

TMEA Jazz Ensemble 1: CC 209

TMEA Jazz Ensemble 2: CC 211

ATSSB Jazz Ensemble: Hyatt Regency Rio Grande

7:00 – 8:00 PM / LOCATIONS BELOW**All-State Rehearsal: Techniques and Best Practices**

Observe an All-State clinician/conductor in rehearsal.

TMEA Jazz Ensemble 1: CC 209

TMEA Jazz Ensemble 2: CC 211

Friday

10:00 – 11:00 AM / CC STARS AT NIGHT BALLROOM 1-2

[Our TMEA Invited Jazz Ensemble for 2017]

Concert: Harlingen HS Jazz Ensemble

Conductor: Ronnie Rios, Harlingen HS

Presider: Joseph Muñoz, Pearland HS, TMEA Band Vice-President

10:00 – 11:00 AM / CC 303**Practical Guide to Improvisation in Band, Orchestra, and Chorus**

Clinician: Christopher Azzara, Eastman School of Music

Presider: Jeremy Kondrat, Plano ISD

Everyone in band, orchestra, and chorus can—and should—improvise. Through improvisation, students and teachers will improve listening skills, gain deeper understanding of literature, and play and sing with better intonation and rhythm. Using repertoire as a foundation, Azzara will provide practical, accessible ideas for teaching improvisation in a band, chorus, or orchestra setting. Suggested for College Student members.

12:30 – 2:00 PM / MARRIOTT RW TRAVIS**TMEA/TJEA Region Jazz Coordinators Luncheon**

Presider: David Lown, Carroll Senior HS, TJEA President

2:30 – 3:30 PM / LOCATIONS BELOW**All-State Rehearsal: Techniques and Best Practices**

Observe an All-State clinician/conductor in rehearsal.

TMEA Jazz Ensemble 1: CC 209

TMEA Jazz Ensemble 2: CC 211

ATSSB Jazz Ensemble: Hyatt Regency Rio Grande

Continued....

2:30 – 3:30 PM / CC 212

Teaching Jazz Improvisation with iRealPro and iOS/Android

Clinician: Justin Pierce, Oklahoma Baptist University

Presider: David Lown, Carroll Senior HS

Technology level: Intermediate

Teaching improvisation during jazz ensemble rehearsals allows students to exercise their creative energies. Pierce will provide lesson plans and strategies featuring iOS and Android apps for classroom and individual practice sessions, enabling students to play over chord changes and transcribe solos.

4:00 – 5:00 PM / CC 225

Teaching Improvisation: Simple Ways to Help Students Make the Changes

Clinician: Alex Parker, Baylor Univ

Presider: Kevin Stone, Barbers Hill HS

Demonstration Group: Middle school through college jazz ensemble members, Alex Parker

Teaching improvisation is often the biggest mystery in teaching jazz. Parker will provide a simple and easy approach to teaching students at any skill level, age, or experience to be successful improvisers who can make the changes.

Saturday

8:00 – 9:00 AM / CC 214 CD

Hands-on Jazz for Young People

Clinician: Sharon Burch, Jazz at Lincoln Center

Presider: Susan Hackett, Puckett ES

Burch will present a step-by-step introduction to New Orleans jazz, including interactive jazz lessons created from the content of Wynton Marsalis and Jazz At Lincoln Center (JALC) recordings. Students play classroom instruments along with great jazz standards of New Orleans jazz and the recordings of JALC artists. Burch will share interactive lessons you can use the next day.

11:30 AM – 12:20 PM / CC HEMISFAIR BALLROOM 1

Concert: ATSSB All-State Jazz Ensemble

Conductor: Ellen Rowe, Univ of Michigan

Presider: Jim Cude, Whitesboro HS, ATSSB President

Organizer: Martin Filip, Ford HS

Continued....

1:00 – 1:50 PM / CC HEMISFAIR BALLROOM 1

Concert: TMEA All-State Jazz Ensemble II

Conductor: David Caffey, Univ of Northern Colorado

President: Joseph Muñoz, Pearland HS, TMEA Band Vice-President

Organizer: Mark Nichols, La Porte HS

2:30 – 3:20 PM / CC HEMISFAIR BALLROOM 1

Concert: TMEA All-State Jazz Ensemble I

Conductor: Denis DiBlasio, Rowan Univ

President: Joseph Muñoz, Pearland HS, TMEA Band Vice-President

Organizer: Arturo Denis, Creekview HS

4:00 – 4:50 PM / CC HEMISFAIR BALLROOM 1

**Concert: Texas Community College Band Directors Association
All-State Jazz Ensemble**

Conductor: Gary Wurtz, Stephen F. Austin State Univ

President: Derrick Logozzo, Richland College, TCCBDA President

HERE IS A LISTING OF OTHER RELATED EVENTS YOU MIGHT ENJOY

Thursday

3:30 – 4:00 PM / CC WEST REGISTRATION MUSIC SHOWCASE

Sam Houston State University Bearkat Bassoons

Director: Nathan Koch, Sam Houston State Univ

The ensemble will feature performances of various combinations of bassoon and contrabassoon chamber works. Repertoire will range in style from jazz to Latin to classical and will feature the performance of a Vivaldi concerto arranged by Nathan Koch for soloist and bassoon orchestra.

Friday

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM / CC 213

Navigating the Many Choices in Portable Sound

Clinician: Peggy Morales, Romeo Music

Show/Hide Details

President: Justin Nuckols, Tascosa HS

Sponsored By: Romeo Music

Continued....

Deciding how to best spend limited technology dollars is never easy, and different needs call for different solutions. Morales will demonstrate and discuss the strengths, weaknesses, and budget impact of the various portable speakers suitable for drill team, color guard, mariachi, dance, musical theater, off-site ensembles, iPad bands, jamstik bands, show choir, jazz band, marching band, and concert band.

2:00 – 2:30 PM / CC WEST REGISTRATION MUSIC SHOWCASE

West Texas A&M University Faculty Brass Quintet

Director: Jeremy Lewis, West Texas A&M Univ

This faculty ensemble performs music from a wide variety of sources, including opera, organ, symphonic, musical theater, jazz, and original works for brass quintet.

Saturday

9:30 – 10:30 AM / CC 212

Improvisation = Student Interest and Success

Clinician: Timothy Logan, Vale MS

Presider: John Thornton, Marshall HS

Demonstration Group: Vale MS Improv Orchestra, Timothy Logan

Grade level: MS

Improvisation provides students a personal connection with music that allows them to build technique and use higher-order thinking skills while having fun. Logan will demonstrate why improvisation is critical to student and program success and will showcase some useful technological applications and equipment. Bring your instrument and experiment with the process.

Noon – 12:30 PM / CC MAIN LOBBY MUSIC SHOWCASE

San Antonio Sax Project

Director: Bobby Baiza, Connally MS

The members of this professional saxophone quartet are local music educators. The SASP will present repertoire of classical, jazz standards, contemporary jazz, and Broadway Musicals. Their mission is to present saxophone quartet repertoire that is challenging, entertaining, and rarely heard.

12:30 – 1:30 PM / CC 216

Why You Should (and How You Can) Teach Classroom Guitar

Clinician: Chris Dunning, International Leadership of Texas

Show/Hide Details

Presider: Samuel Escalante, Univ of North Texas

Demonstration Group: ILT Keller HS Guitar Ensemble, Chris Dunning

Classical guitar ensembles offer an experience to students who otherwise wouldn't participate in music. They can also prepare students for future roles in mariachi or jazz band and for lifelong music-making. Any instrumentalist can teach entry-level classical guitar. Dunning will present curriculum and suggestions for incorporating classical guitar into your school music program.