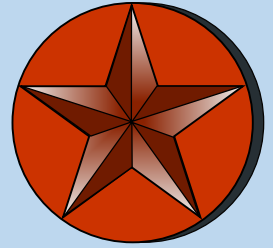


Texas Jazz Educators Association Newsletter



Highlighting Jazz Activities in the State of Texas

May 2015

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As we all finish up UIL season hopefully you are able to look back on a great year and reflect. What could have gone better? What went really well? What can I do differently to help my students love and appreciate music as much as I do? What can I do to grow my students on their instruments so they can play everything they want?

This time of year I am filled with more questions than answers. But my heart is full every time I have a kid play something they were never able to play before. In our profession it is natural to have goals. Everyone always asks what rating we received, how did this contest go, where are you performing, did you hear who is playing at Midwest? Yet, I would advise you to set a different focus to program no matter what the level is. Focus on each kid and what they are able to do. Will every kid leave your program to become a musician? Probably not. Yet, EVERY kid can leave your program with a new respect for music they would not normally listen to.

Maybe one day they will be at the mall and a jazz standard will come on that you introduced them to. Maybe they will join a community band. Maybe they will get some friends together from high school to jam from the Real Book. You never know what kind of impact you will have on a student years down the road. As my career has gone on, I have shifted my focus. My only true goal is to have every student leave my program with the ABILITY to keep playing ANYWHERE they want. I want them to walk into ANY college having a skill set that allows them to join an ensemble. Will they all be in the top ensemble? Maybe not. Will they all be the best player? No. BUT, I want to give them the option through what they learn and

Continued, next page.



Summer session begins in June for the Metro Praise Youth Orchestra. See p. 2.

INSIDE THIS EDITION

- Metro Praise Youth Orchestra.....pp 2, 3**
- C.E. King HS hosts Kenton Orch.....pp 3, 4**
- The Temple Jazz Orchestra Tour.....p. 5**
- Jazz Events at TBA convention.....p. 5**
- TJEA Summer Jazz Symposium.....p. 6**
- TJEA Symposium All Star Band.....p. 7**
- TJEA Symposium event schedule.....p. 8**
- College of the Mainland.....pp. 9, 10**
- Summer Jazz Festivals.....pp. 10, 11**
- Newsletter submission guidelines.....p. 11**

give them a toolbox that has every tool needed to do everything they want.

Another thought for you as you wrap up your year is consider what instruments you let in your jazz program. Do you limit it to the traditional Kenton instrumentation? Do you supplement some instruments here and there to round out your group? Recently, I have stopped limiting my ensembles to the traditional setup. I have other string players, I have French horn players, I have flutes, I even have contra bass clarinets. More kids are exposed to jazz from the performance side of things. More kids are allowed to love and appreciate jazz, and more kids get extra time on their horns. This has been very rewarding. Does it take EXTRA work? YES!!! But that extra work is worth it. Go back to old recordings and you will hear

sousaphones, violins, and French horns. Yet, we shy away from that now to get the "traditional" instrumentation. Use your Finale chops to adapt existing parts or teach your students to use the software themselves. It is well worth the time.

Please make sure you check this newsletter for details about our upcoming TJEJ jazz symposium in San Antonio in June. Attending the symposium is a great way to meet your colleagues and LEARN about how to spread jazz across Texas. I've enjoyed serving you this year as President and I look forward to what the future will bring.

Thank you

Mark Nichols, TJEJ President

The Metro Praise Youth Orchestra

Sixth summer session starts Monday, June 8.

MPYO has offered summer big band opportunities to Dallas-Fort Worth jazzers since 2010. Since 2011, the all-star MPYO has also convened for "short sessions" during the Christmas holidays and Spring Break. It meets in Bedford, central to the metroplex, 2-3 times a week for a few weeks at a time.

Everyone accepted to the program is at least an All Region band qualifier, and is strongly recommended by a private instructor. The higher talent level allows for fast-paced work, conducted by a college jazz professor that is sight-reading intensive. The photo on page one of this Newsletter shows **Justin Pierce**, music professor, saxophone and woodwind instructor and jazz ensemble director from Oklahoma Baptist University conducting the MPYO. Mr. Pierce is an alumnus of the UNT One O'clock Lab Band. Five students pictured are Texas All State Jazz alumni. Two others are All State symphonic players. College interns from nearby university bands sit in the sections to bring maturity to the band. This gives college music majors some mentoring experience and a place to keep up their chops between semesters. With this leadership, the MPYO prepares full concerts in just a few accelerated rehearsals.

Since inception, the MPYO has performed at

Continued, next page.



MPYO performing at Six Flags Over Texas.

amusement parks, libraries, Farmers Markets and shopping malls. It has performed formal concerts with guest artists from **The Stan Kenton Legacy Orchestra**, **Count Basie**, **UNT** and **Liberty University**. Last summer they performed at Six Flags Over Texas and enjoyed a day in the park. This summer's activities will include gigs followed by water sports, go-karting, and zip lining.



A MPYO student gets phrasing tips from Mike Williams, lead trumpet on the legendary Count Basie Orchestra since 1987 who has visited the MPYO several times.

Since 2012, the jazz faculty from nearby Tarrant County College has provided free master classes. An improvisation class in 2013 was also offered to students at no charge, thanks to a grant from TJE.A. The MPYO received a JEN grant in 2014 so that a workshop with Count Basie's lead trumpet could be offered at no charge. In 2014, students participated in a professionally engineered recording session. (Email metropraise@yahoo.com if you would like an mp3 from last year's recording).

The project was envisioned by TJE.A member Gary Phillips as something akin to an All Region Band, but has evolved into something more exclusive. Last year, nearly one third of the kids were All Staters!

For more information and a candidate application, contact executive director Gary Phillips at (817)691-1205, or email him at metropraise@yahoo.com

C. E. King HS hosts The Stan Kenton Legacy Orchestra

Submitted by **Eric Rokohl**, Assistant Director of Bands, C. E. King High School.

The Stan Kenton Legacy Orchestra clinic and concert at C. E. King High School was a success! Sharpstown High School and C. E. King High School students learned from some of the best jazz musicians in the world, and got to see what it was like to be a professional, touring musician. Each section did their own incredible demonstration for the students, and worked

Continued, next page.

C. E. King jazz band members warm up the crowd before the Kenton Legacy Orchestra.



with students on playing swing style, phrasing, and also had discussions on what it takes to make it as a professional musician. The concert that night was even more incredible. Thanks to all that were able to attend! We hope that you will be able to join C. E. King for our next jazz event!

[Editor: I attended the concert myself and it was a treat to hear the C. E. King jazz ensemble perform and see non-traditional instrumentation being implemented to the benefit of students interested in jazz. It was also commendable to see so many young players improvising. Congratulations to the band and their directors!]

*The Kenton musicians' playing defied age. The band, led by the indefatigable **Mike Vax**, brought a great mix of new arrangements and Kenton standards. If you get the chance to book this band someday do it before the opportunity passes. It was a marvelous concert! Here is a Facebook link for more photos of the concert and links to the Kenton Legacy Orchestra's Facebook page loaded with more pictures of their current tour and many interesting items. Click the [Kenton Legacy Orchestra Concert at C.E. King HS](#)]*



The Kenton sax section leads an afternoon clinic for the high school players.



Members of the Kenton Legacy Orchestra provided clinics for all instrument groups the day of the concert. Above and left are moments caught during the trombone and rhythm section clinics.

The Kenton Legacy Orchestra provides the clinics free to anyone (students, adults, non-band members) who have purchased a ticket to the evening concert, an unbelievable bargain for the \$20 fee!



Temple Jazz Orchestra Colorado Tour

• **June 6, 2015, Saturday. Temple Jazz Orchestra**, with special guest saxophonist **Ed Calle**. 'Hit the Road' concert, 'Mary Alice Marshall Performing Arts Center', Temple College, Temple TX, 7:30 pm

• **June 7 - 17, 2015. Temple Jazz Orchestra**, with special guest saxophonist **Ed Calle**.

Colorado Tour:

- **June 7.** 'Amarillo College', Amarillo TX
- **June 8.** Manitou Springs CO
- **June 10.** Ft. Collins CO
- **June 11.** Estes Park CO
- **June 13.** Estes Park CO
Featured Band--**2015 Big Band Bash**
Performance Park
417 W. Elkhorn Ave, Estes Park, Co 80517
Ph: 970-577-9900
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
- **June 16.** Estes Park CO

• **September 19, 2015 Saturday. Temple Jazz Orchestra**, with special guest trumpeter **Wayne Bergeron**.

'Jazz'SAlive 2015', 'Main Stage', Travis Park, San Antonio TX, 8:00 pm

Read more about the TJO at <http://www.wildmusic-jazz.com/tjo.htm>

TBA convention 2015 - Thursday, July 23 to Sunday, July 26 Jazz Events

- How to Teach Improvisation and Integrate Into a Jazz Band Rehearsal – **Jim Snidero**
 - Jazz Drum Set – **Steve Fidyk**
- Having a Successful Jazz Band Within a Successful Middle School Band Program – **Nick Flood, Raul Chavira and Indian Ridge Middle School Jazz Band** demo group
 - If You Can Say It, You Can Play It – High School Jazz Bands
Phil Alvarado and Rowlett HS Jazz Band demo group
- Working with High School Jazz Combos – **Roland Sandoval and O'Connor HS Jazz Combos** demo groups

<http://www.texasbandmasters.org/>

**ATTEND YOUR T.J.E.A. MEMBERSHIP MEETING
DURING THE T.B.A. CONVENTION IN JULY. SEE
YOU THERE!!**

Texas Jazz Educators Association

6 hours of CPE Credit
available

TJEA

Sign up now to be a member of
The 1st-ever TJEA All-Star Band
(see details, next page)

Summer Symposium

Saturday June 13, 2015
John Marshall High School
8000 Lobo Lane, San Antonio, Texas

Open to Music Educators and Middle & High School Students

*The symposium will feature separate sessions for teachers and students
Everyone is encouraged to bring an instrument*

**New Music reading session & give-away sponsored by Pender's, Alfred &
Hal Leonard**

Symposium Fee (includes
lunch)
\$30 for members
\$40 for non-members

Join TJEA
Professional Membership: \$30
Industry membership: \$50
Student Membership: \$10

After the Symposium, TJEA will host a free concert at 7:00 with

The TJEA All-Star Band & **The San Antonio Jazz Orchestra**

This concert will be recorded by KRTU for the South Texas Jazz Project

For more information, visit www.tjea.org or contact Matthew Seifert at matthew.seifert@nisd.net

Be a Part of The TJE A Symposium All Star Band!

For the first time, TJE A is hosting an All-Star Band made up of teachers and students.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN

If you're a TJE A member and plan to attend the symposium, please register to be a part of the band.

First come, First served.

If you have a "hot-shot" student who is coming to the symposium, send us a recommendation (or two) and we'll work to fit him/her in as well—strength of recommendation and availability will affect who is selected.

Instrumentation

	Adults		Students	
To submit your name as an "Education Member" of the TJE A All-Star Band, please email Matthew Seifert at matthew.seifert@nisd.net . First come, first served.	2	Alto Sax	1	To submit a student's name as a "Student Member" of the TJE A All-Star Band, please email a recommendation to Matthew Seifert at matthew.seifert@nisd.net .
	1	Tenor Sax	1	
	1	Bari Sax	1	
	2	Trombone	1	
	1	Bass Bone	1	
	3	Trumpet	2	
	1	Piano	1	Placements based on recommendations and availability.
	1	Bass	1	
	1	Guitar	1	
	1	Drums	2	

TJE A will notify teachers and students of their selection for the band or a Standby List by Friday May 22.

At that time, TJE A will email the parts to all player.

THE ONE REHEARSAL FOR THIS BAND IS 5:00-9:00 PM FRIDAY JUNE 12 ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY

In the event you or your student cannot participate in the TJE A All-Star Band after being selected, please contact Matthew Seifert as soon as possible. TJE A will work to contact the next person on the Standby List for a seat in the ensemble.

Symposium Schedule

Friday, June 12

5:00-9:00 – TJE A All-Star Band Rehearsal

Saturday, June 13

8:00 – Symposium Registration

8:50 – Welcome Message and Orientation

9:00-12:00 – Clinic Sessions for Students & Teachers

12:00 – Lunch & Instrument Showcase

Saturday, continued

1:00 – Clinic Sessions continue

4:00 – Symposium closes

4:30 – San Antonio Jazz Orchestra Open Rehearsal

5:00 – TJE A All-Star Band Rehearsal

7:00 – Finale Concert, featuring

The TJE A All-Star Band &

The San Antonio Jazz Orchestra

***Rehearsals and clinics will take place at John Marshall High School, 8000 Lobo Lane, San Antonio, TX
78240***

2015 TJE A SUMMER SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE DETAILS

Friday	Event	Room	Clinician
5:00-9:00	TJE A All-Star Band Rehearsal	Auditorium	Aric Schneller
Saturday	Event	Room	Clinician
8:00-8:45	Registration, coffee, doughnuts, tacos. Take Lunch Orders.	Choir Room	
8:45-9:00	Welcome & Orientation	Auditorium	Matthew Seifert
9:00-10:00	Teacher Session: <i>Rehearsal Strategies</i>	Auditorium	Mark De Hertogh
	Student Session: <i>How to Improve Practice Sessions Through Technology</i>	Choir Room	Jarred Carlton
10:00-11:00	Teacher Session: <i>How to Improve Practice Sessions Through Technology</i>	Auditorium	Jarred Carlton
	Student Session: <i>Rehearsal Strategies</i>	Choir Room	Mark De Hertogh
	Student & Teacher Session: <i>The Jazz Trumpet Section: Sink, Swim or Wail! (Gaining Your Trumpet Self-Esteem)</i>	Black Box	Dale Schultz
11:00-12:00	Student Session: <i>Improvisation for Those Who Are New to the Art Form</i>	Auditorium	Roland Sandoval
	Teacher Session: <i>Advanced Improvisational Techniques</i>	Choir Room	Aric Schneller
	Teacher Session: <i>Big Band Rhythm Section Strategies - Piano Focus</i>	Black Box	George DeRocher
12:00-1:00	Lunch from Jason's Deli	Band Hall	
	Hillje Music, instrument display (to include 'jazz' models)	Orch Room	
1:00-2:00	Teacher Session: <i>Improvisation for Those Who Are New to the Art Form</i>	Auditorium	Roland Sandoval
	Student Session: <i>Advanced Improvisational Techniques</i>	Choir Room	Aric Schneller
	Teacher Session: <i>Drumming from the Inside Out</i>	Black Box	Audra Menconi
2:00-3:00	Student & Teacher Session: <i>Creative Composition: Using Improv to Create Original Compositions and Arrangements</i>	Auditorium	Edwin Parker
	Teacher Session: <i>Recruiting and Teaching Jazz to Upright Bass Players</i>	Black Box	Utah Hamrick
3:00-4:00	Student & Teacher Session: <i>New Music Reading Session sponsored by Pender's, Alfred and Hal Leonard Publishers</i>	Auditorium	George DeRocher
5:00-6:30	Rehearsal - Full time if necessary	Auditorium	TJE A All Star Band
6:30	Doors Open	Auditorium	
7:00	CONCERT: TJE A All Star Band & San Antonio Jazz Orchestra	Auditorium	

COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND

This has been a busy semester for the **College of the Mainland Jazz Ensemble and Combo**. Both groups performed at the G.C.I.C. Jazz Festival hosted at Alvin College on April 11, 2015. Jazz Ensemble musicians receiving “Outstanding Musician” awards included: **Kim Chavez** – trumpet, **Ed Hooven** – guitar, **Steve Rader** – bass and **Dean Artall** – lead trumpet. In the **Jazz Combo** once again **Kim Chavez** – trumpet, **David Jarkey** – piano and **Nathan Hanna** – bass, received “Outstanding Musician” awards. **Nathan Hanna** also was recognized as “Outstanding Soloist Musician” for the whole festival.

The **Jazz Combo** did a combined concert with the college’s **Saxophone Quintet** on April 15th. They performed a variety of tunes covering swing, bop, cool and funk.

An “Evening of Jazz” was held at Texas City High School on April 18th with the **Texas City High School Jazz Band** directed by **David Richard** and the **College of the Mainland Jazz Ensemble** directed by **Sparky Koerner**. The guest artist for the evening was ASCAP award winning songwriter, record producer and recognized modern abstractionist painter and vocalist, **Kathy Kosins**. Kathy sang with both the TCHS Jazz Band and the COM Jazz Ensemble. Many of her arrangements were done by **Jack Cooper** who has most notably written music for well-known Grammy winning pop, jazz and classical artists including, **Aaron Neville**, **Donald Brown**, **Tony Campise**, **Bobby Shew**, **Christian Mc Bride**, **The U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors** the **Dallas Wind Symphony** and more. Those interested in knowing more about Kathy can check out her web site at www.kathykosins.com. “I believe it was a great evening of jazz for Texas City” said Sparky. “This was our 5th year to do this event and we will continue it next year.”

Continued, next page.



Kathy and Sparky.



Vocalist Kathy Kosins with the College of the Mainland Jazz Ensemble, Sparky Koerner, conductor.

The **COM Jazz Ensemble** and **Jazz Combo** will do one more concert on May 13th on the COM Campus in Texas City.

Sparky Koerner continues to perform a few times a month at **The Tremont House** in Galveston with **Trio Du Jour**. **Mel Drybread** – bass, and **Leah Stonum** – piano keep the jazz happening in the lobby every weekend with different guest horn players like Sparky, **Clayton Duncan**-saxophone and **Ed Lowe**-trombone and others.

If you are in Galveston for the weekend drop by **The Tremont House** located on Ships Mechanic Row. The group plays from 6 to 10 pm every Friday and Saturday evening. Sparky will be there May 1st, 9th and 29th.



Make This The Coolest Summer Ever. Think North!

by John Goode, editor

I mowed my yard a few weeks ago here in the greater Houston area amidst the Gulf breezes (translation: "humidity"). So, like seeking a mental sanctuary, I took refuge in the memory of the trip our family took last August to Victoria and Vancouver, British Columbia.

While the thermometer was pushing the 80 degree mark in Houston I was thinking about walking again along the inner harbor of Victoria, BC and enjoying their 60 degree August weather. Among other things we got to visit some magnificent gardens and take a boat ride over the chilly ocean waters to see pods of whales "*improvising*" their water games. Would you enjoy a similar experience and perhaps enjoy treating your ears to some marvelous jazz at the same time?



Moraine Lake, Banff National Park, Canada

I know that vacationing in August conflicts with marching band camp for many members but if you haven't completed your summer vacation plans, or, if you're one of those who plans a year in advance (really?), you might take a look at the following list of summer jazz festivals in far north Texas, which the folks up there prefer to call Canada. This is how you really get to stay a cool cat this summer!

Continued, next page.

June 18-29

<http://torontojazz.com/>

June 18-July 1

<http://ottawajazzfestival.com/>

June 26-July 5

http://montreal.about.com/od/montrealevents/a/jazz_festival.htm

July 8-12

<http://halifaxjazzfestival.ca/>

August 13-16, on the outskirts of Toronto

<http://markhamjazzfestival.com/index.php>

Can't find your ideal summer destination? For those who wish to further explore other possible festivals check out the Wikipedia listing of world-wide jazz festivals.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_jazz_festivals

Look for more world-wide and stateside jazz festivals here (not all are summer festivals).

<http://www.apassion4jazz.net/festivals-6.html>



TJEA NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The **TJEA Newsletter** is compiled four times a year, in February, May, August and November. Articles should be sent by email to the editor in a Word formatted attachment. Any photos should be placed in your 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)
	July 15	(August Edition)
	October 15	(Nov. Edition)

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