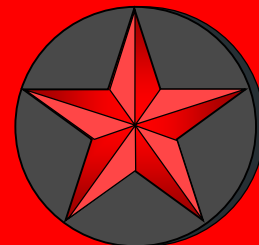




Texas Jazz Educators Association Newsletter



Highlighting Jazz Activities in the State of Texas

November 2013

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear TJEA Members,

I hope that everyone is having a productive fall semester. There are many wonderful things happening jazz-wise that I would like to bring to your attention. First, the deadline for the TJEA Grants was extended and we received many excellent entries. The winners will be contacted very shortly, and the results should be on the TJEA website in November. Secondly, thanks to **Greg Ball** for handling the All-State judging which will be held at Allen High School in Allen, Texas November 9th & 10th. As we all know Southlake Carroll High School, directed by **David Lown**, was chosen as the 2014 TMEA invited high school jazz ensemble. If you want to apply for the 2015 TMEA invited high school jazz ensemble please know that the deadline for applications is May 15, 2014 with the announcement of the winner by June 15, 2014. The application is on the TMEA website (TMEA>Divisions & Regions>Band>Convention HS Jazz Band Application). We hope to receive many new entries!

Two new awards presented by TJEA, the Jazz Educator Hall of Fame and the Jazz Educator of the Year were announced by **Roland Sandoval** at the summer meeting. Our thanks to Roland as we finalize the details. Thanks also go to all of our Region Chairs for hosting and running the All-Region jazz auditions.

I hope all of you are planning to attend the Jazz Education Network's 5th Annual Conference to be held in Dallas, Texas January 8-11, 2014. The lineup of artists, clinics, professional and school performances is out-of-this-world! Find complete information at <http://jazzednet.org>.

Have a great rest of the year and I hope to see you at the Texas Jazz Educators Association meeting this February during the TMEA Convention.

Sincerely,

Aric Schneller
President, TJEA

Dallas Conference 2014



Be there for the jazz event of the year!

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Mesquite All-District Jazz Ensemble

Mesquite ISD assembled their first-ever All-District Jazz Ensemble this past July. The band's makeup included the best jazz musicians from all five Mesquite ISD High Schools; **John Horn High School, Mesquite High School, North Mesquite High School, Poteet High School, and West Mesquite High School.**

The band was given the opportunity to perform for an audience of over 4,000 teachers and district personnel in August at the Mesquite ISD Convocation. This was a great moment for jazz education in Texas, as the students were provided the unique experience of five high schools coming together as one to perform a concert that was the highlight of the convocation.

This awesome educational experience would not have been possible without the leadership of Mesquite ISD Fine Arts Director, **Mr. Steve Andre**, and the Director of the All-District Jazz Ensemble, Mesquite High School Assistant Director of Bands, **Mr. Chris Clark.**

The band will perform again in March when Mesquite ISD is hosting a jazz night that will offer MISD jazz ensembles performance and clinic opportunities. It will also feature the Dallas-area **Celebration Jazz Orchestra.**

Jazz Education is going strong in Mesquite ISD!



Band members included the following students.

Horn HS: Steven Rubio, Elizabeth Rodriguez. **West Mesquite HS:** Cameron Moreau, Cesar Cazares, Ricardo Rayas, and Christopher Raygoza. **North Mesquite HS:** Tyler Griffin, Dillon Montes, and Thomas Hill
Poteet HS: Elijah Kozak, Gretta Royle, Amanda Shotts. **Mesquite HS:** Jack Nystrom, Bryinna Waddle, Ben Jimenez, Abram Gallegos, Andrew Asemokai, Julian Gonzales, Isaiah Peleyo, Brayden Doty

**Jazz Education Network
5th Annual Conference.**

DALLAS

**SAVE JANUARY
THE 8-11
DATE 2014**



**Clinics • Networking • Industry
Exhibits • Live Concerts**

JENerations Jazz Festival: Teachers, submit your combos, big bands, and vocal jazz ensembles of all ages for a non-competitive performance. Students receive adjudication and a clinic by world-class clinicians plus a 1-year JEN membership.



The Jazz Education Network is dedicated to building the jazz arts community by advancing education, promoting performance, and developing new audiences.

JazzEdNet.org

Big Band Classics - Featuring Julie Johnson

Friday-Saturday, November 8-9, 7:30 PM ~ PAC Theater, Lone Star College-Kingwood, TX
Big Band Classics - Featuring Julie Johnson



Vocalist, Julie Johnson

Back by popular demand!! Julie Johnson will perform classics of the big band era with the renowned **Kingwood Big Band**. Join us for an evening of great jazz. KingwoodMusicalArts.org

Submitted by **Marvin Sparks**, Adjunct Professor (Music/College Success)

College of the Mainland Jazz News Funk and jazz merge in COM concerts

Two recent concerts at College of the Mainland got toes tapping and fingers snapping.

On Oct. 29th at 8 p.m. the COM Jazz Ensemble directed by **Sparky Koerner** channeled the sounds of New Orleans and Brazil with selections ranging from the blues to funk to bossa nova, and swing to samba.

At the concert, the group showcased many of the players' improvisational skills on the tune *Aaron's Blues*. Sparky was featured on the ballad *Easy Living*. "We had an exciting program for that evening that included a wide variety of jazz styles," said Sparky Koerner, director of instrumental studies at COM. "*Gentle Rain* has a very lovely, singable melody and featured **Kim Chavez** on flugelhorn while Wayne Shorter's *One by One* is a shuffle with strong drive."

The COM 7 O'Clock Jazz Combo performed a joint concert on Nov. 1 with the **New Orleans Funk Band** from **John H. Reagan High School** in Austin, directed by former COM student **Ormid Armstrong**, performing traditional New Orleans jazz spiced with contemporary funk. The high school group formed in January 2011 after Hurricane Katrina which caused a former tuba player to move from New Orleans to Austin bringing his music with him.

Recently, the high school band competed in the **Gorilla Music Battle of the Bands** and advanced to the finals at the **Red Eyed Fly** in Austin. The band has become a springboard for students to become professional



John H. Reagan HS's **New Orleans Funk Band**

musicians, and one of its original members now plays in the **Boss Street Brass Band**.

Another concert is scheduled for the **COM Jazz Ensemble** on December 3, 2013; the group will break out some jazzy Christmas selections to get people in the swing for the holiday season.

Sparky continues to blow his horn with **Sparky's Jazz Express**, **Jazz Sunday** and the **Galveston Symphony Orchestra**. Gigs are picking up for the holiday season with the Jazz Express; on November 3rd Jazz Sunday will perform in Alvin, TX for a community worship and on November 10th the GSO will be in concert at **The Grand 1894 Opera House** in Galveston.



JEN announces its world-class lineup of performers, clinicians, and presenters for its 5th Annual Conference.

Evening concert highlights include:

- Mintzer, Erskine, Clayton & Stryker Quartet
- Jeff Coffin & The Mutet
- Caleb Chapman's Crescent Super Band with Randy Brecker & Ed Calle
- Bass Extremes featuring Victor Wooten & Steve Bailey
- Vertical Voices
- Jovino Santos Neto Quinteto
- University of North Texas One O'Clock Lab Band
- California State Long Beach-Pacific Standard Time
- Brad Leili Jazz Orchestra
- Houston High School for the Performing Arts Jazz Combo I
- New Collection

The conference features dozens of live performances by professional, student, and community groups, plus educational clinics, industry exhibits, networking opportunities, jam sessions, and more. See the [full schedule](#) and register today for an early registration discount.



TJEA GRANT RECIPIENTS 2013-2014

After a brief extension of the application deadline TJEA reviewed the applications for grant money and awarded grants to eleven programs. Schools interested in applying for grants next year should visit the www.tjea.org to read the grant application; deadline is October 1. The application process is quick...forms easy to fill out. Program directors must be TJEA members.

Congratulations to the following programs receiving a \$250 TJEA grant: (*in no particular order*)

<u>School/Program</u>	<u>Director</u>
Washington Irving MS Academy	Louis Romero
Southside HS	William Ricketts
Metro Praise Youth Orchestra	Gary Phillips
John Jay HS	Alex Yanez
Edinburg HS	Sammy Aguilar
Denton HS	Jesse Woolery
CC Winn HS	Alejo Garza
Brennan HS	Roxanne Vickers
Brandeis HS	Jesse Cuellar
El Paso Youth Jazz Ensemble	Marty Olivas
Southwest HS, FWISD	Adam Kramer

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 at the end of the article. Large files should be separated into smaller attached files.

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.

The Stan Kenton Alumni Band

Directed by Mike Vax



Texas Tour 2014: The Stan Kenton Alumni Band Directed by Mike Vax

The Stan Kenton Alumni Band will be touring Texas in 2014 and is accepting concert booking now. The tour will happen late March through mid-April. Regarding the tour schedule, **Mike Vax** stated, "Possible dates: March 26 - April 16. (Not exact, but close.) I wanted to do it a bit later, but Easter is on the 20th of April, which throws a "kink" into our usual schedule of doing it all in April. If there were some schools that wanted something a bit later, we might be able to accommodate them, just depending on bookings."

If your school or group would like to host this historic ensemble be sure to book your date right away.

BOOKING INFORMATION:

925-872-1942 * vaxtrpts@aol.com

WWW.BIGBANDJAZZ.NET



The Jazz Education Network is dedicated to building the jazz arts community by advancing education, promoting performance, and developing new audiences.

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CALL FOR CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS!

For Immediate Release to the Texas Community:

The Jazz Education Network will be hosting the 5th Annual Conference in Dallas, TX, January 8-11, 2014 at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Hotel at Reunion. This event brings together 3,000+ artists, educators, students, industry personnel, and jazz enthusiasts from across the globe to Dallas for this particular weekend, where we will be presenting 85 concerts, 75 clinics and research presentations, 42 school festival participants, and an industry wide exhibition, all under one roof at the hotel and in 3.5 days!

This prestigious gathering features an array of the ‘best of the best’ talent from world-class professionals to collegiate, high school and middle school jazz ensembles, both vocal and instrumental.

This is **YOUR** opportunity to participate as a non-member of the organization. Volunteer your service for a minimum total of 12 hours during the conference and you receive a complimentary registration valid for the entire event! Be on site and don’t miss the largest gathering in the world celebrating what Congress has recognized as “America’s True Indigenous art form”! Come mingle with the jazz greats and those aspiring to be the next Louis Armstrong!

Visit JazzEdNet.org today for Full Scheduling and details. To volunteer, follow these instructions:

- Click on the CONFERENCE CENTRAL Tab
- Next, select the VOLUNTEER Tab
- Submit your application to Volunteer!
- Instructions will be forthcoming on how to complete and select your daily assignments online

It’s that simple! We truly hope you will consider joining us for the fun and excitement!!!

Dr. Lou Fischer,
Jen Co-Founder/Immediate Past president/Conference Coordinator