

THE MASSACHUSETTS JAZZ EDUCATOR

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION FOR JAZZ EDUCATION

WWW.MAJAZZED.ORG (PLEASE NOTE THE NEW ADDRESS)

SPRING EDITION, JUNE, 2009

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1. Message From The President

I hope the 2008- 2009 school year has been a great one for you. It has once again been a busy year for MAJE, and we would like to thank all the directors who participated in any MAJE sponsored events.

I would like to publicly thank David Jost and Tom Tisdell for doing yeoman's work this year. With the passing of our dear friend, Dennis Wrenn, David stepped up and filled in for many of Dennis' duties. And as you know, with Don Bastarache retiring from the Head Adjudicator's position, Tom had huge shoes to fill, and did a terrific job.

Along with our name change, we tried a few new things this year. At the state convention, thanks to the efforts of Paul Combs, we "put the band back together" and held a MAJE reading session. In the Central District, the Trottier Middle School hosted two junior high festivals to accommodate the many groups in that area. Thanks go to Jamie Clark and all the directors who assisted in making both events a success. And finally we contracted the National Heritage Museum in Lexington to showcase our Gold Medal winners from the Combo Choir Festival. By doing so, we eliminated the lottery draw format for both the big bands and smaller groups, allowing everyone to participate. Both the 2009 Heritage Museum and the Hatch Shell showcase concerts were great experiences for the students, directors, and audience members.



In closing, I want to let you know that 2009-2010 will be my last year as president of MAJE. I have served on the board since 1986 in various roles, becoming president for the first time back in 1991. This second go-around in this office started in 2005, and I believe it is time to hand over the reigns to our very capable president elect, Steve Conant. I know Steve is looking forward to stepping in, and will do a great job.

It has been a pleasure and honor to represent and work with the jazz educators here in Massachusetts, and I know the 2009-2010 school year will be another successful one for MAJE. Have a great summer.

Sincerely,
Ray Novack
(raynovack@comcast.net)

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2. Editor's Message

We have moved the Spring Newsletter publishing date in order to get all the festival results in. Also starting with this issue we will be able to include photos - bigger and more detailed than the token shot above - so please keep this in mind if you have any pictures you would like to submit, such as one of your bands at a special event. Please note that the forms for both the Jazz Clinician Program and the 2010 Composition Competition are included, as in the fall, so you can be thinking about these over the Summer.

I know how busy we all are, but please think about submitting an article. For this year's Spring issue, I had hoped to have some more articles from members about things that have worked for them in the band room, but this did not work out. I understand - has been a pretty intense winter and spring for me, too - but maybe you could write something over the summer for next Spring's issue. It doesn't have to be anything big, and if you look at last Spring's Newsletter you can see what I have in mind.

We were all saddened and shocked by the sudden death of Dennis Wrenn. In all the articles honoring him that I read, there was little detail of his role as a jazz educator. This is not to say it was not addressed, just that it was only in a general way. I am working on an article for the Fall issue of Mass. Music News that will, I hope shed more light on Dennis the jazz musician and educator. Many of you knew him longer than I did, and I would appreciate any information, memories or reflections you may have.

Have a peaceful and restorative summer,

Paul Combs
(pcomb@comcast.net)

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4. Festival Results

Senior

Cape Cod Coastal
Old Rochester-Regional S
Dennis- Yarmouth B
Falmouth S
New Bedford S
Barnstable G
Boston Latin G

Central
Div B
Auburn B
Algonquin II B
Blackstone- Millville S
Gardner I G
Tahanto S
Nashoba I S
Nashoba II S
North Middlesex II B

Junior

Central
Tuesday
Div. E
Northborough, Melican S
Southborough, Neary S
Div. B
Southborough, Trottier MS 1 G
Northborough, Melican II S
Wayland, Wayland MS G
Stow, Hale Middle School S
Scituate, Gates MS S
Northborough, Melican I G
Boylston, Tahanto B

Wednesday
Div. B
Southborough, Trottier MS 2 S
Westborough, Sarah Gibbons MS G
Millbury, Raymond E. Shaw G

Gardner II	B	Pepperell Nissitissit	G
Lexington II	G	Mendon-Upton Miscoe Hill MS	G
Nipmuc	G	Marlborough Marlborough MS	G
Oakmont	G	Bolton Florence Sawyer School	S
Div A		Div. A	
Franklin	S	Millbury Millbury MS	G
Algonquin	G		
North Middlesex I	S	<i>Nirtheastern</i>	
Lexington I	G	Danvers, Holton-Richmond MS 7th	S
Shrewsbury	S	Belmont, Chenery MS	G
Marlborough	G	Wellesley MS	G
		Bedford, John Glenn MS	B
<i>Northeast</i>		Rockport MS Stage Band	S
Div B		Danvers, Holton-Richmond MS 8 th	S
Triton	S	Framingham MS	S
Lynnfield	B	Lexington MS	G
Reading 2	B	Newburyport, R.A. Knock MS	S
Wakefield	G	Reading MS	G
Wellesley 2	G		
Rivers	G	<i>Southeastern</i>	
Salem	S	Div. E	
Div A		Stoughton, O'Donnell MS	G
Newton South	G	Mattapoisett, Old Hammondtown	G
Masconomet	S	Marion, Sippican School	
Acton Boxboro	S	Div. B	
Wellesley 1	G	Stoughton, O'Donnell MS (Tues.)	S
Framingham	S	Stoughton, O'Donnell MS (Wed.)	G
Beverly	G	Easton MS (Thur.)	S
Reading 1	G	Norwood, Coakley MS	G
		Div. A	
<i>Southeast</i>		Foxborough Jr. Jazz Band	G
Stoughton	S	Easton MS (Tue.)	G
Stoughton	G		
Oliver Ames	G	<i>Western</i>	
Foxboro	G	Westfield South Middle school	G
Foxboro	G	Easthampton, White Brook MS,	G
Hanover	S	Agawam Junior High School,	S
King Philip	S		
King Philip	G		
Medfield	G		
Needham	S		
Marshfield	S		
Norwood	G		
<i>Western</i>			
Northfield Mount Herman	S		
East Longmeadow	S		
Easthampton	G		
Westfield	S		

STATE FINALS RESULTS

A Division/ Framingham HS.

King Philip	G
Newton South	S
Norwood	G
Marlborough	S
Foxboro A	G
Franklin	S
Algonquin	S
Boston Latin	G
Beverly	G
Lexington A	G
Stoughton	G
Reading	G
Wellesley 2:00 Band	G

B Division/ Fuller Middle School

Foxboro B	G
Gardner	S
Lexington B	S
Old Rochester-Regional	S
Wakefield	G
Nipmuc	S
Medfield	G
Oakmont	S
Rivers	G
Wellesley 1:00 Band	G

Editor's note: Since I did not have all the information regarding MVPs and the band's directors, I opted to leave those details out. I will try to have everything next year. I would like to congratulate everyone who participated, regardless of the level of their award. I hear the results of everyone's efforts at jam sessions and on those occasions when I substitute at the collegiate level.

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4. Reading Session Band

It was my honor and pleasure to re-institute the Jazz Reading Session Band at this year's All-State Conference. Now that I have organized this once, it will be easier in the future, and we hope to make it a double session next year (keep your fingers crossed). For this session I got charts from Alfred, Hal Leonard, Smart Chart and Alfred. We have a couple left over, and for next year I plan to expand the number of publishers invited.

None of this would have been possible without the generous presence of the musicians, who gave really beautiful renditions of the music. It was constantly superior to the publisher's reference recordings - and this was sight reading. The personnel of the band included: alto saxes, Mark Zaleski and Scott Graves; tenor saxes, Doug Leaffer and Steve Conant; baritone sax, Tom Bankert; trumpets, Tom Borning, Steve LeFevbre, Doug Olsen and Michael Reavey; and trombones, Paul Ketchen, Andrew Knight, Joe Mulligan and George Murphy. The rhythm section was Brad Ellenberg, guitar; Ray Novack, piano; Tom Grandprey, bass; and Brent Furguson, drums.

We will have to make sure to get a photo of the band next year

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5. Jazz Education Network

I still do not know what to make of the Jazz Education Network. It has been frustrating trying to communicate with them via e-mail. I offered my services as an "expert" for adult education, and tried to

get more information about the Doug Beach chart that Mary Jo Papich said was available to members in one of her articles in JazzEd magazine, but got no response. We still do not see what advantage there would be for MAJE to affiliate with JEN. I am not sure, at this point if it would even be possible. I know that some of you have joined, as I did, and would appreciate your input. Have you found the organization helpful? Do you have any ideas on what a proper relationship between MAJE and JEN would look like?

For those of you who have not joined, there is regular section in JazzEd Magazine the carries news of the Jazz Education Network. Their Web-site, <http://www.jazzednet.org>, is becoming more informative, and there was an election for the Board of Directors. this is the first elected board and it will be installed in August. There are some well known musician/educators on the board, which suggests that this organization does deserve our attention. However, the question of what the relationship of local organizations, such as ours, would be with JEN remains.

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6. Calendar

Sept. 20 - MAJE Board Meeting, Westborough Doubletree Hotel, 9:30AM
Dec. 6 - MAJE Board Meeting, Westborough HS, 9:30 AM
Feb. 7 - MAJE Board Meeting, Westborough HS, 9:30 AM
March 2 - N.E. Senior District Festival, Reading
March 4 - S.E. Senior District Festival, Stoughton
March 18 - 20 - All-State Conference, Boston
March 18 - MAJE General Meeting, Boston 5:00 PM (tentative)
March 27 - MAJE State Finals, Framingham
April 7 - MAJE Combo/Choir Festival, Worcester
April 11 - MAJE Board Meeting, Westborough HS, 9:30 AM
May 4 - N.E. Junior District Festival, Reading
May 6 - S.E. Junior District Festival, Stoughton
May 15-16 - Showcase Days, Boston and Lexington
May 19-20 - Central Junior District Festival, Southborough
May 23 - MAJE Board Meeting, Westborough Doubletree Hotel, 9:30AM

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7. Contacts

Please remember: our Web address is now www.MAJAZZED.org!!

MAJE Executive Board

President: Raymond J. Novack - (978) 921-6132 raynovack@comcast.net
President Elect: Steven Conant - 781-769-2333 sconant@norwood.k12.ma.us
Vice-President/Acting Chief Adjudicator : Thomas F. Tisdell - 413 537-0987, Tenalto@aol.com
Treasurer: David Jost - (508) 836-7716, davidjost@verizon.net
Secretary: Brian Cervone - bcervone@framingham.k12.ma.us
College Representative: Ken Schaphorst - kschaphorst@newenglandconservatory.edu
Composition Chairperson: James O'Dell - James O'Dell, (617) 912-9155, jodell@bostonconservatory.edu
Clinician Coordinator: Doug Olson - (508) 359-4367, ext. 3025, dolsen@medfield.mec.edu
Newsletter Chairperson: Paul Combs - pcomb@comcast.net
Web Site Chairperson: David Jost - (508) 836-7716, davidjost@verizon.net

Senior District Chairpersons

Cape Cod Coastal: Steve Edwards - 774-238-8064, sedwards@falmouth.k12.ma.us

Central: Russ Arnold - 508-876-0108 w, 508-883-1868 h, rarnold@bmrds.net

Northeast: David Bunten - rmhsband@yahoo.com

Southeast: Steve Conant - 781-769-2333 sconant@norwood.k12.ma.us

Western: position open

Junior/Elementary Chairpersons

Central: Simon Harding - sharding@mps-edu.org

Northeast: Joe Mulligan - (781) 942-9118, jmulligan@reading.k12.ma.us

Southeast: John Kearns - (781) 344-7002, j_kearns@stoughtonschools.org

Western: Luke Baillargeon - (413) 568-1900 (s), (413) 455-5709 (h)
lu.baillargeon@mail.ci.westfield.ma.us

Choir/Combo Chairperson: Sean Landers - 617-993-5992, slanders@belmont.k12.ma.us

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8. Jazz Clinician Program

Dear MMEA Member,

I would like to take the opportunity to inform you about the MAJE Jazz Clinician Program. This program offers MMEA member schools funds to bring in an expert jazz musician/educator into your school. For those who have had clinics at your schools, you have seen the profound effect these experiences can have on both students and teachers. It is the MAJE's goal to promote these positive educational situations. We feel strongly that participation in the Jazz Clinician Program will result in more inspired students, teachers, and communities!

The process for applying for these funds is simple. Simply fill out the form included in this newsletter stating the needs for your ensemble. MAJE has a long list of excellent musicians and educators that can address the specific needs of your group or program. Improvisation, ensemble skills, rhythm section skills, and stylistic performance are examples of clinic topics. Jazz education techniques for teachers can be addressed as well. Once the application is submitted and accepted, the MAJE will pair you with an appropriate clinician who will schedule a 2 hour clinic with you and your ensemble.

I wish you all a great year and hope you take advantage of this great (and free) opportunity for your students!

Sincerely,

Douglas Olsen
Jazz Clinician Program Coordinator
IAJEMA

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MAJE
JAZZ CLINICIAN PROGRAM
CLINIC APPLICATION

Group Name:

Director:

School:

Town:

Phone #:

Email:

State the need(s) of your group or program below:

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9. Composition Competition and its Origins

Properly known as *The Robert Ayasse Memorial Jazz Ensemble Composition Contest for High School Musicians*, the competition was started in the early years of IAJE-MA by distinguished pianist, and educator Bob Ayasse. As a music educator he taught in the Lynfield Public Schools at all levels. As a pianist he was often engaged by star players, such as Charlie Ventura and Bobby Hackett, when they passed through New England. As a composer and arranger he wrote both jazz and concert music, and the book of the late Lionel Hampton had some of his arrangements. This competition is a marvelous opportunity for any budding jazz composer/arrangers, and I urge all those who might be interested to get started early on working something up for it.

Prizes:

High School Combo - \$200 1st place, \$100 2nd place.

High School Large Ensemble - \$300 1st place, \$200 2nd place.

High School Lead Sheet - \$50

Contestants must be currently enrolled as a full-time students in a public or private school in Massachusetts. [The student must be sponsored by an active IAJE-MASS member.] The composer of the winning piece will receive a cash award and, if possible, will have the piece performed. When appropriate, additional entries may be awarded Honorable Mention. If no entry is deemed outstanding, the committee reserves the right not to award a winner.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY :

1. Applicant must be enrolled as a full time student in a public or private high school or middle school in the state of Massachusetts.
2. The composition must be the work of the student.
3. Instrumentation for large jazz ensemble: Minimum - 4 trumpets, 3 trombones, 4 reeds, piano, bass and drums. Vocalist may be used.
4. Instrumentation for jazz combo: Minimum - 2 horns plus rhythm section. Maximum - 5 horns plus rhythm section which can be expanded to include auxiliary percussion. A vocalist may be used.
5. The composition should be in the Jazz idiom and include elements of and for improvisation.
6. The composition must be at least three minutes in length.
7. All scores must be full scores and may be in concert pitch or transposed. A complete set of parts must be included and be written clearly and be legible. Scores and parts must be accompanied by a cassette recording. Live performances are preferred. Sound and performance quality will not be a factor in the evaluation.
8. Although encouraged to compose an original work, students may arrange a work of another composer. If so, please indicate name of composer. Priority will be given to original works.
9. Students may submit only one composition in each category (large ensemble/jazz combo/lead sheet) per contest.
10. Non-winning entries may be re-entered. Winners may re-enter if qualified, but cannot use the same composition.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGEMENT:

- a. Originality.
- b. Creative use of instrumentation.
- c. Consistency of style, clarity, legibility and correctness of Writing. (Full score)
- d. Compositional and arranging techniques: theme development, counterlines, creative backgrounds, and overall craftsmanship.
- e. Technical demands of the parts - range, rhythms and overall playability.
- f. Sophistication - content and orchestration
- g. Live recording of composition.

DEADLINE: Scores, parts and tapes must be submitted ***no later than mid-April 2010***.(exact date TBA)

Please send application forms (Form will be included in the Fall Newsletter), scores, parts and tapes to:

James O'Dell

c/o The Boston Conservatory, 8 The Fenway, Boston, MA 02215. (617) 912-9155

jodell@bostonconservatory.edu

Robert Ayasse Memorial Jazz Ensemble Composition Contest - Entry Form

Composer Name: _____ Age _____

Student Address _____ Phone: _____

_____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Summer or Permanent Address (if different from above):

Name of School: _____

School Address: _____ School Phone: _____

_____ Zip: _____

MMEA Sponsor: _____

Printed

Signature

Sponsor Address: _____ Sponsor Phone: _____

_____ Zip: _____

Name of Composition _____

If this is not your original composition, who is the composer? _____

Approximate length _____

Instrumentation: Trumpets _____ (flugelhorn)
Trombones _____ (bass trombone)
Saxophones _____ (sop, alto, tenor, bari)
Doublings _____
Rhythm _____
Vocal _____

All entries will receive contest results, summary and comments upon completion of judges' evaluation. Although every attempt will be made to return materials to students, this cannot be guaranteed.

Due date mid-to-late April (TBA in Fall)

- a) entry form
- b) score and parts
- c) cassette

To: James O'Dell
c/o The Boston Conservatory
8 The Fenway
Boston, MA 02215 (617) 912-915