

UL BANDS -- 2024 FALL AUDITIONS

Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Symphonic & Concert Bands

Everyone, regardless of major & level, is invited & encouraged to audition for UL's concert bands & Jazz Ensemble.

--**ALL MUSIC MAJORS** who receive a band award MUST AUDITION every Fall. *But everyone is invited and encouraged to audition. You could be just what we need in the UL Wind Ensemble or UL Jazz Ensemble.*

--**POA Housing Award only:** not required to audition, but you are invited & encouraged to do so. Ensemble placement may result in extra stipend money.

--**\$600 Fall MB Stipend only or POA Meal Supplement only:** same as above.

--**POA Housing Award plus extra Fall or Spring stipends:** You are required to audition. The extra money is based on your audition score and we may need your talent.

--**POA Meal Supplement plus extra Fall or Spring stipends:** same as above—audition!

NOTE: The Returning Marcher Bonus (2nd & 3rd year raise) does not count as extra stipend money—it's a bonus! Your original audition and award level determines your plan.

--**Band Fall Award is above \$600**, or if your award is for **Fall AND Spring:** You are required to audition. Higher awards are based on your audition score and we may need your skills in other groups. Audition!

--**Percussionists:** similar guidelines apply, but watch for details (Percussion Wing and emails from Prof. Breaux).

****BE SURE TO AUDITION TO AVOID A REDUCTION IN YOUR AWARD OR LOSS OF SCHOLARSHIP****

WIND ENSEMBLE HIGHLIGHTS: This year's Homecoming Concert will be on Sunday, 11/10 at 2pm. (The working theme deals with Stars/Starring so send a note if you have any interesting programming thoughts.). Our Christmas Concert with the UL Choral groups is on Wed., 12/4.

--In Spring, we have LCBI on Sat., 3/15. Spring Concert is on Sun., 4/13.

W.E. Rehearsals are Tues/Thurs, 12:30-1:45. Woodwind & Brass Sectionals alternate on Wed. nights at 7pm. First rehearsal is during sectional time on Wed., 8/28, 7-9pm.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE HIGHLIGHTS: Fall Concert on Fri., 10/25, then we turn our attention to the LMEA book with New York Voices (2 shows are locked in!).

--In January, we have a campus concert with NYV on Wed., 1/15 (first day of classes!), then a trip to NOLA on Thurs., 1/16. The LMEA kick-off concert is UL Jazz Ensemble with New York Voices at 8pm on 1/16. All conference events are at the New Orleans Hilton Riverside where we'll be lodged. Show #2 is Downtown Alive! on Fri., 4/4 at Parc San Souci.

J.E. meets each Tues/Thurs 3:30-5pm. First full JE Rehearsal takes place on Tues, 9/3 at 3:30. No JE on Tues. 8/27 but Rhythm Section will audition on Thursday, 8/29.

WHAT TO PREPARE: A few scales & some sight-reading will be asked, so practice up on those skills. **PREPARED MATERIAL** is up to you. This is so advanced players can use concertos, sonatas, etudes, excerpts, or whatever lets you best demonstrate your abilities. Be as competitive as you can since degree of difficulty factors in. We suggest 2-3 mins. of lyrical and 2-3 mins of technical music. Honor Band music or solo/ensemble selections can be used for those trying out for the first time. Auditions are private and informal—not a high-pressure situation—but, as stated above, you need to fulfill award requirements by auditioning. Returning members (especially music majors) should be showing growth and progress each year in their literature choices.

Some ask: Why do we have you pick your own audition music? It's because of the wide range of playing abilities and experiences. Since we encourage everyone to try out (Freshman through Grad students), specific passages might be too hard for some or might not be challenging enough for others. YOU are the best one to show what you can do. Our groups bring together students of all ages and majors—NOT just music majors—and even our top ensembles rely on good players from all parts of the university.

AUDITION SCHEDULE FOR WIND ENS. & JAZZ ENS.

NOTE: Late auditions (once classes begin) are only for those who are not in town prior to 8/25.

- **Aug. 12-17: Early Auditions:** For locals and Marching Band players who want to audition BEFORE camp and other craziness begins.
Times by appointment—just email Hochkeppel@louisiana.edu to book a mutually convenient time.
- **Aug. 18-24: Camp Week Auditions:** Use the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board outside the band room to select a time during Marching Band Camp. Sheets will go up the 1st week in August.
- **August 25-27: Late Auditions:** *Special cases only*--reserved for those who were unavailable before classes start. Use the email above, see WJH in ANG 172, or call 482-5669.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITION INFO:

All are welcome to try out (Sax, Tpt, Tbn, & Rhythm). Players with big band experience are always welcome, but every year we have folks who are new to the genre and who do a great job while learning a new style. So take a shot! Fall Rehearsals are Tues/Thurs. 3:30-5:00 p.m. (In the spring, we shift the Thurs. session to Friday at 2:00). Dozens of great new charts are already here and awaiting our first reading on Tuesday, Sept. 3 at 3:30.

J.E. AUDITIONS FOR SAXES, TPTS & TBNS—2 OPTIONS:

(A) Follow the same procedures as other auditions, and if you like, one audition can serve a dual purpose (W. Ens + Jazz Ens.). Just add in a jazz-style selection (i.e., a head, or play-along, or jazz etude, a blues, or standard, etc.) & I'll do a supplemental score sheet to address style & reading in the jazz idiom. Jazz scales & improvisation are optional.

(B) Book a 2nd (separate) jazz audition to feature jazz skills (tone, style, a prepared jazz work, plus optional improvisation & jazz scales. Many elect to bring their own play-along backing-track.)

[NOTE: ALL RHYTHM SECTION CANDIDATES will be heard during class time on Thursday, 8/29 at 3:30. Be sure to sign up on the hallway board to indicate your interest. Piano, guitar, bass, drums, & Aux Perc. players are all welcome.]

REGISTRATION INFO: *It's OK (even wise) to register before auditions—search under AMUS (APPLIED MUSIC). Permission is NOT required for any UL Band course and dropping may be easier than juggling & adding later. We advise you to go ahead and reserve the class times in your schedule if you want to play. Note: 100-level courses are for FR/SO; the 300-level is for 3rd & 4th year players.*

****WIND ENSEMBLE is AMUS 155/355** for 1 credit. T/R 12:30-1:45 + sectionals on alternate Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. (brass & woodwinds rotate weekly). For Grad students: Mus 544-003

****JAZZ ENSEMBLE is AMUS 170/370** for 1 credit. T/R 3:30-5:00. For Grad students: Mus 544-004

RESULTS: should be posted on Tues., 8/27. **Our first Wind Ensemble rehearsal will take place the following day, on Wednesday, 8/28, 7:00-9:00 pm in ANG 168.** We'll use that 1st evening sectional time as a special reading session.

Sectional rotations will begin the following week with brass on 9/4, followed by WWs on 9/11. Players not placed in Wind Ensemble will be eligible for Symphonic Winds, Concert Band, and Basketball Bands in Spring. Dr. Popp and Dr. Landry will have the August scores on file and will announce options for re-auditioning and new try-outs in October. If you have a valid reason for postponing your audition (conflict, overload, etc.) please see Dr. Hochkeppel to discuss deferring without jeopardizing your award.

NOTE: *If you are in the marching band and cannot audition before camp week, you can request a few minutes to pull out of rehearsal to audition. Please see your section leader or one of the directors.*

Membership in W.E. & J.E. is usually for the full year (with exceptions for December grads, student-teachers, etc.). So if you want in, you must audition now and start up in the Fall. Practice up and avoid being left out. You can audition as early as August 12, so call or email for that early appointment and get booked soon. It only takes a few weeks of good practice to result in a strong showing and high placement, so go for it! We need players on every instrument and you could be just what we are looking for.

NOTES:

---It is very wise to audition BEFORE marching band camp begins. Get it out of the way while you are fresh, before things get hectic, and before you get worn out.

---Watch for updates via email and keep checking the ULBands web site & bulletin boards.

---EVERYONE is invited and encouraged to audition in August! Each year, many non-majors make the top concert groups and Jazz Ensemble, especially those who made honor bands during H.S. So don't put this off--just make the effort to dust off your chops and prepare properly. Within the Band Division, the Wind Ensemble is our most select group (typically 48-52 players, one per part) but we have lots of new members every year and always a great group of freshmen and non-majors.

---Our goal is to complete as many auditions as possible BEFORE classes begin. Late auditions (8/25-27) should be used ONLY by those who cannot appear sooner because of travel, arrival, etc. That way we can post rosters promptly.

---Email to hochkeppel@louisiana.edu to book your time. You can also call (337) 482-5669 with questions & concerns or to book. (Be sure to leave a callback #)

REGISTER NOW! AUDITION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE!! Don't put it off—call, visit, or email if you have questions:

Dr. Wm. Hochkeppel, Director of Bands (Wind Ensemble/Jazz Ensemble) (337) 482-5669 | hochkeppel@louisiana.edu | ANG 172

Dr. Shaun Popp, Assoc. Director of Bands (Marching Band/Symphonic Winds) (337) 482-6014 | shaun.popp@louisiana.edu | ANG 165

Dr. Brett Landry, Asst. Director of Bands & Percussion (Concert Band) (337) 482-5159 | brett.landry@louisiana.edu | ANG 167

Prof. Troy Breaux (Percussion) (337) 482-5212 | tjb6611@louisiana.edu | (Percussion Wing)