

** ENSEMBLE AUDITIONS – FALL 2021 **

UL WIND ENSEMBLE / UL JAZZ ENSEMBLE

~~ INFO & PROCEDURES FOR ALL PLAYERS ~~

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

WIND ENSEMBLE HIGHLIGHTS: Hopefully a return to normal! How great it would be to lift all limitations on indoor rehearsal and performance situations. It will be so rewarding to have the full group working on things like AWAYDAY (Gorb), LUX PERPETUA (Ticheli's newest, but we have a pre-publication copy), COME SUNDAY by Omar Thomas, along with some portions of Handel's MUSIC FOR THE ROYAL FIREWORKS & Grantham's SOUTHERN HARMONY. Also FETES by Debussy, and much more. The W.E. opens with a Fall Concert on Wed., October 20 (week 9) and this year we've booked *Holiday for Winds & Percussion* on 11/22 as a double-bill with the Jazz Ensemble.

Our first W.E. rehearsal will be a reading session on Wednesday, 8/25 from 7:00-9:00 p.m., using the initial sectional time slot. Then we continue reading on Thursday, 8/26. (Rehearsals are Tues/Thurs, 12:30-1:45). See below for sectional info and keep in mind: if all are vaccinated, perhaps we can make the case to function normally. Let's shoot for no masks, no bell covers, normal seating. Just another reason for me to echo the Dean's suggestion that everyone get the vaccine before returning.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE HIGHLIGHTS: Rehearsals are Tues/Thurs 3:30-5:00 in Fall. We have a concert booked during week 11 on Tues., Nov. 2. (Showcase is 11/6 if we want to add that in as a nooner.) Then we will share a concert on Nov. 22 with W.E.—*Holiday for Winds and Percussion*.

First full JE Rehearsal takes place on Tues, 8/31 at 3:30. No JE on Tues. 8/24 but Rhythm Section will audition on Thurs 8/26 (with section leaders).

AUDITION SCHEDULE FOR WIND ENS. & JAZZ ENS.

NOTE: Late auditions (once classes begin) are only for those who are not in town prior to 8/23.

- **Aug. 10-12: Early Auditions:** For locals and Marching Band Players who *wisely* elect to audition BEFORE camp and other craziness begins. Times by appointment—just email Hochkeppel@louisiana.edu to book a mutually convenient time.
- **Aug. 13-15: Appointment Auditions:** More opportunities to get this done BEFORE hitting the field. See WJH in ANG 172, call 482-5669, or use the email above.
- **Aug. 16-20: Sign-up Auditions:** Locals and those at band camp (*strange folk who prefer playing while sweaty, sun-burnt, & exhausted--maybe rethink things and use options 1 or 2?*) 10:30-11:30 & 1:30-3:30 signups; with other times by appointment.
- **Aug. 25-27: Late Auditions.** *Special cases only*--reserved for those who were unavailable before classes begin.

Music Majors who receive band awards are **required** to audition every August. Annual fall placement auditions allow us to get everyone assigned to the proper groups and get the various bands up and running quicker.

Non-majors who are getting awards beyond the minimum level are also expected to audition so we can set the bands properly. As award letters state: *you will be assigned by the directors*—but to do this we need to hear all majors and every “basic-plus” award player. (Those getting only POA Housing or the \$600 stipend are always welcome and encouraged to audition, but are not required to do so. Raises for returning marchers are not a factor.)

Percussionists: similar expectations apply, but watch the boards for details. Percussion audition procedures will be set by Prof. Breaux—482-5212 or tjb6611@louisiana.edu

Results will be determined and posted on Tues., 8/24. **Our first Wind Ensemble rehearsal will take place the following day, on Wednesday, 8/25, 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 9/1, followed by WWs on 9/8. Players not placed in Wind Ensemble will be eligible for Symphonic Winds, Concert Band, and Basketball Bands in Spring. Dr. Missal 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.*

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.

WHAT TO PREPARE:—Your choice! Please bring one or two solos, etudes, or movements of your choice to strut your stuff. Something slow & lyrical contrasted by a quicker technical selection is ideal—just do your best to impress! You can also expect the usual scales (*honor band sheets OK if necessary, but memorized and/or full range is better; minors and varied articulations = even more points*). Also expect some challenging sight-reading. Auditions are private and informal—not a high-pressure situation—but everyone, *both new and old*, must earn their spot and fulfill award requirements by auditioning. Returning members should be showing growth and progress in their literature choices—especially Music Majors! Freshman can use District or Solo & Ensemble materials, but put your best foot forward and compete with gusto! This is why we let you select the music—so you can be as impressive as you can—degree of difficulty and your preparation factors in.

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 start up in the Fall. Avoid being left out by preparing well now when it can really have a positive effect. You can audition as soon as August 10, so call or email for that early appointment and get this done soon. (*Please do so!—earn brownie Pts., extra credit, eternal gratitude!*). It only takes a few weeks of good practice can result in a strong showing and high placement, so go for it. --WJH

JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITION INFO:

We have openings in each section and all are welcome to try out (Sax, Tpt, Tbn, & Rhythm). Note the times for Fall Rehearsals: Tues/Thurs., 3:30-5:00 p.m. (In the spring, we convert the Thurs. session to Fridays at 2:00). Dozens of great new charts are already here and awaiting our first reading on Tuesday, August 31 at 3:30. 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. Take a shot!

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

(A) Follow the same procedures as other auditions, but 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, + 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, 8/26 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.]

Fall JE folders will include charts by writers for the 1:00 Lab Band, tunes from the books of Count Basie, Tom Kubis, Duke, Thad, Quincy, even Radiohead! Plus many other contemporary writers as well as big band classics—suggestions always welcome, so keep them coming.

REGISTRATION INFO: It's OK to register before auditions—look 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 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

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) 482-5669 hochkeppel@louisiana.edu ANG 172

Dr. Jason Missal, Assoc. Director of Bands (Marching Band/Symphonic Winds) 482-6014. Jason.Missal@louisiana.edu ANG 165

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

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

NOTE: Other ensemble options are open to UL students. Those interested in the Orchestra may audition for Mr. Blaney during the first three days of classes [call 482-6050, or email to msb3697@louisiana.edu. For combos, contact Dr. Garth Alper. **ENSEMBLES AND LESSONS** are listed in the AMUS section of the Fall Class Schedule. There are limits on the number of ensembles a Music Major may play in, based on the number of classes that the student is taking that count towards their degree, in conjunction with their grade point average. Details of this policy can be found in the applied music guide, which is available in the music office.