

*** ENSEMBLE AUDITIONS – FALL 2016 ***

WIND ENSEMBLE / JAZZ ENSEMBLE / SYMPHONIC WINDS

~~ INFO & PROCEDURES FOR ALL PLAYERS ~~

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

WIND ENSEMBLE HIGHLIGHTS: Plans include a Fall Concert on Oct. 26; with two works repeated as “flash-mob” features during Showcase on Oct. 29; and we’ll round things out with Holiday for Winds & Percussion on Dec. 28 to cap things off.

Just before and right after break, we’ll also be preparing a major work to be used during a return visit by composer David Maslanka, and we’ll repeat that on Feb. 23 (half program with SymWinds); In March we team up with UL’s Opera Theater for a complete performance of *Sweeney Todd—The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*; and we’ll round things out with some music for chamber winds and Commencement music on May 12.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE HIGHLIGHTS: We open in the Union at the Beaux Arts Ball on Oct. 21; continue with “flash-mob” features at Showcase on Oct. 29; and share the stage in Holiday for Winds & Percussion on Nov. 28. We are also planning run-outs that will include “*Prelude, Fugue, & Riffs*” by Leonard Bernstein (a side-by-side band comprising student & faculty players, and featuring our new Clarinet Prof, Lucas Munce). In the spring, shows at Angelle (4/3), ACA, and the Union are in the works.

Woodwind & Brass Auditions will be consolidated this year, so please step up early. Late auditions (once classes begin) are only for those who are not in town prior to 8/22.

- **Aug. 9-11: Special appointments.** Email Hochkeppel@louisiana.edu to book a mutually convenient time.
- **Aug. 12-13: Early Auditions.** For locals and Marching Band Players wise enough to audition BEFORE camp begins. 11:00-2:00 signups; other times by appointment. *Please use these first 2 sessions if at all possible!*
- **Aug. 15-20: Camp Auditions.** Local players and those at band camp who actually prefer playing while exhausted, sweaty, and sun-burnt. (*Maybe rethink things and use the first 2 options.*) 10:30-11:30 & 1:30-3:30 signups; other times by appointment.
- **Aug. 22 & 23: 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 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. (Raises for returning marchers do not apply--those getting only POA Housing or the \$600 stipend are always welcome and encouraged to audition, but are not required to do so.)

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

Results will be determined and posted by Wed., 8/24. **Our first Wind Ensemble rehearsal will take place that same evening, Wed., 8/24, 7:00-9:00 p.m.** Sectional rotations will begin the following week with brass on 8/31; followed by WWs on 9/7. Players not placed in Wind Ensemble will begin Symphonic Winds or Concert Band in January. Dr. Melley will have the August scores on file, and he 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 may be excused from rehearsals to take your audition. Please see your SL or Dr. Melley with questions.*

EVERYONE is invited and encouraged to audition in August! 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 those 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.

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WHAT TO PREPARE: 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 us! 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. 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 anytime after August 8, so call or email for that early appointment and get this done soon (*please do that—earn brownie Pts., extra credit, eternal gratitude!*). A few weeks of good practice can result in a strong showing and high placement, so go for it.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE 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 Thursday, August 27 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 some prepared jazz item of your choice (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; you can even bring your own play-along backing-track.)

[NOTE: ALL RHYTHM SECTION CANDIDATES will be heard during class time on Tuesday, 8/23 at 3:30. Be sure to sign up on the 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 Eastman, Count Basie, Bob Brookmeyer, The Duke, Thad Jones, Bill Dobbins & others. Plenty of 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 UL Bands 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). W. Hochkeppel

**JAZZ ENSEMBLE is AMUS 170/370 for 1 credit. T/R 3:30-5:00. W. Hochkeppel

PLEASE NOTE: Other ensemble options open to students include the Jazz Combos and the University Symphony Orchestra. Students 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. See the MUS section for additional courses. There are limits on the number of ensembles a Music Major may play in. This number is 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

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

Dr. Wm. Hochkeppel (Wind Ensemble & Jazz Ensemble) 482-5669 hochkeppel@louisiana.edu ANG 172
Dr. Eric Melley (Marching Band, Symphonic Winds, Concert Band) 482-5157 melley@louisiana.edu ANG 169
Mr. Troy Breaux (Percussion) 482-5212 tjb6611@louisiana.edu (Percussion Wing)