

# Jersey Jazzer

*New Jersey Association for Jazz Education*

Fall 2012

## JERSEY JAZZER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings fellow educators, musicians and jazz lovers!

Welcome to the Fall 2012 edition of our *Jersey Jazzer*. It is my honor to be writing this column for the last time, as I begin my final year as president of NJAJE. Having served three terms previously (2001-2007), along with this current term (2011-2013) I am looking forward to turning the stewardship of this fine organization over to our president-elect and fellow hockey fan Dave May (different teams unfortunately!).

The first order of business is to introduce – and welcome – our new board members, John Maiello and Robert Van Wyk. John, well known to many of you as the band director at Nutley High School, takes over as the leader of Region One; and Robert, who is the band director at Rahway High School, steps in as the new audition chair for our All State group, which will of course continue as a joint effort with our colleagues at NJMEA. We are particularly indebted to former All State chair Adam Warshafsky for updating the technology of our audition records system, and for his help during the transition to a new audition chair.

As always, we're looking forward to a full state of jazz offerings for the year. Those who are in attendance at the NJEA Convention in Atlantic City should plan to take the opportunity to hear the 2012 edition of the New Jersey All State Jazz Band and Honors Jazz Choir performing at Trump Plaza on Thursday afternoon, November 8, at 4:30 (please note earlier time than usual), a performance that will be repeated on Friday November 16, at 7 PM, at Newark's beautiful NJPAC (tickets available online at [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org)). This year's band will be directed by our longtime friend and colleague (and fellow baseball fan!) Dave Demsey of William Paterson University, one of the finest jazz educators I have ever had the privilege of knowing. Once again, we are fortunate enough to have the jazz choir under the leadership of our colleague from the University of the Arts, Justin Binek. November 16 is an important day for NJAJE for more reasons than one, as it marks our annual conference at the Lucent Center just around the corner from NJPAC. Further information on this fantastic

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## Jersey Jazzer



*President's Message continued...*

one-day conference, coordinated by our vice-president Jeff Haas, is available elsewhere in the *Jazzer*, and we certainly hope you will be able to attend this outstanding annual event.

Throughout the rest of the year, there will be little rest for NJAJE, as we'll be hosting the annual Intercollegiate Jazz Band, providing clinics and performances for our friends and close colleagues at NJMEA for their conference in February, hosting the state Jazz Band Competition in March and April, the Jazz Combo Festival in February, and Region Jazz Bands and Region Jazz Choirs in the Spring of 2013.

It would be remiss of me not to take this opportunity to thank those that have been so instrumental in making our organization work, beginning with our officers and board members (past and present) who give generously of their time and expertise. My special thanks to three specific individuals – our longtime vice-president Jeff Haas, who really makes so many of our important activities work – our membership chair (and former president, treasurer, etc) Jeff Lesser, without whom I believe we would not have any organization at all following the demise of IAJE, let alone the strong organization you are a part of today – and Dick Graham, from whom I inherited the presidency back in 2001, and who continues to do a lion's share of the work for the State Jazz Competition. Thanks also to our colleagues at NJMEA for their willingness to work with us in a spirit of cooperation not seen in many states, and of course to all the band directors, choral directors, students, and parents that participate in our events in any way.

Finally, I would like to repeat my plea of last year – members, please consider recruiting another member to our organization this year, as a strong membership base is necessary to our continued activities. Visit our web page at [www.njaje.org](http://www.njaje.org) for application information.

Wishing everyone a great year, as well as continued success your musical endeavors, especially in the realm of jazz, but in other musical genres as well. We are in it together because we realize the unique value, perspective, and insight that music brings to our lives, and the lives of our students.

*Dr. Jeffrey Kunkel  
President, NJAJE  
Associate Director for Faculty  
John J. Cali School of Music  
Montclair State University*

# New Jersey 2012 All-State Jazz Ensemble Update

David Demsey, *All-State Jazz Conductor*

The 2012 New Jersey All-State Jazz Ensemble looks to be an exciting and powerful band this year, thanks to a number of members who are solid musicians and strong improvisers. Thanks to band manager Brian Height's work in getting the music in advance to the band members, we were able to get through the entire program, and get several of these arrangements already at a good working level.

The selections are widely varied, including some classics and several pieces that plug the students into the jazz lineage. Thad Jones' "Big Dipper," as well as Phil Woods' sax section feature "Randi," and Ernie Wilkins' unpublished arrangement of "Take the 'A' Train," both written for Clark Terry's band, come directly from our Thad Jones and Clark Terry Archives at William Paterson University. Clark Terry has taken an interest in the band's progress on his charts. Randy Brecker's power-funk composition "Jackknife," is also unpublished, written by Jim McNeely for the German Cologne Radio Orchestra he conducts; both Randy and Jim were involved with the choice of this tune.

## The program will be chosen from the following repertoire:

- Tuning Up - *Toshiko Akiyoshi*
- Lil' Darlin' - *Neal Hefti*
- Big Dipper - *Thad Jones*
- Stolen Moments - *Oliver Nelson arr. Paul Jennings*
- Randi - *Phil Woods, for Clark Terry's band*
- Take the 'A' Train - *Strayhorn arr. Ernie Wilkins*
- Lazy Day - *Bob Mintzer*
- Jackknife - *Randy Brecker, arr. Jim McNeely*
- Sing, Sing, Sing (with All-State Honors Jazz Choir) - *arr. Darmon Meader*



### Saxophones:

Nathan Rice- Newark Academy  
Anthony Nigro- Deptford Township High School  
Louis Danowsky- Millburn High School  
Marc Sturm- Princeton High School  
Thomas Allen- Monroe Township High School

### Trombones:

Daniel Sturm- Princeton High School  
Adam Hsiao- Somerville High School  
Thomas Pan- Newark Academy  
Greg Dawson- Overbrook High School

### Trumpets:

Gabriel Gilch- Allentown High School  
Andrew O'Connor- Howell High School  
John Gallo- Glassboro High School  
Jeevan Farias- Morris Hills High School  
Phillip Schroeder- Rahway High School

### Rhythm Section:

Aditya Raguran- Princeton High School  
Ben Cruz- Holmdel High School  
Sean Decker- Sparta High School  
Ashwin Prasanna- Holmdel High School

## *Jazz Choir News*

The NJ Honors Jazz Choir began its 14<sup>th</sup> season with rehearsals in September, culminating in November with performances at the NJEA Convention and NJPAC. This year we have 20 vocalists and 4 instrumentalists, representing 13 schools throughout the state. Justin Binek, head of Vocal Jazz Studies at the University of the Arts, will again be directing the ensemble.

85 vocalists participated in our 2012 **Region Jazz Choirs**. The ensembles performed with the Region Jazz Bands in April. Many thanks to Charles Postas, (Pequannock), for organizing and directing the Region I Jazz Choir, Cindy Hardyal, (Monsignor Donovan), for organizing and directing the Region II Jazz Choir, and to Steve Bishop, (Burlington Twp.), for co-directing in Region III.

Application forms and audition materials for BOTH Region Jazz Choir and NJ Honors Jazz Choir 2013 season will be posted on the NJAJE website in December. Also look for audition materials in the January issue of TEMPO magazine.

We are always looking for choral directors to become involved with our vocal jazz program. Contact Diana Dohrmann, NJAJE Vocal Liaison, at [ddohrmann@njaje.org](mailto:ddohrmann@njaje.org).

## *Region I News*



Hello Region I,

My name is John Maiello and I am the 2012 - 2013 Region I NJAJE President. I have been a band director in Northern New Jersey for 27 years and am currently the Nutley High School Director of Bands. I am proud and honored to have been asked to serve as Region I NJAJE President and will do my best to promote quality student experiences and, most of all, great jazz.

The NJAJE board has planned a great year. The first event is the November NJAJE convention. It is going to be a wonderful event, so come out support your colleagues. The Combo Festival will take place in February. The dates will be announced soon. State Prelim's will be the week of March 11<sup>th</sup> thru the 15<sup>th</sup>. Jazz Finals will be on April 27, 2012. There are still a few spots still available for prelim's. If you would like your jazz ensemble to participate please sign up on the NJAJE website: [www.njaje.org](http://www.njaje.org).

On March 18, 2012, Ridgewood High School will be hosting Region I Jazz Ensemble auditions. All rehearsals and the concert will be hosted by Nutley High School. Please come out and attend the concert on Sunday, April 14, 2012.

As educators, jazz is such an important part of what we do. Let's promote the art form and continue to show the state what great programs are in Region I. Thank you for all you do and have a great school year.

Sincerely yours,

John J. Maiello  
Region I NJAJE President  
Office: 973-661-8866  
Email: [jmaiello@nutleyschools.org](mailto:jmaiello@nutleyschools.org)

## **NJ Jazz Education Achievement Award Winner 2013**

### **Clem DeRosa**



Clem DeRosa is owed much by the world of jazz education, and all followers of big band music. An internationally respected musician, educator, professional conductor/bandleader, composer, arranger, drummer, and author, DeRosa's career dates back to the 1950s. His greatest legacy was as one of the pioneers of jazz education. He was perhaps the first public school educator to instill a solid jazz curriculum and teaching method. His approach became nationally recognized because it produced young high school jazz bands that sounded astonishingly professional. Based in Long Island in the mid-1960s, his high school jazz ensembles appeared on the Johnny

Carson and Merv Griffin television shows. He appeared at the Newport Jazz Festival with the McDonald's High School Jazz Ensemble.

Besides his high school work, he taught master classes at such distinguished institutions as Harvard, the Paris Conservatory, the Manhattan School of Music, Juilliard, the University of North Texas, Hofstra, Indiana University, and the Berklee College of Music. His performance career was equally distinguished, appearing and/or recording with the likes of Jimmy Dorsey, [Clark Terry](#), [Phil Woods](#), Charles Mingus, Ben Webster, John LaPorta, [Marian McPartland](#), Claude Thornhill, and others. In 1961, he was named the New York State Teacher of the Year. Around this same time, he was co-founder and served on the original faculty of the Stan Kenton Clinics, one of the first formal jazz education programs. At the suggestion of bandleader Kenton, he was invited to become associated with the Villanova Intercollegiate Jazz Festival, where he served in several capacities over the decades: he brought his South Huntington High School jazz ensemble to perform as guest band, and later served as clinician and adjudicator. He was a co-founder and past president of the International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE).

**Clem DeRosa** *Continued...*

DeRosa was the recipient of myriad honors, including being inducted into the IAJE Hall of Fame in 1990. More recently, he was inducted into the National Jazz Museum of Harlem (2008). He received the Manhattan School of Music alumni award for achievements in jazz education in 2009. His performance skills enabled him to play with major jazz bands from the age of 15. His early musical career was interrupted by Army service during World War II, where he was a member of the Glenn Miller band. Returning from service, he gave up the rigors of a performance career for the stability of teaching, which allowed him to grow and care for his family. Upon his retirement from music education in 1980, DeRosa returned to touring the world as a professional bandleader for the Glenn Miller, Jimmy Dorsey, and Benny Goodman orchestras. He was also a co-author of several books including ones with Mel Lewis, Dick Hyman, Michael Moore, and Ed Shaugnessy.

His latest endeavor was [American Jazz Venues](#), a non-profit organization that he established in 2003. AJV has the singular focus on the health and survival of America's indigenous musical art form, jazz, and strives to grow a new generation of fans. The musical voice of AJV is the [American Jazz Repertory Orchestra](#), a 16-piece big band that plays faithful renditions of the major jazz tunes of the 20th century.

DeRosa died of cancer on December 20, 2011 in Texas, surrounded by his family. His son Rich DeRosa is a renowned drummer and educator, now on the faculty of the University of North Texas and formerly a member of the William Paterson University jazz faculty. He will be present to accept the award for his father.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!**

**November 8, 2012**  
 NJAJE Honors Jazz  
 Choir and All State  
 Jazz Ensemble  
 Concert,  
 Atlantic City, NJ

**November 16, 2012**  
 NJAJE Jazz Education  
 Conference,  
 NJPAC

**\* November 16, 2012**  
 NJAJE Honors Jazz  
 Choir & All State Jazz  
 Ensemble Concert,  
 NJPAC

**March 11-15, 2013**  
 Preliminary Round of  
 State Festival

**March 18, 2013**  
 Region I, II, III JHS &  
 HS Ensemble and HS  
 Jazz Choir Auditions

**April 14, 2013**  
 Region I, II, III-  
 JHS & HS  
 Jazz Ensemble/Choir  
 Concerts

**April 27, 2013**  
 State Jazz Ensemble  
 Festival Finals

**May 6, 2013**  
 All State  
 Jazz Ensemble &  
 NJAJE Honors Jazz  
 Choir auditions

# NJAJE State Jazz Band Festival Locations 2012

## Preliminaries:

March 11, 2013

Liberty MS  
West Orange  
5:00 PM

March 12, 2013

Bridgewater Raritan  
HS  
5:00 PM

March 13, 2013

Cherokee HS  
5:00 PM

March 14, 2013

Nutley HS  
5:00 PM

March 15, 2013

Jackson Liberty HS  
5:00 PM

## Finals:

*All Division Finals will be held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013*

Division 1

J.P. Stevens HS  
5:00 PM

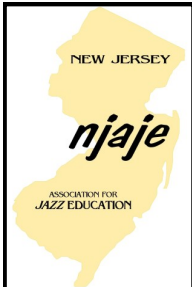
Division 2

Princeton HS  
5:00 PM

Division 3

Steinert HS  
5:00 PM

GOOD LUCK TO ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS AND JAZZ BANDS DURING THE  
2013 STATE FESTIVAL!



## NJAJE MEMBERSHIP FEES & BENEFITS

### Festival Registration Membership Additional Festival Registration Membership Individual Membership Student Membership

**SCHOOL FESTIVAL MEMBERSHIP** **\$250**

- 1 NJ State Jazz Band Festival - High School Band Entry Fee
- 1 Admission to the NJAJE State Jazz Conference / Awards Luncheon
- 1 Subscription to *JAZZ INSIDE MAGAZINE*
- 1 Admission to ALL NJAJE H.S. Prelims, Finals, & Region Events
- Access to the NJAJE RESOURCE TEAM

**ADDITIONAL SCHOOL FESTIVAL MEMBERSHIP** *(from the same school)* **\$200**

- 1 Additional NJ State Jazz Band Festival - High School Band Entry Fee
- 1 Additional Admission to the NJAJE State Jazz Conference / Luncheon
- JAZZ INSIDE MAGAZINE (already provided to school through first band)*
- 1 Additional Admission to ALL NJAJE H.S. Prelims, Finals, & Region Events
- Access to the NJAJE RESOURCE TEAM

**INDIVIDUAL AND SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP** **\$60**

- 1 Admission to the NJAJE State Jazz Conference / Awards Luncheon
- 1 Subscription to *JAZZ INSIDE MAGAZINE*
- 1 Admission to ALL NJAJE H.S. Prelims, Finals, & Region Events
- Access to the NJAJE RESOURCE TEAM

**STUDENT MEMBERSHIP** **\$45**

- 1 Student Membership
- 1 Admission to the NJAJE State Jazz Conference (Awards Luncheon Not included)
- 1 Subscription to *JAZZ INSIDE MAGAZINE*
- 1 Admission to ALL NJAJE H.S. Prelims, Finals, & Region Events
- Access to the NJAJE RESOURCE TEAM

The following activities are considered stand alone events separate from membership. Applications for these events will be available prior to the event date and require additional registration fees:

**NEW JERSEY JAZZ COMBO FESTIVAL** **\$100**

Scheduled for three dates and locations in February, 2010

**NEW JERSEY JAZZ FESTIVAL FINALS** **\$175**

Bands selected for the finals will be notified via email immediately after the preliminaries

**REGIONAL AND ALL STATE BANDS** **Per Student**

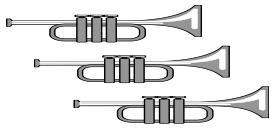
March regional auditions, All State applicants notified of eligibility for May auditions

**NEW JERSEY HONORS JAZZ CHOIR** **Per Student**

May auditions



Jersey Jazzer



THE NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION FOR JAZZ EDUCATION  
*Presents the 8th Annual*



*New Jersey*  
**STATE JAZZ CONFERENCE**

**FREE TO ALL NJAJE MEMBERS**  
*Non-members \$60*  
*Includes 1 year NJAJE Membership*  
**NEW TIME FORMAT 9:00 AM-2:00 PM**

Friday, November 16, 2012  
CENTER FOR ARTS EDUCATION AT  
NJ PAC, NEWARK, NJ

FEATURING TOP NAMES IN JAZZ EDUCATION



**Instrumental Track**  
*The Master of Teaching  
Jazz Improvisation*

**Jamey  
Aebersold**



**Vocal Track**  
*Arranger, teacher, singer, pianist*

**Michelle  
Weir**

*University of California  
Los Angeles*

David Demsey



Justin Binek

Jazz Educator  
Award



Clem DeRosa, post.  
Accepted by  
Rich DeRosa

Registration includes breakfast and a three course  
luncheon remembering NJ Jazz Education  
Achievement Award winner Clem DeRosa

**- EVENING OPTION (7:00 PM) -**  
*Purchase a ticket for a great student jazz event*

**NJ HONORS JAZZ CHOIR**  
Directed by Justin Binek  
**NJ ALL STATE JAZZ BAND**  
Directed by Dr. David Demsey

REGISTER BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd at  
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Or for further information contact  
**Jeffrey Haas, Conference Chair** at  
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