

Jersey Jazzer

New Jersey Association for Jazz Education

Fall 2011

JERSEY JAZZER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings fellow educators, musicians and jazz lovers!

Welcome to the Fall 2011 edition of our *Jersey Jazzer*. I last wrote this message in the spring of 2007, as outgoing president of what was then NJIAJE. A little over four years later, and minus one letter due to the demise of the IAJE, it seems that I'm back for more! I was very gratified to be asked and elected to return to the presidency of NJAJE, the New Jersey Association for Jazz Education, as we prepare to turn the leadership of our organization over to the next generation of New Jersey's jazz educators, led by our president-elect, David Thomas May, who will take office after my new term ends in summer of 2013. A special welcome to new members of our board, starting with our brand new *Jersey Jazzer* editor Meredith Foreman, a teacher in the Elizabeth public schools and outstanding musician. Also joining our board this year are four more fine educators/musicians: our new Region I president Shane Zwiebel from 13th Avenue School in Newark; our new Region II president Joe Bongiovi from Princeton High School; our new Region III president Doug Barber from Seneca High School; and our new co-liaison in the area of Vocal Jazz, Justin Binek from the University of the Arts.

We are now well into another exciting year for jazz education in New Jersey! Those who are in attendance at the NJEA Convention in Atlantic City should plan to take the opportunity to hear the 2011 edition of the New Jersey All State Jazz Band and Honors Jazz Choir performing at Trump Plaza on Thursday evening November 10, a performance that will be repeated on Friday November 18 at Newark's beautiful NJPAC (tickets available online at www.njpac.org). This year's band will be directed by talented musician and educator Mark Gross (www.markgrossmusic.com), while the jazz choir is once again under the leadership of our colleague Justin Binek.

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Jersey Jazzer



President's Message continued...

November 18 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 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 what has become an annual “must do” 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 Festival in March and April, the Jazz Combo Festival in February, Region Jazz Bands and Region Jazz Choirs in the Spring of 2012, and so forth.

Let me take a moment to make a few important observations here. First, one of the reasons for our success as an organization (both during the time of IAJE and continuing without interruption to the current day) is our unique relationship with the state's broad-based organization dedicated to the support of music education, NJMEA, New Jersey's affiliate of the newly renamed “NAME: The National Association for Music Education”. We are very grateful for the way in which the organizations work together, which is not exactly commonplace across the country (“why” all states would not function as we do is another matter entirely, primarily of interest to the small-minded and politically motivated who do not have the interests of students at heart, a characterization that applies to neither of our organizations). And secondly, the dedication of the leadership and those who become heavily involved in NJAJE is simply second to none.

Members, please consider recruiting another member to our organization this year, as a strong membership base is also necessary to our continued activities. Visit our web page at www.njaje.org, or contact our Membership Coordinator Jeff Lesser (jlesser@njaje.org, who has graciously accepted a lifelong appointment to serve in this capacity (come on, no one who knows either of us thought there is any chance I would let Jeff's role end at the conclusion of his pat-presidency!!).

Wishing everyone a great year ... and offering a reminder of how much richer all of our lives are because of our involvement in this marvelous and unique musical genre, jazz!

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

NJAJE

State Jazz Band Festival Locations 2012



Preliminaries:

**Monday,
March 12,
2012**

- Liberty Middle School (W. Orange)

**Tuesday,
March 13,
2012**

- Steinert High School

**Wednesday,
March 14,
2012**

- Cherokee High School

**Thursday,
March 15,
2012**

- Bridgewater-Raritan High School

Finals:

All Division Finals will be held on Saturday, April 28th 2012

Division 1

- **J.P. Stevens High School**

Division 2

- **Princeton High School**

Division 3

- **Burlington City High School**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

November 10, 2011
NJAJE Honors Jazz Choir and All State Jazz Ensemble Concert, Trump Plaza-Atlantic City

November 18, 2011
NJAJE Jazz Education Conference- Lucent Center, NJPAC

Feb. 15/21/22, 2012
NJAJE Jazz Combo Festivals

March 12-15, 2012
Preliminary Round of State Festival

March 19, 2012
Region I, II, III JHS & HS Ensemble and HS Jazz Choir Auditions

April 22, 2012
Region I, II, III Jazz Ensemble/Choir Concerts

April 28, 2012
State Festival Finals

May 7, 2012
All State Jazz Ensemble & NJAJE Honors Jazz Choir auditions

GOOD LUCK TO ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS AND JAZZ BANDS DURING THE 2012 STATE FESTIVAL!

Let's have fun, again!

****All events start at 5:00pm and cost is \$9.00 for Adults and \$7.00 for Students and Senior Citizens.**

NJ Jazz Education Achievement Award Winner 2011

Denis DiBlasio



Baritone saxophone and flute Artist Denis DiBlasio directs the jazz program at Rowan University in New Jersey. He is also the Executive Director of The Maynard Ferguson Institute of Jazz at Rowan. With nine recordings of his own along with published texts, arrangements, and compositions, DiBlasio is known through out the world. After five years as Music Director with Maynard Ferguson along with touring on his own, DiBlasio continues to travel around the world performing and teaching. His approach of keeping things simple, informative and positive keeps his schedule extremely busy, booking dates sometimes three years in advance. His inspirational connection with young musicians is what makes a DiBlasio clinic so special. Keeping things attainable and fun make up the foundation of his friendly approach. It's what some people have termed 'Edutainment'. Why not?

Jazz Choir News

The NJ Honors Jazz Choir begins its 14th season with rehearsals in September, culminating in November with performances at the NJEA Convention and NJPAC. This year we have 16 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.

Last season we initiated Region Jazz Choirs in all three regions. Over 80 vocalists participated. The ensembles performed with the Region Jazz Bands in April. Many thanks to Charles Postas for organizing and directing the Region I Jazz Choir, and to Cindy Hardy for organizing and directing the Region II Jazz Choir. Application forms and audition materials will be available on the website in December. Audition requirements are posted in Tempo Magazine.

If you have any questions, or would like to become involved with our vocal jazz program, please contact Diana Dohrmann, NJAJE Vocal Liaison, at ddohrmann@njaje.org.



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 IMPROV 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 IMPROV 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 IMPROV 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 IMPROV 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

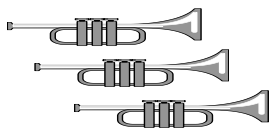
REGIONAL AND ALL STATE BANDS Per Student

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

NEW JERSEY HONORS JAZZ CHOIR Per Student

May auditions

Please visit <http://www.njaje.org/> for the online membership application.



THE NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION FOR JAZZ EDUCATION
PRESENTS THE 7TH 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 18, 2011
CENTER FOR ARTS EDUCATION AT
NJPAC, NEWARK, NJ

FEATURING TOP NAMES IN JAZZ EDUCATION



Instrumental Track
Tommy Igoe
and his Sextet featuring the
Birdland Big Band
Rhythm Section
*Fix the Groove,
Upgrade Your Band!*

Vocal Track
Roseanna Vitro
*Applied Vocal Jazz
Technique in
Music Education*



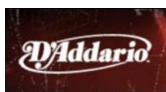
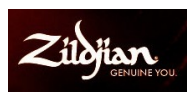
Jason Teborek
*The Art of
Accompanying a Singer*



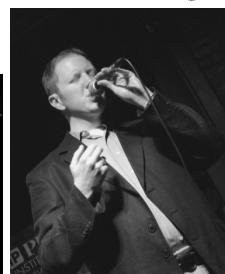
REGISTER BY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1st at
www.njaje.org
Or for further information contact
Jeffrey Haas, Conference Chair at
(201) 207-6736
jhaas@njaje.org

Professional Development Credit Issued

Tommy Igoe sponsored by:

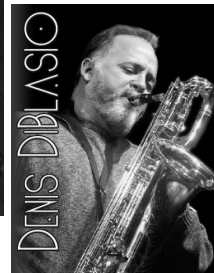


Mark Gross



Justin Binek

**Jazz Educator
Award**



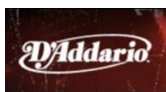
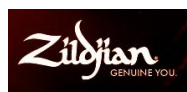
Registration includes breakfast and a three course
luncheon honoring NJ Jazz Education Achievement
Award winner Denis DiBlasio

- 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 Mark Gross

SPONSORED IN PART BY FUNDING FROM THE FOLLOWING:





NEW JERSEY

njaje

ASSOCIATION FOR
JAZZ EDUCATION

**New Jersey Association
for Jazz Education**

1 Boothby Drive
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054



Visit us at: www.njaje.org

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