NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE JAZZ ENSEMBLE and JAZZ CHOIR

PURPOSE

The purpose of the New Jersey All-State Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Choir is to provide a unique and worthwhile educational experience for our member teachers, and their best qualified instrumental students in New Jersey high schools through presentation of jazz -music literature of the highest quality under the direction of an outstanding jazz educator and conductor.

PERFORMANCE

The NJMEA All-State Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Choir perform at the NJEA Convention in November and at NJPAC the following weekend.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

A. The committee chairperson is the NJAJE President. The chairperson reports all committee news to the NJMEA Board of Directors.
B. The Procedure Committee for the All-State Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Choir consists of the members of NJAJE Executive board, including the officers, Region Presidents, and other appointed members.
C. The committee is responsible for formulating policies and procedures for the All-State Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Choir and is subject to approval by the NJMEA Executive Board.
D. The general membership meetings will be in conjunction with the NJAJE general membership meetings and are as follows: November - NJAJE State Conference, February - NJMEA Conference.
E. The executive meetings of the procedures committee and the NJAJE Executive Board are in October, January and June.
F. All Jazz Ensemble directors and enthusiasts are urged to attend the general membership meetings in November and February. Progress reports are given at this time. The ideas and wishes of the directors present are noted and acted upon when possible.
G. The NJMEA President may remove any committee member for just cause.

TEACHER/SPONSOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A. All sponsoring teachers must be members of NAfME. Membership in NJAJE is highly recommended, but not required.
B. The sponsoring teacher must attend auditions and serve as an adjudicator, supervisor or as assigned by the audition chairperson. The only acceptable substitute in this category shall be a teacher who is a member of NAfME and given prior notification to the audition chairperson. The substitute's membership in NJAJE is highly recommended by not required.
C. All members of the NJMEA/NJAJE Board of Directors are exempt from sub-section "B" above.
D. Emergency absence at auditions will be dealt with by the Audition Chairperson in consultation with the Procedures Committee.
E. Should a teacher fail to meet their obligations a letter from the President will be sent to the signing administrator advising them that the sponsoring teacher has failed to meet their obligations to the corresponding organization. This infraction shall cause the school to be ineligible to participate in any NJMEA sponsored activity for the period of one year, up to and including the applicable event.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

A. A student must be a faithful member of the corresponding New Jersey school (or district) musical performing organization and must receive the endorsement of the director of that group. The student must remain an active member in good standing of the school performing group throughout the All-State experience.

B. If the school does not have a corresponding organization, the student may qualify for the All-State organization providing they receives the endorsement of a music teacher who is a member of NAfME.

C. The student must secure the endorsement of his/her parent/guardian, Band Director/Music Teacher, and school principal. An instrumental student also must receive the endorsement of the Region President. All students must pay the required fee prior to the audition.

D. Each applicant must also secure the endorsement of the Region President and if in a Region Band, each applicant must have satisfied the regional participation requirement as certified by the Region President. Each Region President shall submit an eligibility list to the All-State Audition Chairperson.

E. Any exception to the student audition rule must be brought before the Procedures Committee by the Region President/Designate.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

A. Saxophones, Trumpets, Trombones, Piano, Bass, Guitar

1. Each student will be required to:
   a. Know all the dorian, mixolydian and blues scales as stated in the audition packet. Scales must be memorized and will be performed in the jazz style as illustrated in the audition packet within the practical range of the instrument. The scales must be played two octaves, wherever possible, ascending and descending. (Pianists – 2 hands).
   b. Perform the prepared solo as selected by the All-State Jazz Procedures Committee/IAJE Executive Board.
   c. Perform sight-reading as selected by the auditions chairperson.
   d. Improvise 2 choruses on the F or Bb blues per the recording "A New Approach to Jazz Improvisation" by Jamey * Aebersold, Vol.I.
   e. Any student who wishes to audition for Lead Trumpet will play the entire trumpet etude using the top lines in the ossia section. This is in addition to the regular requirements for auditioning. The students score for Lead Trumpet is not computed into the final score. He or she must first be accepted through the regular requirements. Once he or she is accepted to the All-State Jazz Ensemble, then the Lead Trumpet score will determine seating.
2. Wind players will rated as follows:
   a. Scales - 20 points
   b. Solo- 40 points (interpretation and style 20, rhythmic accuracy 10, tone quality/intonation 10)
   c. Sightreading - 20 points
   d. Improvisation - 20 points
3. Piano & Guitar players will be rated as follows:
   a. Scales - 20 points
   b. Solo - 40 points (interpretation/style 20, comping 10, chord voicings 10)
   c. Sightreading - 20 points
   d. Improvisation - 20 points
4. Bass will be rated as follows:
   a. Scales - 15 points
   b. Solo - 40 points (interpretation/style 20, pitch/rhythmic accuracy 10, chord structure/bass line 10)
   c. Sightreading - 20 points
   d. Improvisation - points

5. Drummers will be rated as follows:
    a. Different styles - 30 points
    b. Solo - 40 points (interpretation 20, technique 10, rhythmic accuracy 10)
    c. Sightreading - 20 points
    d. Improvisation - 10 points
6. There will be one judge from each region plus a moderator in each audition room (wherever possible.)
7. All auditions will be blind. Students and judges are not to communicate, except through the moderator.
8. The auditions chairperson, with the assistance of the IAJE state president, will compute the final scoring sheet on the basis of the scores received from the audition rooms.
9. No more than a 3-point spread should exist between the high and low judges score in a 10 point caption with a 5 point spread permitted in the 15 and 20 point captions.
10. Ties in the final score are broken by references to the following scores in order of preference:
    a. Solo (Total Score)
    b. Solo (Interpretation)
    c. Sightreading
    d. Improvisation
11. The auditions chairperson and IAJE State President are given authority to place students who are accepted on two instruments, i.e. Alto & Tenor Saxophone, where they feel it will best benefit the entire ensemble.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Due to the limited rehearsal time, students are required to attend all rehearsals and concerts. No absence for any conflicting activity will be permitted. If the requirements cannot be met, students must notify the coordinator or manager immediately. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the student's dismissal from the ensemble.
B. It is the sponsoring teachers' responsibility to formally request a student's disqualification.
C. Failure to fulfill any of these obligations will result in disqualification from any All-State Performing Organization for the period of one year, up to and including the applicable event.

INSTRUMENTATION

2 Alto Saxes	1 Piano
2 Tenor Saxes	1 Bass (electric or acoustic)
1 Baritone Sax	1 Guitar
4 or 5 Trumpets	1 Drum Set
4 or 5 Trombones (4th or 5th Trombone - opt. double on Tuba)	

If conductor required the use of Auxiliary Percussion, the alternate drummer will be called to cover that part.

Each region shall send no more than the following instrumentation to the audition:

4 Alto Saxes	2 Piano
4 Tenor Saxes	2 Bass (electric or acoustic)
2 Baritone Sax	2 Guitar
6 Trumpets	2 Drum Set
6 Trombones	
2 Bass Trombones	

CONDUCTORS

The conductors will be selected by the Procedures Committee, and with the input of the Jazz Ensemble directors present at the February meeting. The Jazz Ensemble Procedures Committee Chairperson will then submit a conductor proposal form of the selected conductor to the NJMEA Executive Board for approval. The Conductor will direct all rehearsal and concerts, unless otherwise approved by the Jazz Procedures Committee.

All conductors receive an honorarium and expenses, which include travel, housing, and meals. These needs are stipulated in the conductor proposal form and will be approved along with the conductor. Persons serving in either public or private schools of New Jersey who are not NJMEA members are ineligible to conduct the All-State Jazz Band.

FINANCES

All finances for the All-State Jazz Ensemble are to be controlled by the current NJMEA budget. All income from membership acceptance fee must be turned over to the NJMEA Executive Director through the coordinator. All bills will be forwarded through the coordinator to the NJMEA Executive Director. Financial considerations for the NJPAC jazz performance are to be split as follows: 50% to NJPAC, 25% to NJMEA and 25% to NJAJE. NJAJE may elect to assume any additional fees charged by the conductor or guest artist.

FEES

Audition and membership acceptance fees will be determined by the Jazz Procedures Committee with the approval of the NJMEA Executive Board.