



# Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival

## High School Band Competition



The Mid-Atlantic Jazz  
Festival Swings the D.C.  
Suburbs...

--Eric Fine  
Downbeat Magazine,  
June 2010

**Festival Dates: February 17<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Competition Date: February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Place: Hilton Executive Meeting Center, Rockville, Maryland**

**Event:** Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival

**Produced by:** The Jazz Academy of Music

**Phone:** 301-871-8418

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**Website:** [www.midatlanticjazzfestival.org](http://www.midatlanticjazzfestival.org)

**Website:** [www.jazzacademy.org](http://www.jazzacademy.org)

**Address:** P.O. Box 6744; Silver Spring, MD 20916

## FESTIVAL BACKGROUND

The Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival (MAJF) is a reincarnation of the East Coast Jazz Festival, which was a 14 year mainstay in the Washington area until 2007. In 2010, the first Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival was launched by the Jazz Academy of Music, Inc, a Maryland non-profit organization, whose mission is to advance and preserve jazz music through education. The MAJF's three day inaugural event has been a huge success, with attendance of over 4,000 jazz lovers. Attendees are comprised of listeners, educators, students, parents and musicians. Attendees travel to the festival from points all along the Mid-Atlantic seaboard and beyond.

The MAJF showcases local and touring jazz artists of traditional and contemporary genres. Also, showcased are the gospel and blues genres that are primary influences of jazz music. One of the most important aspects of the festival is the focus on the education of young musicians. Middle and high schools, as well as, collegiate level jazz bands perform at the festival. The students also have the opportunity to attend master classes conducted by the touring musicians that are performing at the festival, screen films covering legacy musicians, play in open "jam sessions" with professional musicians and of course see the pros in live performances. Most of these opportunities are free and open to the public.

The MAJF programming consists of 3 ½ days of jazz music performances by some of the top musicians in the country. Artists like NEA Jazz Master Jimmy Heath, renowned pianist Mulgrew Miller, saxophonist Bobby Watson and trumpeter Terrell Stafford have graced our stage. In addition, the event has an educational component that includes master classes, film screenings and interviews in front of a live audience with some of the more popular performing artists. The 2012 event will include:

- 10-12 marquee performances on the Main Stage,
- 10-12 performances on our Club Stage,
- One-half day devoted to gospel music, one of the key influences of traditional and contemporary jazz music,
- Free master classes, interviews, film screenings, state of jazz discussions and other humanities programming,
- Over 40 vendors of cultural art and couture, and
- Free jam sessions for all ages.

## JAZZ BAND COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The competition will include 12 high school jazz bands that are from schools located in the Mid-Atlantic states, including North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, D.C., West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Connecticut. The competition will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at the MAJF's Atrium Stage location. Each band will have a maximum of 25 minutes on stage to set-up, perform, break down and exit the stage. Bands must adhere to these timeframes. Band Directors may select compositions of their choice to perform however, the entire program must be Jazz orientated, (i.e. Swing Jazz, Bebop Jazz, Latin Jazz, or Funk Jazz) and at least 2 of the 3 selections must be of contrasting styles. The panel will include 3 judges and 2 clinicians. Immediately following each performance, one of the MAJF clinicians will conduct a private clinic to provide immediate feedback on the band's performance.

At 4:15 p.m., three finalists will be named and will proceed to the festival's Main Stage location for a final playoff which will begin at 5pm. Each finalist will play two selections of their choice. The panel of judges for the final playoff will be augmented with one of the touring musicians that are performing at the MAJF. At the end of the playoff, the first-, second and third- place trophies and cash awards will be awarded.

Admittance to the competition will be on a first paid first served basis and will be determined by the postmark date.

### Registration Deadline and Fees

- The early registration deadline is December 15, 2011 and the final registration deadline is January 15 2012
- The registration form attached to this brochure must be completed, signed, and dated by the school's Band Director and Principal.
- The registration fee is \$175.00 for registrations received on or before December 15, 2011 and \$200.00 for registrations received between December 16, 2011 and January 15, 2012. Your registration fee must be included with the application. Checks should be made payable to: The Jazz Academy of Music, Inc. You may also pay by credit card by including the payment information on the application or by calling the Jazz Academy Offices at 301-871-8418 to pay by phone.
- All MAJF free events are open to the students for participation. There are master classes, a "Kids JAM Session", a late- night Jam session and many performances that are free and open to the public. Concerts held in the Main Ballroom and Secondary Ballroom require tickets. The Band Director will receive 1 complimentary all-access general seating pass for the entire event. Participating band students, and any chaperone for schools located out of the Washington, DC Metropolitan area, who would like to have full access to all performances must pay an additional fee of \$125 per student or chaperone for an all access general seating pass covering the entire festival .

## Warm-up and Performance Timeframes and Logistics

Each band will be provided an individual that will serve as its MAJF liaison at the festival. The liaison will escort the band to the rehearsal space and to the stage area and will be available to answer questions and assist with other needs and requirements. Each band will be provided access to a room to tune and warm up prior to its competition performance on the MAJF's Atrium stage. Each band will be allowed up to 30 minutes in the warm-up room just prior to its performance time. Approximately 15 minutes before a band's scheduled performance time, the Band Director should send the band's setup crew to the Atrium performance area. The only equipment available on stage will be a piano, a drum set without cymbals, chairs, stands and sufficient microphones. While backline will be provided, schools may choose to bring their own equipment. However, on-stage time will not be extended beyond 25 minutes. Schools must bring all of their own percussion equipment, including vibraphones. Approximately 10 minutes before the scheduled performance time, the rest of the band should move to the performance area. Each band will have a maximum of 25 minutes on stage to set-up, perform, break down and exit the stage.

## Performance Requirements

Upon check-in for the competition, the Band Director shall provide the completed "Repertoire Form" (attached). The form should include the names of the soloists, so that each soloist can be considered for the outstanding soloist awards. The performance rules are as follows:

- On-stage time may not exceed 25 minutes including set-up, performance, breakdown and exit
- The entire performance must be Jazz-oriented (i.e. Swing Jazz, Bebop Jazz, Latin Jazz, or Funk Jazz)
- Two of the three selections must be of contrasting styles
- Directors are encouraged to vary the tempo of the selections and demonstrate the use of dynamics.

## THE AWARDS

The Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival High School Band Competition will culminate with the presentation of the awards. The awards presentation will take place on the festival's Main Stage. There are 3 band awards, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place and 3 individual awards that will be given to the outstanding soloists of the competition. Each band award recipient will receive a trophy and the following cash prize based upon placement:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place = \$1,000
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place = \$500
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place = \$250

Last year's first place winner was Walter Johnson High School of Bethesda, MD, second place was Washington Lee High School of Arlington, VA and third place was Bethesda Chevy Chase High School of Bethesda, Maryland.

Each individual award recipient will receive a plaque and a scholarship to attend the Jazz Academy Summer JAM Camp or Lab valued at \$565.00. This represents a full scholarship to JAM Camp and a partial scholarship to JAM Lab. Students are taught jazz improvisation, history and are paired by skill level in combo groups to play and perform various compositions representing various periods of jazz music. For more information on JAM Camp or Lab, please visit our website at [www.jazzacademy.org](http://www.jazzacademy.org).

## THE SITE



We are pleased to join with the Hilton for the third year as our venue sponsor for the Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival. The Hilton Washington, DC/Rockville Hotel and Executive Meeting Center is an atrium-styled hotel and event venue. It is the perfect location for the MAJF with over 19,000 square feet of expansive and flexible space. It is located at 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The hotel features a staff committed to excellence, extraordinary dining options, and an outstanding location near the Washington Metro Transit's – Twinbrook Station making it extremely accessible to most of the popular tourist destinations in Maryland and Washington, DC. The hotel is minutes from world-class shopping and over 200 restaurants. It is also conveniently located to all area airports, major highways and the Amtrak train station, Union Station. The festival room rate is \$89.00 per night for rooms with single-king or double-queen bedding options. We recommend that hotel reservations be made as soon as possible as the hotel will be fully booked for the festival. Guests must tell the hotel reservationist that they are attending the MAJF to get the festival room rate. The reservation line is 1-301-468-1100.

**MID-ATLANTIC JAZZ FESTIVAL  
REGISTRATION FORM  
High School Jazz Band Competition  
February 18, 2012**

**DEADLINES**  
Early Bird 12/15/2011  
Final 1/15/ 2012

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete and execute this form e-mail to inquiry@jazzacademy.org or fax to 301-871-7294 or mail to The Jazz Academy of Music; P.O. Box 6744; Silver Spring, MD. 20906. For questions call 301-871-0858.

**Name of Ensemble** (as you want it to appear in print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Director's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of High School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **Other Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attendees: Number of Students:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Adults:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fees:**

Item	Cost	Quantity	Total
Registration by Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup> .	\$175.00		
Registration after Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$200.00		
Ticket Friday	\$35.00		
Day Pass Saturday	\$75.00		
Day Pass Sunday	\$75.00		
All Access Pass	125.00		
<b>Total</b>			

**Payment:**

**Check payable to:**  
The Jazz Academy of Music, Inc

**Visa/MasterCard**  
Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_  
Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Acct# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV Code: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to the conditions set out in the accompanying brochure and certify that all the participants are under 19 years of age as of February 18, 2012. I agree that the performance may be included in our MAJF promotional videos, photographs or recordings promoting this festival without fees.

**Director Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Principal Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

## MAJF REPERTOIRE FORM

Please submit four copies to host at check-in for duplication and distribution

High School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Director's Name \_\_\_\_\_

PROGRAM:

**Selection 1** \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE COMPOSER/ARRANGER

Soloist Name/Instrument:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Selection 2** \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE COMPOSER/ARRANGER

Soloist Name/Instrument:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Selection 3** \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE COMPOSER/ARRANGER

Soloist Name/Instrument:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

## SAMPLE MAJF ADJUDICATION FORM

\_\_\_\_\_ (School)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Director)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

### Selections/Soloists

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Gold-G= 8-10pts**

**Silver-S=5-7pts**

**Bronze-B=1-4pts**

Score	Areas of Consideration	Comments
	<b>Intonation/Tone Quality</b> Consider: resonance, control, clarity consistency, warmth	
	<b>Balance/Blend</b> Consider: phrasing, ensemble	
	<b>Dynamics</b> Consider: individuals, sections, ensemble	
	<b>Interpretation</b> Consider: tempo, phrasing, emotional involvement, style	
	<b>Precision</b> Consider: articulation, technique, control of ranges	
	<b>Rhythm Section</b> <b>Balance/Blend/Dynamics</b> Consider: balance, style	
	<b>Rhythm Section</b> <b>Time/Intensity/Drive</b> Consider: steadiness of tempo, fills	
	<b>Quality of Improvisation</b> Consider: harmonic/melodic content, creativity	
	<b>Choice of Music</b> Consider: variety, suitability	
	<b>Stage Presence</b> Consider: dress, presentation and showmanship	

**Total Points [Performance Level: (80-100= Gold), (50-70=Silver), (10-40=Bronze)]**

**Adjudicator's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_