

=====Dept. of Music Jazz Ensemble Audition Information Fall 2020=====

\*\*\*Both music and non-music majors attending the U of S are eligible to perform for credit within the U of S Jazz Ensemble Fall 2020 Audition Information

If you are interested in participating in the UofS Jazz Ensemble please note you need to audition and you need to be accepted into this ensemble in order to participate. To audition for this ensemble you can either contact ensemble director Dean McNeill (to schedule a live audition date and time administered through on line video conferencing) or, you can simply submit a prerecorded audio/video audition to Dean McNeill [dean.mcneill@usask.ca](mailto:dean.mcneill@usask.ca). You can send this prerecorded audition video in any format you wish however a www link to your video (e.g. posted on YouTube) is the preferred electronic submission format. All auditions need to be submitted/completed prior to 5:00 PM on September 11, 2020. Auditions will be vetted and held September 1-11, 2020.

**Information about Jazz Ensemble auditions:**

- 1) All auditions are intended to be low stress and brief!
- 2) Auditions will consist of the following:
  - a. Bb major scale (1 octave), F major scale (1 octave), Bb major scale 2 octaves if possible.
  - b. *Optional*: 1 blues scale of the student's choice.
  - c. **Vocalists**: Sing a jazz standard of your choice along with a play-a-long backing track. Here is a list of 50 potential tunes to sing: <https://www.learnjazzstandards.com/blog/50-jazz-standards-you-need-to-know/>
  - d. **Instrumentalists**: Short (e.g. 1-2 minutes) prepared piece. This piece can either be the student's own choice (in any musical style) or students can perform the piece found at the end of this document.
  - e. **Drums**: In your audition please feel free to play a series of grooves that you are comfortable playing @ 8-12 bars each. For example: (a) jazz waltz, (b) 4/4 ballad with brushes, (c) samba, (d) bossa nova, (e) merengue, (f) 12/8 afro Cuban, (g) mixed meter, (f) etc.
  - f. **All: Optional**: Improvisation (2-3 choruses) over a 12 bar Bb blues. *If a student chooses to submit this part of the audition material the student should play along with (over) a prerecorded accompaniment track. This accompaniment track can either (a) be selected by the student or (b) the student can improvise over the following Bb blues backing track: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ae\\_tBkCqeQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ae_tBkCqeQ). \*Keep in mind that the chords listed visually on this www play a long track are in concert pitch.\**
- 3) Audition results will be posted on the Dept. of Music Jazz Ensemble web page on September 12, 2020. Audition results will also be emailed to all individuals who auditioned.
- 4) Rehearsal times: Normally the UofS Jazz Ensemble rehearses weekly on Mondays in Quance Theatre from 5:00-6:30 PM and Wednesday in room 1036 from 5:00-6:00 PM. For now please keep these weekly rehearsal days and times available (for on line or in person participation). We likely will not require you to attend for both rehearsals in we are in a remote learning modality.
- 5) Please let the audition committee know of any special circumstances which may pertain to your chair placement requests (e.g. If submitting a video audition feel free to say "I want to work on my improvising", "I want to work on my section playing", "I want to work on my lead playing in the section", etc.). Although we cannot accommodate every such request this type of information is often very helpful when considering chair placements within the ensemble.
- 6) There are positions available in this ensemble for trumpet, trombone, sax (i.e. alto, tenor, bari), bass (i.e. electric and acoustic), drums, auxiliary percussion, piano, guitar, vibes, vocalists (i.e. male and female) and (occasionally) french horns. If you wish to participate in this ensemble and you play a nonstandard jazz instrument and feel free to contact Dean McNeill to discuss your options [dean.mcneill@usask.ca](mailto:dean.mcneill@usask.ca).
- 7) The first full rehearsal will be on Monday September 14, 2020 @ 5:00 PM.
- 8) Please contact Dean McNeill at [dean.mcneill@usask.ca](mailto:dean.mcneill@usask.ca) if you have any questions.

# UOFS JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITION EXCERPT

ALTO SAX OR BARI SAX

COMP./ARR. DEAN McNEILL

MEDIUM SWING

$\text{♩} = 108$

The musical score is written for Alto Sax or Bari Sax in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a measure number '1' and includes dynamics markings  $mf$  and  $mf$ . The second staff begins with a measure number '5'. The third staff begins with a measure number '9' and includes a dynamic marking  $f$ . The fourth staff begins with a measure number '13' and includes dynamic markings  $p$ ,  $s$ ,  $mf$ , and  $ff$ . The music features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The key signature is G major, and the tempo is marked as Medium Swing with a quarter note equal to 108 beats per minute.

# UOFS JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITION EXCERPT

TRUMPET / TENOR SAX / SOPRANO SAX

COMP./ARR. DEAN McNEILL

MEDIUM SWING

$\text{♩} = 108$

1 *mf*

5

9 *mf*

13 *p* *mf* *ff*

# UOFS JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITION EXCERPT

TROMBONE

MEDIUM SWING

COMP./ARR. DEAN McNEILL

$\text{♩} = 108$

1 *mf*

5

9 *f*

13 *p* *s* *mf* *ff*

# UOFS JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITION EXCERPT

VIBES / GUITAR

MEDIUM SWING

COMP./ARR. DEAN McNEILL

♩ = 108

1 *mf*

5

9 (COMP BEHIND SOLOIST) F<sup>Maj6</sup> A<sup>min7</sup> B<sup>b</sup>Maj7 F<sup>6</sup>/C D<sup>min7</sup> A<sup>min7</sup> E<sup>b</sup>6 C7

13 F<sup>6</sup> A<sup>min7</sup> B<sup>b</sup>Maj7 B<sup>o</sup>7 G<sup>min7</sup> C7<sup>#9 #5</sup>

17 (COMP BEHIND SOLOIST) B<sup>b</sup>Maj6 B<sup>o</sup>7 C13sus F7 B<sup>b</sup>Maj6 B<sup>o</sup>7 C13sus F7 B<sup>b</sup>Maj6 B<sup>o</sup>7

22 F<sup>6</sup>/C D<sup>b</sup>9<sup>b13</sup> G7(#11) C7sus4 C7 F6

# WOFS JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITION EXCERPT

BASS

MEDIUM SWING ♩ = 108

COMP./ARR. DEAN McNEILL

1

5

9

F Maj6   Amin7   B♭ Maj7   F6/C   Dmin7   Amin7   E♭6   C7

PLAY 2 FEEL

13

F6   Amin7   B♭ Maj7   B°7   Gmin7   C7 #9 #5

15

B♭ Maj6   B°7   C13sus   F7   B♭ Maj6   B°7   C13sus   F7

17

WALK BASS LINE (4 FEEL)

B♭ Maj6   B°7   F6/C   D♭9 #13   G7(#11)   C7sus4 C7   F6

21

25

PLAY ACTUAL MELODY

*mf*

29

# UOFS JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITION EXCERPT

PIANO

♩ = 108

COMP./ARR. DEAN McNEILL

MEDIUM SWING

F Maj6 Amin7 B♭ Maj7 F6/C Dmin7 Amin7 E♭6 C7

PIANO

PNO.

PNO.

PNO.

# UOFS JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITION PREPARED PIECE

DRUM SET

MEDIUM SWING

SWING (2 FEEL)

$\text{♩} = 108$

COMP./ARR. DEAN McNEILL

(TIGHTLY CLOSED HIGH HAT)

1 *mp*

5

9 4 FEEL

17 HORN SHOTS

21 HORNS SHOUT SECTION

25 *f*

33 SWING (2 FEEL) *mp*

37 *f*