

# Jazz Band Auditions 2020



## What is Jazz I Band?

- Jazz Ensemble I will meet every morning from 8:00am-8:45am and is a graded class.
- Jazz Ensemble I auditions are for enthusiastic musicians who are committed to preparing their parts and showing up on time and ready to play every rehearsal and every gig!

## Information about Auditions

- Practice Sessions & Help will be provided to band students between 8:00am-8:45am on September 14 & 15.
- Auditions will be held on September 16 & 17 between 8:00-8:45am. Email Mr. Stai at [bstai@sherwood.k12.or.us](mailto:bstai@sherwood.k12.or.us) to sign up for an audition time.
- Be sure you have the audition handout for your instrument.
- Results will be posted on September 17. Mr. Stai will contact the counseling office to make sure that the jazz class is added to the student's schedules.
- Jazz I will have its first official full ensemble meeting on September 18 at 8:00am.
- Feel free to email Mr. Stai questions at [bstai@sherwood.k12.or.us](mailto:bstai@sherwood.k12.or.us)

## Things Mr. Stai will be listening for

- **Confidence** – Did you show up on time, prepared, and ready to give your best.
- **Assigned Prepared Pieces** – Work up the prepared pieces to the best of your ability in one week. Think about key signature, steady tempo, and style.
- **Your Choice Prepared Piece** - During jazz auditions, you will have the opportunity to perform something extra. Pick something that you are comfortable with that showcases your talents.
- **Jazz Experience** - Be sure to mention if you are taking lessons or went a jazz camp or played in a combo group over the summer. These decisions show a lot of dedication & determination.

## Saxes & Brass:

- Scales—Major, Minor, Dominant 7, B-flat & F Blues. Show me how much you can perform.
- NAFME All NW Audition Packet
- Optional—Solo over a backing track or Aebersold recording.
- What I am listening for:
  - Appropriate Jazz Style.
  - Articulation should be clear and appropriate.
  - Beautiful Tone.
  - Musical shape & line. Play the music like you listen to jazz and know the language.

## Drums:

- NAFME All NW Audition Packet
- What I am listening for:
  - Appropriate Style
  - Consistent Time & Rhythm
  - Kicks, hits & fills
  - Balance between all drumset components

## Piano:

- Demonstrate major and minor scales, 2 hands, 2 octaves. If Possible, demonstrate ability to read chord symbols, showing knowledge of major, minor and dominant 7 (or 9s) chords, at least in root position.
- Using both hands, demonstrate major, minor and dominant chords (all keys) in root position, 1st and 2nd inversions, and root position without the root. If possible, demonstrate 2 handed "open" voicings of major, minor and dominant chords, if possible.
- NAFME All NW Audition Packet
- Optional—Solo over a backing track or Aebersold recording.
- What I am listening for:
  - Appropriate Jazz Style.
  - Articulation should be clear and appropriate.
  - Consistent Time & Rhythm
  - Musical shape & line. Play the music like you listen to jazz and know the language.

## Guitar:

- Demonstrate pentatonic scales, as well as scale patterns for major and minor scales.
- Demonstrate major, minor and dominant chords, at least 2 different voicings for each chord.
- Play a basic 12 bar blues chord progression (Either in key of F or B-flat).
- NAFME All NW Audition Packet
- Optional—Solo over a backing track or Aebersold recording.
- What I am listening for:
  - Appropriate Jazz Style.
  - Articulation should be clear and appropriate.
  - Consistent Time & Rhythm
  - Musical shape & line. Play the music like you listen to jazz and know the language.

## Bass: *Being able to play both upright and electric bass is huge.*

- Demonstrate pentatonic scales, as well as scale patterns for major and minor scales.
- Demonstrate a simple 12 bar blues walking bass line (Either in key of F or B-flat). Demonstrate ability to keep your place while reading chords by walking using roots and 5ths; keep a steady tempo.
- NAFME All NW Audition Packet
- Optional—Solo over a backing track or Aebersold recording.
- What I am listening for:
  - Appropriate Jazz Style.
  - Articulation should be clear and appropriate.
  - Consistent Time & Rhythm
  - Musical shape & line. Play the music like you listen to jazz and know the language.