

LZHS JAZZ ENSEMBLES SYLLABUS

MR. THOMPSON

GRADING

GRADING THIS YEAR FOR BAND AND JAZZ BANDS WILL BE DONE ON AN ADJUSTABLE POINTS SCALE. EACH ACTIVITY WILL BE GIVEN POINTS TO BE EARNED OR LOST. A SAMPLE FOR ONE QUARTER IS GIVEN BELOW:

DAILY REHEARSALS (45 DAYS)	2PTS*45	90
JAZZ PERFORMANCE (1 OR 2)	50PTS*1	50
PLAYING OR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS (2)	10PTS*2	20
JAZZ HISTORY QUIZZES	5PTS*5	25
		185 POINTS TOTAL

OTHER SMALL ASSIGNMENTS MAY BE ADDED THROUGH THE YEAR, BUT THE ABOVE SAMPLE SHOWS ALL MAJOR REQUIREMENTS.

GRADING SCALE

A+ 98-100	A 92-97	A- 90-91
B+ 88-89	B 82-87	B- 80-81
C+ 78-79	C 72-77	C- 70-71
D+ 68-69	D 62-67	D- 60-61
F 59 AND BELOW		

DAILY REHEARSAL POINTS

YOU MAY LOSE POINTS FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. LACK OF MUSICAL PREPAREDNESS: YOU MUST PRACTICE DAILY
2. LACK OF EFFORT: DISRESPECT, TALKING, CHEWING GUM, NON-POSITIVE PARTICIPATION
3. LACK OF MATERIALS: TARDY, NO MUSIC, NO PENCIL, NOT INSTRUMENT, MISSING UNIFORM PARTS.
4. EXCUSED ABSENCES: WHILE YOU MAY NOT LOSE ALL OF YOUR POINTS, YOU MAY LOSE SOME POINTS EVEN IF YOU ARE EXCUSED. CERTAINLY, YOU MIGHT HAVE CONFLICTS, BUT REGARDLESS OF THE REASON, YOUR ABSENCE AFFECTS EVERYONE AND YOURSELF AND WILL BE REFLECTED IN YOUR GRADE. YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS TO REGAIN LOST POINTS. TALK TO YOUR DIRECTOR ABOUT THIS OPTION.
5. AT THE END OF EACH REHEARSAL, YOU SHOULD PUT ALL EQUIPMENT AWAY (INSTRUMENTS, FOLDERS, ETC.) CONSISTENTLY LEAVING MATERIALS OUT WILL RESULT IN LOSS OF POINTS.

YOU WILL LOSE ALL OF YOUR POINTS FOR AN ACTIVITY FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM A REHEARSAL.
2. UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM A PERFORMANCE.

WE NEED EVERYONE AT EVERY PERFORMANCE. IN THE RARE CIRCUMSTANCE THAT YOU NEED TO MISS A PERFORMANCE FOR ANY REASON, YOU MUST TURN IN A WRITTEN EXCUSE, SIGNED BY A PARENT, AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE REHEARSAL OR PERFORMANCE FOR IT TO EVEN BE CONSIDERED AN EXCUSED ABSENCE. NOT ALL ABSENCES WITH NOTES WILL BE EXCUSED.

ADDITIONAL PRACTICE MATERIALS

WE HAVE PURCHASED A LARGE GROUP OF JAMEY AEBERSOLD TYPE CD SETS BY HAL LEONARD. THESE ALONG WITH OUR AEBERSOLDS, CD COLLECTION, AND FAKE BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE FOR CHECK OUT. IN ADDITION, CONSIDER EITHER PURCHASING BAND-IN-A-BOX FOR YOUR OWN HOME COMPUTER OR LEARN TO USE IT IN THE MIDI LAB SO THAT YOU CAN MAKE FILES FOR YOUR OWN PRACTICE. MOST COMPUTER CD PLAYERS WILL AUTOMATICALLY PLAY MIDI FILES THAT YOU SAVE FROM BIAB. THE PROGRAM ITSELF WILL EVEN WORK WITHOUT A SYNTHESIZER THROUGH YOUR OWN SOUND CARD.

RECORDING

I PLAN ON SELLING A CD WITH OUR BEST PERFORMANCES FROM THE PREVIOUS 2 YEARS. AS WE DID ONE LAST YEAR, WE WILL RECORD AND PUT ONE OUT IN 2007. THIS YEAR'S CD WILL BE A CONCERT BAND RECORDING CD.

EXAMS

FIRST SEMESTER: THE FIRST SEMESTER EXAM WILL CONSIST OF JAZZ HISTORY AND THEORY FROM THE FIRST SEMESTER. ALL STUDENTS WILL TAKE THIS TEST.

SECOND SEMESTER: THE SECOND SEMESTER EXAM WILL BE A PERFORMANCE ALONG WITH A PLAY-A-LONG CD. STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO MEMORIZE THE MELODY AND IMPROVISE OVER ONE CHORUS OF THE CHANGES..

PERFORMANCES

THIS IS THE KNOWN CALENDAR OF EVENTS. I RECOMMEND LOOKING THROUGH THE ENTIRE YEAR FOR CONFLICTS SO THAT WE CAN BE PROACTIVE IN RESOLVING CONFLICTS. I WANT TO WORK WITH YOU TO RESOLVE THESE ISSUES, AND FREQUENTLY WE SOLVE PROBLEMS IN A WIN/WIN FASHION. COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY. HOWEVER, EVERYONE IN THIS GROUP IS ONE TO A PART, SO YOUR ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL EVENTS.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11:	IMEA JAZZ/BAND AUDITIONS-NILES NORTH
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17:	JAZZ CONCERT W/GUEST BOB LARK
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11 :	CHARITY WEEK JAZZ CONCERT
SATURDAY, FEBRAURY 3:	NEW TRIER JAZZ FEST-JLB ONLY
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21:	JAZZ CONCERT
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24:	JAZZ IN THE MEADOWS-BOTH
MONDAY, MAY 21:	JAZZ CONCERT

I AM ALSO WANTING TO DO SOME OTHER CONCERTS AROUND THE AREA: ESPECIALLY IN THE WEEKS BEFORE OUR CONCERTS FOR EXTRA PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES. WE WILL GET BETTER THE MORE WE PERFORM. IF PERFORMING IS EVERYONE'S TOP PRIORITY, ABOVE WORKING JOBS OR OTHER ODD THINGS, WE CAN DO THIS VERY EASILY AND WE WILL ALL ENJOY THE OPPORTUNITIES.

I LOOK FORWARD TO A VERY EXCITING YEAR!!