

Celebrating Thirty Years of



Windham High School will host the thirtieth New Hampshire All-State Jazz Festival on February 2-4, 2012. Exactly how was the festival formulated? During the 1981-1982 school year, a handful of music educators gathered to discuss the possibility of creating a festival devoted strictly to the jazz idiom. The group consisted of David Seiler of UNH, Bruce Gatchell of Concord High School, Bill Fletcher of St. Paul's School, and Tom Palance and Richard Maynard of Manchester High School West. Trying to incorporate jazz ensembles into the traditional all-state festival was out of the question. When the idea of a separate jazz festival was discussed at the state level, the reaction was generally "why" and "no." Money, of course, was the major concern. As the issue was discussed at all-member meetings during the year, enough music educators said "yes, let's give it a go." Auditions for instrumental and vocal student musicians were held in October, 1982. Eighteen high schools sent students to the first festival on February 5, 1983 at Manchester High School West. A big thank you to then West Principal Robert Baines, Director of Music for the Manchester School District, Russ Poehlman, and the late Ted Herbert for their support and encouragement. The initial program consisted of one jazz band and one jazz choir. A guest performance by the Seacoast Big Band rounded out the concert. The guest conductors were Paul Alberta for jazz band and William St. Laurent for jazz choir. We covered all expenses and planned a second festival for 1984. Michael Hathaway of Kennett High School in Conway hosted the festival. Mike went all out and booked the beautiful Fox Ridge Resort in North Conway. Since then, schools throughout the state have hosted the event. I should mention that New Hampshire is one of the few states that hosts a separate high school jazz festival. This allows students to participate in both the traditional and jazz all-state festivals.

Only one stipulation was mandated before the first festival, no gymnasiums for performances. As interest grew, additional ensembles were added. Currently, the festival has two jazz bands and two jazz choirs. During the 1990's, jazz clinicians were brought in to discuss jazz improvisation, jazz repertoire, rhythm sections, and approaches to jazz arranging. Other traditions continue today. The Thursday night jam session featuring music educators from around the state and the Friday Night guest artist series highlight the festival itinerary. To celebrate the thirtieth year, the Friday night concert will feature jazz performers that were members of past All-State Jazz Ensembles. It should be a night to remember. Past participants continue to carry the jazz education torch - Michael Adams (1983), James Butka (1984), Ken Clark (1984), and Marc Laforce (1986), to name a few. To keep the festival organization efficient, there have been four chairmen in thirty years: Bruce Gatchell, Michael Hathaway, Paul Santerre, and Ken Clark. Thank you for your time and dedication.

Holding a festival during the New Hampshire winter is risky at best. Only one concert was cancelled, 1995 at Fall Mountain Regional High School. A big round of applause to the music educators throughout the state willing to teach, uncover, and share the jazz experience with their students. Our rich American Songbook composers such as George and Ira Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Cole Porter, and Richard Rodgers can only enhance the ensemble experience in our schools. It is such a joy to listen and watch our young musicians perform the music of Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Stan Kenton, and many others. It has been quite a run over thirty years. In closing, I do hope you plan to attend the concert on Friday, February 3, at 7 p.m. and the festival student concert on Saturday, February 4 at 1 p.m. at the new Windham High School.

Keep Swingin',

Richard J. Maynard

Richard J. Maynard is currently a student teaching supervisor in the Music Education program at the University of New Hampshire. He taught choral music at Manchester High School West for many years, and is known for his contributions to Vocal Jazz in NH.

Jazz All-State Conductors

Christopher Oberholtzer

Brenda Hathaway LaForce



Brenda Hathaway LaForce graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a Bachelor of Music Education in 1992. While there, she was a student of Kathleen Wilson-Spillane. She also has studied with Kathleen Arecchi, Christopher Humphrey and Lila Mori.

In 2000, Mrs. LaForce was recognized as an outstanding teacher in the MENC Teaching

Music magazine. Mrs. LaForce has toured Europe and the East Coast with the UNH Jazz Singers and has sung and recorded with the vocal group "VocalEase." She is a freelance vocalist throughout New England and teaches voice and piano privately. Mrs. LaForce has been the guest conductor for several festivals including the NH Jazz All-State Choir, the NH Southwest District Middle School Choir, the NH Southeast Middle School Choir, the NH South-Central Middle School Choir, the Maine District 1 Festival and the Maine District II Honors Choral Festival.

Mrs. LaForce has been teaching music for almost 20 years. This year she was happy to have the opportunity to go back to where her career started as vocal and instrumental teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Dover, NH. While she was there previously she had an award winning jazz choir and her choirs were frequently asked to perform at community events. Between her years at St. Thomas she worked as the choir director for Berwick Academy and led the Arts In Reach Choir "Voices of Air." Mrs. LaForce is on the faculty of the UNH Summer Youth Music School (SYMS), where she teaches the jazz vocal master class and directs the Jazz Choir. Currently she lives in Rollinsford, NH with her husband Marc and her two children, Carter and Madison.



Dr. Christopher Oberholtzer, Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Southern Maine, completed his Doctor of Arts degree in Trombone Performance/Pedagogy with a Secondary Emphasis in Jazz Pedagogy at the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. Chris earned his Master of Music degree in Jazz Studies with a Cognate Field of Trombone Performance from Indiana University, Bloomington, and his Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from the University of Southern Maine, Gorham.

In addition to his USM teaching responsibilities, Chris also enjoys actively serving throughout the country as guest artist with and director and/or clinician for numerous high school jazz ensembles and combos, including All-State and Honors Festivals in Colorado, Florida, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York and Vermont.

Chris maintains a busy schedule as a professional freelance trombonist. He has performed, toured and recorded throughout the country and abroad with many groups in varying classical, jazz and commercial genres. His playing experience includes touring with the Artie Shaw Orchestra, the Guy Lombardo Orchestra, Ringling Brothers Circus, Toni Tenille and Holland America cruise lines. Other performing credits include working with artists such as Tony Bennett, Claudio Roditi, Wayne Bergeron, the New York Voices, Conrad Herwig, Brian Lynch, Donald Harrison, Byron Stripling, Phil Wilson, Wycliff Gordon, Ronie Cuber, Frank Wess, Bob Mintzer, Harry Allen, Herb Pomeroy, Richie Cole, Dick Johnson, the Dorsey Brothers Orchestra, the Benny Goodman Orchestra, Aaron Neville, Roberta Flack and the Temptations.

As a clinician for the United Musical Instrument/Selmer Corporation, Chris performs on Conn and Bach trombones.

George Murphy

George Murphy is currently the Foxboro High School Assistant Band Director, the Fifth and Eighth Grade Band director and founder of the Foxboro Jr. Jazz Band. He was formerly the Music Coordinator of the Old Rochester Regional H.S./Junior H.S. and Director of Brass Studies in Revere. As a student at the University of Lowell and Berklee College of Music, he received his BA and BMED degrees. He studied trombone with John Coffey, Paul Gay, Phil Wilson, Hal Crook and Bill Watrous.

Mr. Murphy conducts the FHS Concert Band, Symphonic Winds, Marching Band, Eighth Grade Concert Band, the Fifth Grade Concert Band, and the Foxboro Junior Jazz Band and is actively involved in the FHS Jazz Ensembles. His ensembles have won numerous awards while performing throughout the New England area, including Gold Medals at the Southeast District Jazz Festival in Massachusetts for 20 years straight. The Foxboro Junior Jazz Band has been featured, with Mr. Murphy as clinician, at the MENC Massachusetts State Convention, and premiered an original composition by Tiger Okoshi.

A clinician, adjudicator, guest artist, and guest conductor at several festivals throughout the Northeast, Mr. Murphy was a recipient of Downbeat Magazine's Achievement Award for Jazz Education. For 25 years, he has been director of the Foxboro Summer Music programs and taught at the University of New Hampshire



Summer Youth Music School (SYMS). Today he is Co-Director, with Steve Massey, of the Foxboro Summer Improvisation Camp, and is active in the Boston music scene as a trombonist. In addition to leading his own band, "Horns in the House", he has performed with some of the most outstanding musicians and bands in the area, including the Ken Hadley Big Band and Rebecca Parris.

George Murphy is a member of the Boston Musicians Union, Local 9, MENC, MICCA and the IAJE board where he served as Southeast District Chairman for 14 years.

Kerry Marsh

Kerry Marsh is a composer and arranger specializing in contemporary music for vocal jazz ensembles. In high demand as a commissioned arranger for many of the nation's top educational vocal and instrumental jazz ensembles, Marsh has a large and varied catalog of music performed regularly around the world. Kerry has published arrangements through UNC Jazz Press and Sound Music Publications.

Along with his wife and musical collaborator Julia Dollison, Kerry released his highly ambitious debut album, Vertical Voices: The Music of Maria Schneider, in March 2010 through ArtistShare. Endorsed by the Grammy-winning composer herself and funded largely through fan contributions, the album features



Schneider's music as written for her jazz orchestra, but with the horn parts entirely sung, and the rhythm section consisting of Frank Kimbrough, Ben Monder, Jay Anderson and Clarence Penn (all current members of The Maria Schneider Orchestra). Vertical Voices was met with great critical praise, earning a four-star review in Down Beat Magazine. Dollison and Marsh perform regularly with the vocal quartet Vertical Voices LIVE, with Greg Jasperse and Jennifer Barnes. Vertical Voices LIVE performs the music of Schneider as well as Pat Metheny, Nando Lauria and more, including original compositions by the group.

Kerry proudly serves on the faculty of The JazzSchool Institute in Berkeley, CA, where he directs vocal jazz ensembles. Marsh is busy year-round as an adjudicator and clinician for jazz festivals and workshops and he serves as a traveling clinician and high school honor vocal jazz ensemble director for the Monterey Jazz Festival. Marsh has directed all-state jazz choirs in California, Arizona, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Wyoming and Illinois and New York and will direct the Maine All State Jazz Choir in 2012.

Kerry graduated in 2000 from the University of Kansas with a B.M.E. in Music Education and in 2003 with a Master of Music in Jazz Studies from the University of North Texas. Marsh's university training included study with Paris Rutherford, Dan Gailey, Simon Carrington, and Rosana Eckert.

Jazz All-State Directors' Schedule

Thursday February 2, 2012

- 3:00-4:00 Registration at Holiday Inn**
1 Keewaydin Drive, Salem, NH (603) 893 5511
- 4:00-5:00 Festival Registration at Windham High School**
- 5:00-5:30 Meeting for students and directors- WHS Auditorium
5:30-5:45 Short directors' meeting with our hosts- WHS Auditorium
5:30-9:00 Rehearsals in designated locations (stage, choral, band rooms, graphic design room)
- 7:00-7:15 Brief Directors Meeting- WHS Media Center**
- 9:10 Bus pick up - Shuttles to Hotel
10:00-12:30 Director Duties, Lights out @ 11PM for students!

Friday February 3, 2012

- 7:30 Bus Pick Up - Shuttles to Windham HS
8:00 Student Breakfast WHS
8:45-12:45 Rehearsals begin for all groups - *Breaks at conductors' discretion*
10:30-11:45 Directors' Clinic-WHS Media Center
Improvisation & On the Road with Michael Bubl  (see next page)
12:45-1:45 Lunch (students & directors)
1:45-5:00 Rehearsals
3:00-4:00 **Directors' Clinic-WHS Media Center**
Performance Clinic, Grammy winner Taylor Haskins (see next page)
5:00-5:45 Dinner (students & directors)
5:45-7:15 Rehearsals
7:30-9:00 30th Anniversary Jazz All State Alumni Celebration Concert (see next page)
9:15 Bus Pick-up shuttle to hotel/ **Director Duties--**
11:00 Lights out
- Feb. 2012: Windham High School*

Saturday February 4, 2012

- 7:00 Bus Pick Up with luggage to WHS- Bands at 7:00; Choirs at 7:45
7:30 Student Breakfast Bands 7:30; Student Breakfast Choirs 8:15
8:15-11:30 Dress Rehearsals: 8:15 Jazz Band, 9:00 Honors Jazz Band, 10:00 Honors Jazz Choir, 10:45 Jazz Choir
11:00-12:00 Bands eat lunch (cafeteria) Choirs watch dress rehearsal
11:30- 12:30 Bands Dress for Concert, Choirs eat lunch & Dress
12:30- Report to Warm Up Areas
1:00 Concert Begins-Choirs First

Jazz All-State Friday Clinics for Educators

Morning Session 10:30 - 11:45

Improvisation & On the Road with Michael Bublé *Nick Vayenas*

This two part clinic will be given by former Timberlane trombonist Nick Vayenas and will discuss basic improvisation techniques as well as his many years on the road with Michael Bublé, both as Bublé's friend and as an integral member of his road band.



Clinics are no charge for chaperoning directors.

All are welcome!

Registration fee for non-chaperoning directors is \$20.

To register or get more information, contact:

**Ken Clark,
Jazz Chairperson
Kenneth.Clark@timberlane.net**

Afternoon Session 3:00 - 4:00

Performance Clinic, Grammy winner Taylor Haskins



Grammy winner Taylor Haskins will perform along with Nick Vayenas and others. Though the majority of the time will be spent in performance, topics to be discussed may include, performing in a small ensemble, basics every jazz musician should know, and paying the bills as a performing jazz artist. Some musicians included in the 30th Anniversary Celebration performance may also be included.

30th Anniversary Jazz All State Alumni Celebration Concert

Windham High School Auditorium - Fri 2/3 7pm

Former Jazz All State participants dating back to the first festival in 1983 will be returning to New Hampshire to perform in celebration of the festival's 30th anniversary. Vocalists and instrumentalists will take to the stage in various configurations showing why they are successful professional musicians today. Every performer will have been a member of the NH Jazz All State Choir or Band while in high school.

Jazz All-State Festival Concert - Sat 2/4 at 1 pm

Windham High School Auditorium

Tickets:
\$15 (public)

\$8 NHMEA members not chaperoning
(J.A.S. students & chaperoning directors no charge)