

# **2020 JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITION INFORMATION**

Our Jazz ensembles, will meet on the following schedule in the Fall semester:

<b>Jazz Ensemble I</b>	MUS 300-002	M-W-F	11:00 – 11:50 AM
<b>Jazz Ensemble II</b>	MUS 100J-003	M-W	5:00 – 5:50 PM

**Auditions will be held on Sunday afternoon, August 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Sign-up sheets will be posted on the band bulletin board the week prior.

## **Welcome to the Fall 2020 Jazz Ensemble Auditions at Texas A&M Commerce!**

We encourage you to audition for the Jazz Program at TAMUC. Students who have prior jazz experience and those who are interested in learning more are both encouraged to audition.

Downloadable files containing two musical examples for each instrument will be the only materials you'll need to prepare ahead of time. Simply download the desired material below for your desired instrument. Carefully prepare while noting the style and tempo of each excerpt, and attempt to play musically with as much attention to detail as possible (dynamics, phrasing, articulation, etc.)

Any players wishing to be considered for jazz improvisation solos are welcome to play 1 or 2 phrases of a well-known jazz tune, rhythm changes, or a blues as desired. Simply notify us during your audition time.

All musicians should be ready to audition slightly ahead of the individual audition time. Punctuality and Preparedness play a part in the audition process as well!

## **Instrument-Specific Information**

**Alto, Tenor and Baritone Saxophone** music is contained in one downloadable file. You may wish to audition on more than one Saxophone; please sign up for an additional time slot to accommodate additional auditions.

**Trumpet** music for Lead (higher parts) and Section (lower parts) are in one file. Feel free to choose whichever material you feel best shows your command of the instrument and the music.

**Tenor and Bass Trombone** music is in one file; please select one, and if you wish to audition on more than one instrument, sign up for an additional time.

**Rhythm players (Guitar, Piano, Bass and Drums)** should select the appropriate file for your instrument. Be ready to play the music with a good interpretation of the groove and feel. Guitar players should play an appropriate groove or riff in the correct style while reflecting the proper chord symbols. Piano players may play either the written out chord voicings, or comp their own voicings from the chord symbols. Bass players should play the written part, but feel free to take liberties and depart from the written notes at some point in the excerpts. If any rhythm players are unsure how to voice the more complicated chord extensions (#5, b9, etc.) then simply play the more basic underlying chords (dominant 7<sup>th</sup>, major 7<sup>th</sup>, minor 7<sup>th</sup>, etc.)

**Prepare well, and we look forward to seeing and hearing you on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Stay tuned to the Facebook page and other TAMUC Band info channels for details concerning signups.**

**Should you have any questions about Jazz Ensemble Auditions please contact:**

**John Wasson**  
**Director of Jazz Ensembles**  
**Department of Music**  
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**  
[John.Wasson@tamuc.edu](mailto:John.Wasson@tamuc.edu)