

Dear friends and colleagues:

Bridgewater State University is looking for schools wanting to participate in our 2018 BSU Jazz Fest! We view our festival as a great opportunity to prepare for other festivals and events!! The date is January 13 (Saturday) 2018.

Based on the feedback of previous participating bands, we are going to try a different format. From 9:00-11:30, we will send horn players from your school and another to a clinic room to work with a guest clinician. We will do the same with rhythm sections. The clinicians will work with both bands horns/rhythm sections on a series of topics including (horns) balance, articulation, phrasing, accents in a jazz style and (rhythm) voicings, balance, listening, fills, bass lines, etc.

We will take a lunch break/equipment move from 11:30-1:00.

1:00-4:00 will be a combination of improvisation clinics (this year focusing on 12-bar blues in Bb) with an emphasis on hearing, understanding, and playing chord changes. This will also be an opportunity to play prepared pieces for critical feedback from three clinicians.

We will finish up with a featured performance from 4:00-5:00 (Southcoast Jazz Orchestra)

We are looking at this direction for a few reasons – perhaps most importantly that students will end up playing a lot more throughout the day and the earlier end to the day allows for students to attend evening activities. Currently we have Jeff Holmes, Jeff Leonard, Paul Alberta, George Murphy, and John Cooper on board!

I'm planning on sending the rest of the invites out next week to other schools so sooner is better to guarantee a spot. Still same \$300.00 fee.

Let's have a great year!!

Don

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