Fall 2014
Welcome to the Jazz Arts Program
Manhattan School of Music

Please mark the dates below on your calendar.
Jazz Ensemble Placement Auditions are on September 3 and 4; you will receive an e-mail notice in early August with your audition date/time.

Thursday, Aug. 28
9:00am–12:00pm     Jazz Required Piano, Rooms 507, 509
1:00pm–5:00pm     Jazz Improvisation, Rooms 507, 509

Friday, Aug. 29
9:00am-1:00pm     Jazz Theory & Jazz Ear Training,
                  511 (Undergraduate), 513 (Graduate)
3:00pm-5:30pm     Jazz Jam Session for all incoming jazz majors,
                  Bossi-Comelli Studio 610

Saturday, Aug. 30
12:00-2:00pm Jazz Music History, Room 606
(Graduate and Transfer Students only)

Wednesday, Sept. 3 Jazz Ensemble Placement Auditions
Thursday, Sept. 4 Jazz Ensemble Placement Auditions

Monday, Sept. 8     Jazz Orientation Meetings
12:30-1:00pm     All Jazz Drumset Majors, Bossi-Comelli Studio 610
2:00-3:00     New Students Meeting, Miller Recital Hall
3:00-4:00pm      All Jazz Students Meeting, Miller Recital Hall

Wed. Sept. 10     First Day of Classes

Week of Sept. 15     Large Ensembles start rehearsals
Week of Sept. 22     Combos start rehearsals

Jazz Arts Program Placement Exam Information
Students should arrive at the beginning of each placement exam period to receive exam instructions and to sign up for individual evaluations.

Thursday, Aug. 28
Jazz Required Piano: Go to Room 507 at 9:00am to receive instruction and sign up for an individual evaluation. Jazz Piano Majors are NOT required to take this exam.

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Jazz Improvisation
Go to Room 507 at 1:00pm to receive instruction and sign up for an individual evaluation. Please bring your instrument. For all incoming Jazz Performance Instrumental majors.

Friday, August 29
Jazz Theory and Ear Training
Undergraduates go to Room 511 and Graduates go to Room 513 at 9:00am to complete a written theory test. This will be followed by individual ear training evaluations. Undergrads are encouraged to review *Music in Theory and Practice* (Volumes 1 and 2) by Bruce Benward to prepare for the theory test. All students are encouraged to practice sight-singing, as well as intervallic, melodic, and harmonic dictation to prepare for the ear-training evaluation.

Saturday, August 30
Jazz History
Go to Room 606 at 12:00pm for this exam, which takes an hour and a half to complete. This exam is for Masters and Transfer students only; incoming freshman do not take this exam. We recommend that students study a general jazz history text (i.e. *A New History of Jazz* by Alyn Shipton). We also recommend that students study recordings, such as the Smithsonian Collection of Classic Jazz.

Wednesday and Thursday, September 3 and 4
Jazz Ensemble Placement Auditions
These auditions are mandatory for all jazz students. They determine jazz students’ placement for small combos, as well as for the Jazz Arts Program’s large ensembles: Jazz Orchestra, Jazz Philharmonic, Concert Jazz Band, Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra, and Chamber Jazz Ensemble. Please look at msmnyc.edu (Accepted Students page) for policies regarding the placement exams and auditions.

We look forward to meeting you in a few weeks!

Stephanie Crease | Senior Coordinator, Jazz Arts Program

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