



# Texas Jazz Educators Association Newsletter

Highlighting Jazz Activities in the State of Texas

August 2010



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To all the TJEA members, I look forward to working with all of you over the next two years and know that together we can make Jazz Education even stronger than it is in the state of Texas. We have a great board of directors with **Alex Parker**, **Richard Birk** and newest member **Paul Baker** helping to guide us as well as new president elect, **Tim Ishii** and our returning officers **Brent Colwell** and **Heather Mensch**. It will be a pleasure working with them. Thanks to **Ronnie Rios** for all you did these first two years of the organization as our first president. Thanks go to **John Goode** for taking the responsibility of putting together the newsletter. Send your news worthy articles and photos to [jgoode488@aol.com](mailto:jgoode488@aol.com)

Our web page is being hosted by TMEA and we believe that gives us a stronger connection with them. I want to thank **Cathy Benford** for working closely with TMEA to make this happen.

The midi-files are up on the website so that your students can have a background to work with while preparing the Jazz All State Etudes. I want to thank Richard Birk for all his work on collecting the jazz etudes and getting them into Finale and creating the midi-files. If any of you Finale wizards are out there Richard sure could use some help in the future with that project.

All Elementary, Middle and High School directors make sure you apply for the grants that are available through TJEA. Go to the website for information and applications for the grants.

Volume 1 No. 1 of the *Jazz Journal* was completed and sent to members back in January; I hope that you have found the material useful for your students. I know I have copied a few of the articles and handed them out

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Lead alto, Charles Delgado, solos with College of the Mainland's Jazz Ensemble at the *Jazz Educators Network Conference*. See article, p. 2

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to my jazz players. Thank again to **Richard Birk** for his fine work on the journal. He is again soliciting material for the ***Jazz Journal*** so if you are interested please send your articles to [Richard.Birk@brazosport.edu](mailto:Richard.Birk@brazosport.edu)

I hope everyone has renewed their membership, if not please contact Cathy Benford at [paperchick99-tjea@yahoo.com](mailto:paperchick99-tjea@yahoo.com). I know she sent out an email reminder but if you changed your email from one that she had you need to update it with her.

Have a great fall semester and continue to check the website for updates on Jazz in Texas.

Musically, **Sparky Koerner**

## **Jazz Educators Network**

Two Texas jazz ensembles, **Austin Academy** in Garland and **College of the Mainland** in Texas

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## **College of the Mainland Ensemble Performs @ JEN Conference**

The COM Jazz Ensemble directed by **Sparky Koerner** had a wonderful performance at the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Jazz Educators Network Conference held at the University of Missouri St. Louis Campus on



May 21, 2010. The Jazz Ensemble performed a 50-minute concert in the Millennium Student Center on the UMSL Campus. The Jazz Ensemble was

City performed at the first JEN conference. After the demise of the International Association for Jazz Education several of the active leadership members came together and organized The Jazz Education Network (JEN). 2010 marked the first annual JEN conference held at the University of Missouri - St. Louis, May 20-22. Around 25 ensembles of various age groups and skill levels performed during the two-day event. They came from eleven different states and one ensemble from Sweden.

If you are a serious jazz educator or enthusiast strongly consider becoming a member of JEN. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Jazz Education Network Conference is coming up in January and will be just next door in Louisiana! The conference dates are January 6-8, 2011. Join JEN today and get your ensembles ready to go! Find membership details by scanning their home page located at <http://www.jazzednet.org/>

selected to perform at the JEN Conference via a recorded audition CD submitted last December.

The members of the ensemble were able to attend concerts by other universities, high schools and clinics, and workshops by professional jazz musicians. "This was an educational experience for the members of the Jazz Ensemble" Sparky said, "Many of these performers had never attended a jazz conference before and this was an experience they will never forget."

The trip was funded by the members of the Jazz Ensemble, College of the Mainland and a grant from the Hamman Foundation.

The next JEN Conference is scheduled for New Orleans January 6-8, 2011 the birthplace of American Jazz.

[ Editor: Check out additional info on the COM Jazz Ensemble at

<http://www.jazzednet.org/node/625>

For a photo gallery of the JEN 2010 conference go to <http://www.jazzednet.org/image/tid/55> ]



## Texas Christian University

The Texas Christian University Jazz Studies program had a busy and exciting 2009-2010 school year. The three big bands and student combos performed many concerts on campus and throughout the Ft. Worth-Dallas Metroplex area including a TCU Alumni event in Kansas City. During the fall semester they presented Los Angeles studio musician and former Dallas Symphony bass trombonist **Morris Repass** (also a TCU alum) in a brass master class and concert featuring some wonderful Clare Fischer arrangements. The spring semester included clinics and master classes from **Mike Vax** and **Jim Snidero**.



The TCU Jazz Ensemble 1 directed by professor **Curt Wilson** performed at TMEA in February with guest conductor/composer **Patrick Williams** and jazz trombone artist **Andy Martin** plus TCU clarinet professor **Gary Whitman** performing Pat Williams' *CONCERTO IN SWING*.

Our graduate teaching assistant in Jazz Studies,

**Scott Sidway**, who played lead trombone last summer in the Disneyland All-American Collegiate Band, was invited back to serve as a teaching assistant. Scott also wrote several of the Texas All-State Jazz trombone audition etudes last year. One of our trumpet players, **Sarah Bauza**, also performed in the Disneyland Band last summer.

## 33rd annual TCU Jazz Festival

The 33rd annual TCU JAZZ FESTIVAL featured 28 middle school and high school jazz bands from throughout Texas. Guest artists included the **CEDAR WALTON QUARTET** and saxophone artist/composer **Mario Cruz** (also a TCU alum!) who recently moved back to this area after 35 years in New York playing with everyone – including Bruce Springsteen, Blood Sweat and Tears, among others.

Festival adjudicators were **Dr. Ron McCurdy** (USC), **Mario Cruz**, **Rick Stitzel** (TCC), **Ron Puckett**, and TCU faculty

members **Dr. Brian West** and **Joe Eckert**.

### Festival winners

#### Middle School Bands

3rd place – Aledo MS  
2nd place – Austin Academy 1  
1st place – North Ridge MS

#### High School 4A (2nd bands)

Aledo HS

#### 4A (1st bands)

3rd place – Aledo HS  
2nd place – Wakeland HS  
1st place – Newman Smith HS

#### 5A (2nd bands)

3rd place – Bowie HS  
2nd place – Rowlett HS  
1st place – Carroll HS

#### 5A (1st bands)

3rd place – Rowlett HS  
2nd place – Carroll HS  
1st place – Lake Highlands HS

#### Outstanding musicians

**Jamal Al Jauni**, **Scott Schmidt**, **Brett Wyatt**, and **Christian Dorn** of Newman Smith HS. **Garrett Wingfield** (Lake Highlands), **Nolan Read** (Stephen F. Austin), **Myles Brakemore** (Trinity) and **Christian Levens** (Richland)

TJEA conducts general membership meetings at TMEA and TBA. When you attend these conventions please put TJEA on your agenda and attend. Your voice is important for the strength of the organization.

## **Jazz Panel Adjudicators Needed**

*[Sparky Koerner, TMEA audition coordinator for the all-state jazz ensemble sends this message to the general membership.]*

I am soliciting people to be on the jazz panels to listen to the TMEA High School Jazz Ensemble Audition CD's. That listening will take place on Sunday, November 7, 2010 in Arlington, TX at Martin High School. It takes 48 people to make this work. Each panel has 6 members with one member running the CD player. You may think that job is not important but believe me when you're sitting there with 40 CDs you don't want to mix them up.

In the past few years we have had two trumpet panels come in on Saturday and listen to these CD's because there is usually 100 or more. Another panel that takes a long time is the drum set players and I am working to see if maybe we should do two panels on Saturday also. More on that as the semester starts. If you are interested in being on a panel contact me at: [skoerner@com.edu](mailto:skoerner@com.edu)

## **Jazz Directors Symposium**

A great learning day took place at Stony Point High School in Round Rock on Saturday June 12, 2010. Wonderful clinicians presented great material that will help everyone in attendance with their jazz programs.

### The Topics and Clinics included:

*Big Band / Combo Rehearsal Techniques, **George DeRocher**, Clinician. Incorporating Improvisation Instruction into Rehearsal, **Roland Sandoval**, Clinician. Rhythm Section Tips for Instrumental, **Richard Birk**, Clinician. How to use technology to teach jazz & Improvisation, **Michael Jacobson**, Clinician. Selecting and Finding Music for your Combo or Big Band, **Keith Winking**, Clinician.*

Each of the clinicians presented a very professional clinic yet in a very relaxed manner. Lunch was provided to all in attendance adding to the camaraderie of the event. Evaluations by those in attendance indicated TMEA should continue with the Directors Symposiums but maybe include some hands-on time with our instruments. The idea to offer this for jazz students was also presented.

If you have some thoughts on what should be covered in the next symposium or wish to do a clinic please contact **Tim Ishii** @ [tishii@uta.edu](mailto:tishii@uta.edu). He will be organizing the next symposium. We will also be moving it around the state so that everyone gets a chance to attend without traveling too far.

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## **STAN KENTON ALUMNI BAND TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

2011 is the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Stan Kenton Orchestra, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Stan Kenton's birthday, and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Stan Kenton Alumni Band.

**The Stan Kenton Alumni Band** will be touring in Texas in late April and early May. Mike Vax, Alumni Band director, reports, "We have some open dates to fill and would love to talk to any educators that might be interested in having the band perform at their school. Any school that

books the band for an evening concert gets a FREE afternoon clinic. We are a true all-star band, made up of people who not only played with Stan Kenton, but also Maynard Ferguson, Buddy Rich, Woody Herman, and many other big bands."

**For more information on the Kenton Alumni Band, please go to: [www.bigbandjazz.net](http://www.bigbandjazz.net)**  
**For booking information, please call 925-872-1942 or email [vaxtrpts@aol.com](mailto:vaxtrpts@aol.com).**

"We hope to talk to you soon."

Mike Vax, Director of the Stan Kenton Alumni Band.

## **Leon Breeden,**

the passing of a jazz education pioneer

[Editor: The TJE A Newsletter learned of the passing of Mr. Breeden during the production of this edition. In the absence of a full article the listed links are suggested for more information at this time.]

Mr. Breeden was the jazz studies director at the University of North Texas and directed the *One O'Clock Lab Band* from 1959 to 1981. He died Wednesday, August 11. He was 88.

<http://www.allaboutjazz.com/php/news.php?id=62922>

[http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/city/denton/stories/DN-breedenob\\_13met.ART.State.Edition1.356080c.html](http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/city/denton/stories/DN-breedenob_13met.ART.State.Edition1.356080c.html)

[http://kntu.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=590:breeden-dies&catid=3:news-from-kntu&Itemid=6](http://kntu.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=590:breeden-dies&catid=3:news-from-kntu&Itemid=6)

<http://www.jazz.unt.edu/>

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## **JAZZ AT ST. JAMES' CONCERT & JAZZ MASS**

The Sixteenth Annual, Jazz @ St James' Concert & Jazz Mass for 2010, will be held at St. James' Episcopal Church in Austin **November 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>** this year.

The concert will feature New Orleans great Alto Sax player **Donald Harrison** and the **Donald Harrison Quintet** on both Friday and Saturday night. Playing with the quintet will be a special guest, #1 rated Baritone Sax Player **Gary Smulyan**.

The **Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>** opening act will be the **Rich Harney Quintet**. The group includes: **Rich Harney** – piano; **Jake Langley** – guitar; **Chris Maresh** – Bass; **Scott Lanningham** – drums. In addition, another special guest will appear to complete the quintet.

The **Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>** opening act will be the **Brannen Temple Industries**. The group

includes: **Philippe Vieux** - flute (BLAZE, Horace Silver, Eddie Palmieri); **D-Madness** - electric bass (amazing simlaltious / multi-instrumentalist); **Bernard Wright** - keys (Miles Davis, Marcus Miller, Lenny White); **Brannen Temple** - drums and all original compositions (Chaka Khan, Robben Ford, Lizz Wright).

On Saturday morning there will be a Jazz Workshop conducted by **Donald Harrison** and **Gary Smulyan**. Musicians, music students and all jazz music lovers are invited to attend this **FREE** event. Generally a jam session breaks out with all participants joining in.

On Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> there will be Jazz Masses including our featured performers and other local musicians.

All events will be held at:

**St. James' Episcopal Church, 1941 Webberville Rd, Austin, TX 78721**

**Tel: 512-926-6339**

# Jazz Across Texas

## *THE place to be*

*Make plans to attend these great musical happenings at a venue near you.*

- 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas A&M University-Kingsville Jazz Bash will be Tuesday, November 23, 2010, 7:00 PM, with free admission. TAMUK Jazz Bands I, II, and III plus jazz combos will be the featured ensembles. Directors are **Paul Hageman** and **James Warth**. Concerts will take place in Jones Auditorium on the TAMUK Campus.
- Eighth annual Jazz By the Boulevard Festival in Fort Worth, September 10-11  
<http://www.fortworthjazz.com/>
- Jazz Alive 2010 in San Antonio, September 18-19  
<http://www.saparksfoundation.org/jazzsalive.html>
- 50<sup>th</sup> annual Texas Jazz Festival in Corpus Christi – Oct. 15, 16, 17  
<http://www.texasjazz-fest.org/>
- Presenting, preserving and promoting Classic Jazz  
<http://www.riverwalkjazz.org/>
- Jazz in the El Paso area  
<http://www.jazzelpaso.org/> and <http://www.elpasofriendsofjazz.org/>

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## TJEA NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

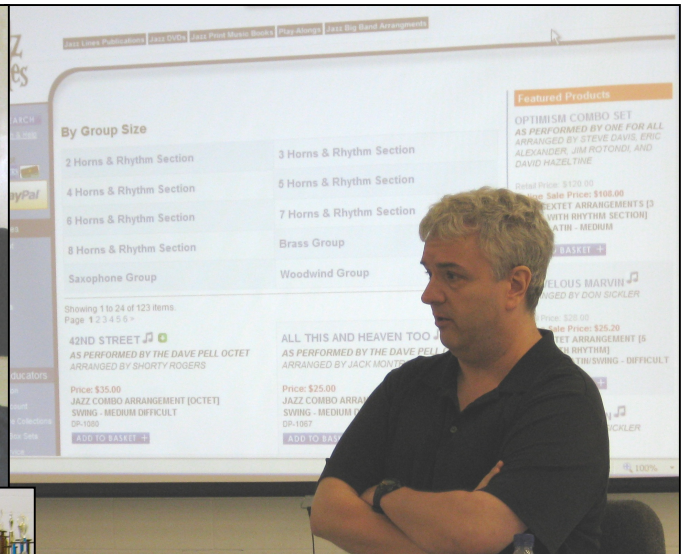
The ***TJEA Newsletter*** is compiled four times a year, in February, May, August and November. Articles should be sent by email to the editor in a Word formatted attachment. Any photos should be placed in your Word formatted article or at the end of the article. Large files should be separated into smaller attached files. When possible identify all performers by name and instrument in all photos.

Email should be sent to the newsletter editor, John Goode, at [JGoode488@aol.com](mailto:JGoode488@aol.com).

DEADLINES:      January 15      (Feb. Edition)  
                     April 15      (May Edition)  
                     July 15      (August Edition)  
                     October 15      (Nov. Edition)

Texas Jazz Newsletter reserves the right to approve and edit all materials proposed for distribution.





**TJEA's Jazz Directors Symposium** at Stony Point High School in Round Rock. Clockwise from top left: Roland Sandoval-Incorporating Improvisation; Keith Winking-Finding Music for your ensembles; Richard Birk-Rhythm section tips; Michael Jacobson-technology to teach jazz; lunch with attendees and clinicians.

