

Texas Jazz Educators Association Newsletter

Highlighting Jazz Activities in the State of Texas



May 2014

THE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,



As with the 2014 JEN conference in Dallas, it was great seeing many of you at our TJEA General Meeting during TMEA in San Antonio. This was a particularly collaborative meeting with excellent input from our general membership in

attendance. Thank you all so very much!

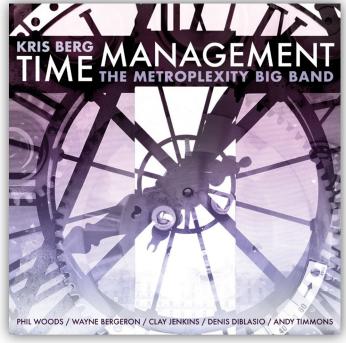
As per usual for this time of year the jazz festival season is coming to a close and summer break is rapidly approaching, so I would like to take a moment to remind everyone about the following important things in the coming year:

- Applications and recordings for the TMEA Invited Jazz Ensemble are due May 15: http://www.tmea.org/divisions-regions/band/jazz-ensemble-application
- President-elect Mark Nichols will be hosting the TJEA Summer Symposium and the following is the proposed date and city: July 26, 2014 in San Antonio, TX. More information to follow shortly.
- Our summer meeting will be held Monday, July 28, 9:30-10:30 am during the TBA Convention in San Antonio, July 27-30, 2014.

Also, I will be giving the following clinic at TBA, "Jazz Band/Improvisation Rehearsal Techniques for the High School Band Director." If you're in San Antonio, we invite you to attend this as well as the 2014 Summer Jazz Symposium and the TJEA Meeting at TBA.

Congratulations and a big welcome are in order for our newest

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New CD release from Kris Berg & The Metroplexity Big Band. See article page 9

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officers. Heather Mensch has been reelected as treasurer. Alan Black will be our new secretary. Our new president-elect is Matthew Seifert, and we need to thank him for his generous service as past secretary. Mark Nichols is our 2014-2015 TJEA president. Last, but certainly not least, Alex Parker has been appointed to the newly created post of Executive Officer. Our new officers will begin their term on July 1 with the beginning of the next membership year.

I am grateful for my time serving as president and am going to continue to stay involved by serving on the Board of Directors. I'd also like to thank **Roland Sandoval** who has served on the board for the last three years and whose term is now ending.

Again, I would like to congratulate our incoming and outgoing officers and thank them for their tremendous service to TJEA. Another big thank you needs to go out to **Richard Birk** who graciously lent his expertise with the up-coming All-State Jazz Etudes. This has been quite a task and we all owe him, Alex Parker, and all of the contributing composers a great big thanks!

Lastly, it's been an honor serving as your president for the 2013-2014 school year. Thank you all for your encouragement, advice and support. Best wishes and we'll see y'all at TBA in July.

Regards, **Aric Schneller**, President TJEA

The Carroll Jazz Orchestra heading to New York

Congratulations to the **Carroll Jazz Orchestra** from Carroll Senior High School, directed by **David Lown** for being selected as an **Essentially Ellington Finalist**. David reported, "The competition will be streamed live at jalc.org/live. My band is the only one there from Texas, and we play at 12:00 CST on Saturday May 10th." We know the will represent Texas and his school proudly. Carroll Jazz Orchestra was the TMEA Invited Jazz Band at the recent TMEA convention this past February in San Antonio.

The following is an excerpt from the *Jazz at Lincoln Center* press release.

NEW YORK, NY – February 19, 2014 – Jazz at Lincoln Center proudly announces the 15 finalist bands that will compete in the prestigious 19th Annual Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival at Frederick P. Rose Hall on May 8 – 10, 2014. The following finalists are among nearly 100 high school jazz bands across North America that entered the competition. Each school submitted recordings of three tunes performed from charts from Jazz at Lincoln Center's Essentially Ellington library.

Beloit Memorial High School (Beloit, WI)
Carroll Senior High School (Southlake, TX)
Community Arts Program (Coral Gables, FL)
Dillard Center for the Arts (Fort Lauderdale, FL)
Garfield High School (Seattle, WA)
Jazz House Kids (Montclair, NJ)
Lexington High School (Lexington, MA)
Medfield High School (Medfield, MA)
Mt. Si High School (Snoqualmie, WA)
Osceola County School for the Arts (Kissimmee, FL)
Rio Americano High School (Sacramento, CA)
Roosevelt High School (Seattle, WA)
Sun Prairie High School (Sun Prairie, WI)
Tucson Jazz Institute (Tucson, AZ)
Whiteland Community High School (Whiteland, IN)

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Throughout March and April, Jazz at Lincoln Center will send, free of charge, a professional jazz musician and educator to each of the 15 finalist band schools to lead an intensive four-hour workshop of rehearsals, lessons, and master classes. The *Essentially Ellington* Program will also provide free workshops to an underserved school in each of the finalist band communities.

Beginning on May 8, the 15 bands will compete for top honors and participate in workshops, jam sessions, and more during the three-day Competition & Festival in New York City. The first half of the final concert on May 10 will feature the three top-placing bands performing with a member of the world renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra (JLCO) as guest soloist. The second half will feature the JLCO – whose members serve as mentors for the finalist bands throughout the weekend – performing a repertoire of tunes made famous by Duke Ellington. The festival concludes with an awards ceremony honoring outstanding soloists, sections and the announcement three top-placing bands.

The 2013-14 *Essentially Ellington* repertoire includes, Duke Ellington's, "Chinoiserie," "Flirtibird," "I Like the Sunrise," and "Uptown Downbeat"; Gerald Wilson's "Dissonance In Blues," "Nancy Jo," and "Teri," as well as Gerald Wilson's arrangement of "Perdido," composed by Ervin Drake, Harry Lenk, and Juan Tizol.

The entire weekend of *EE* events, including the final concert featuring the three top-placing bands and the JLCO, will be webcast live on http://jalc.org/live. For more information including background, history, photos, and audio recordings of the *Essentially Ellington* 2014 repertoire, and more, visit: http://academy.jalc.org/ee/

Diaz Summer Music Institute Summer Latin Jazz Workshop

Diaz Summer Music Institute Summer Latin Jazz Workshop will be held June 16, 2014 thru July 3, 2014 at **MacArthur High School**, located at 4400 Aldine-Mail Route, Houston, TX. The workshop is open to children between the ages of 4-18 and will offer beginner, intermediate and advanced levels of instruction. Beginning level instruction will be held from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., while intermediate and advanced level instruction will run from 2-7 p.m. Curriculum includes: master classes on instrument, rhythm section classes, music theory, improvisation, composition, style interpretation (Latin, swing, funk, etc.), performance ensembles and more!

One of the highlights of the workshop will be a concert with professional musicians **Ndugu Chancler** and **Brian Lynch**. Chancler is a jazz funk drummer, percussionist, studio musician, composer and musician. Lynch is a Grammy Award-winning New York-based jazz trumpeter, currently touring and recording with his own group as well as a member of the Phil Woods Quintet and Eddie Palmieri's Afro-Caribbean Jazz group.

For more information, contact (832) 858-5855 or email: <u>info@diazmusicinstitute.org</u>. For more information on the workshop, visit <u>www.diazmusicinstitute.org</u>.

Jose Antonio Diaz, Director of Bands MacArthur High School, Aldine ISD Page 4 May 2014 T.J.E.A Newsletter





Summer Music Workshop Curriculum:

- Master classes
- Rhythm classes
- Music theory
- Improvisation
- Composition

Concert with Guest Artists





Ndugu Chancler

Brian Lynch

For ages 4 thru 18.

Beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels of instruction offered.

Workshop held at MacArthur HS 4400 Aldine-Mail Rt. Houston 77039

For More Information:

haa houston arts alliance

Call: 832-858-5855

E-mail: info@diazmusicinstitute.org Website: www.diazmusicinstitute.org

Diaz Music Institute is a 501c3 Non-profit Organization

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HOUSTON'S HSPVA JAZZ YOUTUBE PROJECT

Bob Morgan, retired Director of Jazz Studies at Houston's High School for Performing and Visual Arts, has begun an upload project related to albums, selected concerts and videos from his tenure at the school, 1976 - 1999. Bob sent us the following information on this imaginative project. Items currently available are listed below and may be accessed via: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgkv_5p_oUCdy8KrIFa5Etw/playlists

Note that listings include guest soloists and selected student soloists now-well-known (fascinating to check them out in their young, formative years!)

(All are big band, unless indicated otherwise)

CD Single:

1977

La Fiesta, comp. C. Corea, arr. Tony Klatka Scott Gertner, guitar

Albums:

Let It Go! (1978)

Guest soloists: John Park (alto sax/piccolo); Don Menza (tenor sax)
Students: Everette Harp (tenor sax); Warren Sneed (tenor sax); Herman Matthews (drums)

Impressions (1979)

Everette Harp (tenor/soprano saxes); Mike Rojas (piano); Herman Matthews (drums)

Nightfall (combo, 1980)

The late Sal Gonzales (trombone); Mike Rojas (piano/KB); Ed Smart (alto/flute/comp./arr.; now very successful comp./arr. in L. A.); Dr. Simon Rowe (trpt./Flgl./comp./arr.; now Executive Director of the Dave Brubeck Institute, Stockton, CA)

HSPVA JAZZ '81

Guest soloists: Tony Campise (alto sax); Kirk Whalum (soprano sax) Students: The late Bill Fitzgerald (trombone); Warren Grant (drums)

Kohoutek (1982)

Shelley Carrol (tenor sax); Victor Nash (trumpet/Flügelhorn); Warren Grant (drums)

Professional video:

Live TV: *The Little Ol' Show that Comes On after Monty Python* broadcast July 28, 1979 (same band as *Impressions*, above)

Amateur video:

Spaghetti Supper (annual fundraiser/homecoming) October, 1978 (same band as *Impressions*, above)

Special on-campus concert:

June 1, 1980: The Paul Smith Concert

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There is a back story to this last listing, The Paul Smith Concert. In the late 1970s, the marvelous Los Angeles-based pianist, **Paul Smith**, and a friend/business partner founded a record company, **Outstanding Records**, primarily to record Paul as a solo and trio artist. In 1979, to create publicity for the new label, they sponsored a contest, heavily advertised in *Down Beat*, etc., for high school big bands. Groups were solicited to submit recordings, from which "the best" was chosen, with the selected school receiving, among other things: On-campus concert by the **Paul Smith Trio**, sharing the stage with the school's jazz ensemble (at no expense to the school); open rehearsal with trio and school jazz ensemble; clinic by Paul Smith.

HSPVA's submission consisted of several tracks from the school's 1979 album, *Impressions*, and, HSPVA was selected as the nation-wide winner! Thus, for a brief period in May/June, 1980, 'PVA jazz students enjoyed a deep on-campus association with: **Paul Smith**, piano; **Keter Betts**, bass; **Bobby Durham**, drums, which happened to be Ella Fitzgerald's rhythm section!

The climactic concert was professionally recorded, and, amazingly, the tapes are extant and in very good condition. The YouTube upload is presented in three sets:

Set 1: Houston HSPVA Jazz Ensemble (7 tunes)

Set 2: Paul Smith Trio (7 tunes)

Set 3: Houston HSPVA Jazz Ensemble with Paul Smith (1 tune)

Houston HSPVA Jazz Ensemble with Paul Smith Trio (1 tune)

Remarks

NOTE: Complete personnel/composer/arranger/etc. for all of above can be found on "video" and/or "Comments" section for each respective item.

Editor: We look forward to viewing and hearing these performances from years past and look forward to future updates from Dr. Morgan on more listings as they are posted.

NEW TJEA officers for the 2014-15 membership year

President-elect - Matthew Seifert, Marshall High School, San Antonio Secretary - Alan Black, Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls Director - Aric Schneller, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville

These officers will begin their term on July 1, the beginning of the new membership year. And many (and continued) thanks to our outgoing officers, Aric Schneller, President; Matthew Seifert, Secretary; and Roland Sandoval, Director.

ATTEND YOUR TJEA MEETING during TBA/TODA/TCDA

Monday, July 28, 9:30-10:30am

Texas jazz Educators Assn Open Membership Meeting, room location to be announced

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ANGELINA COLLEGE JAZZ BAND CAMP

Angelina College Division of Fine Arts will be hosting a Jazz Band Camp this summer June 9-11-2014. The camp is for all junior and senior high school and junior college band students. Topics to be covered will be jazz history, basic jazz theory, jazz improvisation, jazz styles and combo/big band performance. The camp will close on Wednesday evening with student combo and big band performances in addition to performances by the ACC Big Band and Shades of Blue Clinician Jazz Combo. For more information contact Larry Greer at ldgreer@angelina.edu Angelina College, Lufkin, TX.



Angeuna College Jazz Band Camp Jure 9—11, 2014

Clinics and Performances Featuring ACC Big Band, Shades of Blue, & Student Ensembles Wednesday, June 11, 6:00 PM Hudgins Hall



Featured Clinicians

Mike McGowan, Sax/Piano – Carthage, TX Phil Rhumbley, Bass – Tyler, TX Jeff Shelton, Percussion – Tyler, TX Larry Greer, Guitar/Piano – Hudson, TX

Angelina College Jazz Band Camp 2014 Official Student Entry Form

Address

#4.500F

Zlo

Instrument

Emall

School

Please return by June 6, 2014 to: Angelina College Jazz Band Camp Attn: Larry Greer PO Box 1768 Lufkin, TX 75902-1768

Note: Entry fee must accompany form in order for you to be scheduled. Make checks payable to Angelina College Jazz Band Camp.

Questions? Email Larry Greer at lgreer@angelina.edu or call (936) 633-5236



ACC Big Band



Camp Director Larry Greer



Clinician Phil Rhumbley

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Collin College Jazz Recuperating From Busy Spring!

Kris Berg, Director of Jazz Studies at Collin College reported a semester filled with great jazz. "This has been a very busy 2014 for the jazz program at Collin College. January started off our year with two of our award winning ensembles from Collin being selected to perform at the 5th Annual **Jazz Education Network** conference (JENCon) in Dallas. Both the **Jazz Lab Band** and the **Latin Jazz Ensemble** performed for enthusiastic crowds at the Hyatt Regency as part of the event. Our students then had the opportunity to dive head first into all the other events for the entire weekend. All agreed it was a great educational opportunity."

In February, jazz guitarist, **Thomas Dawson**, performed at TMEA as part of the All-State Community College Jazz Ensemble. Jazz saxophone instructor, **Kevin McNerney**, attended the conference also. This was the 8th consecutive year that Collin had one or more students selected as part of this honors band!



Berg reported, "In March things went really crazy. First the Jazz Lab Band performed as part of the Frisco Jazz Festival at Wakeland High School. This is an excellent event that features only the jazz ensembles from the Frisco ISD. There are so many that it takes an entire day for all these groups to get a chance to perform!"

Next the **Jazz Lab Band** was selected to be part of the first ever **Seattle Jazz Experience**. The festival is hosted by Cornish College and takes place at the Seattle Center. Only 7 college ensembles were selected (by audition) and Collin was the only group not from the west coast. The festival featured **The Cuong Vu Trio** and **Matt Wilson's Arts & Crafts**. Students also got to hear other groups from the **University of Oregon** and **Pacific Lutheran University**. Berg added, "The big highlight of the weekend was our selection as one of only 5 groups to receive a one-on-band clinic with the **Mr. Bill Holman** (see photo at right). As part of our performance we played Bill's original composition, *Theme and Variations #2*. After the performance, the band had a great time spending an hour working with this jazz legend. For most of our students, this was truly a once in a lifetime event!"

Bill Holman works with the Collin Jazz Ensemble.

March 27 & 28, Collin College hosted the 22nd annual Collin Jazz Fest featuring
L.A. trombonist **Andy Martin**. The festival was a huge success featuring 2
major concerts with Andy, the **Collin Latin Jazz Ensemble**, the **Texas Instruments Jazz Band** and the **Collin Jazz Lab Band**. During the day the festival hosted 22 bands from the north Texas area. Bands
performed for adjudicators **Micah Bell**, **Sarah Roberts**, **Kevin McNerney**

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and **Bruce Bohnstengel** and all groups received a clinic with one of the adjudicators immediately following their performance.

Kris said, "April was "naptime" as we prepared for the end of the spring semester and our *Spring Jazz Concert* on May 10 featuring all 5 performing jazz ensembles here at the college. Whew!"

Kris Berg & the Metroplexity Big Band to release second CD!

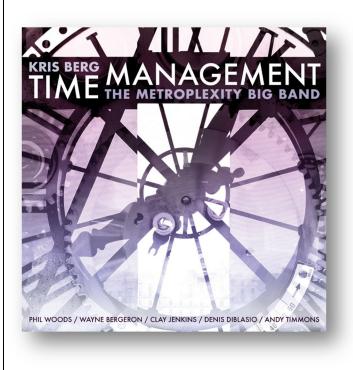
"This CD is bold and as full of surprises as a hip piñata!" - Phil Woods

On March 20th. **Kris** Berg & The **Metroplexity Big** Band debuted their second CD as featured guest artists at the Northwest College Jazz Festival in Powell, Wyoming. *Time Management* is the newest project from Metroplexity and will be officially released by MAMA Records in late May this year. This is the follow-up CD to their popular and critically acclaimed release in 2012, This Time/Last Year.



Time Management features many of the exciting jazz players / educators with ties to the Dallas-Ft. Worth area, including **Stockton Helbing**, **Micah Bell**, **Bruce Bohnstengel**, **Brian Clancy**, **Ken Edwards**, **Pete Gallio** and many others. Special guests include the legendary **Phil Woods**, **Wayne Bergeron**, **Clay Jenkins**, **Denis DiBlasio** and Texas guitar hero (on his first big band recording) **Andy Timmons**.

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Time Management includes 6 original tunes and 3 original arrangements. A new arrangement of the Jerome Kern tune, Yesterdays, features Clay **Jenkins** and **Pete Gallio** in a duet for the ages. Other arrangements include a burnin' Latin-fusion chart on **Stockton Helbing's** tune, *Kelsier* and a new version of the best-selling, The Chicken. Originals include the bop-ish, *School of Thought* and a new funk tune, Squiggly, featuring Andy **Timmons**. There is an up-dated version of *Narnian* Dance as well as a hard swingin' shuffle, One Block Off Easy Street, featuring Denis DiBlasio. The title cut is an up tempo swing tune "mostly" in 7/4, with touches of 4/4 and 10/4 and Kris Berg says, "we are most proud of the beautiful ballad, Lifelong Friends, featuring a great performance by Mr. Phil Woods."

The **Metroplexity Big Band** makes up the staff at the yearly Texas All-Star Jazz Camp and will make

their Texas debut of the CD at this year's event in July. Please make plans to join them.

While the CD's official release is not until May/June, you can get your early copy now, only at www.krisbergjazz.com.

Please check out the new CD here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7CBO4Ewh-Q

College of the Mainland shares an Evening of Jazz

The Evening of Jazz with guest artist Marvin Stamm and Bob "Doc" Morgan was a great success April 5, 2014. In preparation for the concert they worked with both the Blocker Middle School and Texas City High School Jazz Bands helping with style, solo's and piano voicing's as well as balance. Troy Eads, director of Blocker and David Richard, director of TX City High, really appreciated the input from both of these jazz masters. That evening a rehearsal with the COM Jazz Ensemble, directed by Sparky Koerner, helped to put the finishing touches on the charts that they would play the next evening.

On Saturday during the concert Marvin and Bob performed with each of the groups doing one tune with each of the TCISD schools. Then with the COM Ensemble they performed: *Caravan*,



Left to right: COM jazz director, Sparky Koerner, soloists Marvin Stamm, Bob Morgan.

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and *Speak Low*, arranged by **Jack Cortner**. *Spring Can Really Hang You Up the Most*, arranged by "Doc" and ended the set with Sam*ba De Los Gatos* composed by **Mike Steinel**.

The *Evening of Jazz* was the fourth time these three groups have helped celebrate "Jazz Appreciation Month" in Texas City. Partial funding for the concert was provided by a **JAZZ2u** grant from the **Jazz Education Network** made possible by the **Herb Albert Foundation**.

Sparky Koerner has once again put up a jazz display (see photo below) in the Fine Arts Building on the COM Campus. There are over 50 photos taken by photographers **Herman Leonard**, **William Gottlieb**, **Chuck Stewart**, and **Milt Hinton**. In the display are also collections of various jazz books from Sparky's collection as well as the **Ken Burns**' DVD and CD sets. Other items include a clarinet beside which is an LP of The Famous 1938 Carnegie Hall Concert of Benny Goodman, also the VHS and book of *A Great Day in*

Harlem. "I enjoy putting up the display to help celebrate Jazz History Month", said Sparky.



A Concert by the **COM Jazz Ensemble** and **Jazz Combo** was held March 4th. A Jazz Combo Concert was held on International Jazz Day, April 30th. Jazz remains alive and well at College of the Mainland.

Continued, next page...

www.TJEA.org (the best site on the web!)

Be sure to visit the TJEA web site for updates on All-State audition etudes and other organization information. Your TJEA membership year begins on July 1. Current members will receive an email membership renewal in July. Renew promptly and invite a non-member to join.

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COM Jazz Combo at GCIC Jazz Festival

Jazz Combo, David Jarkey - piano, Bryan Chapman - drums, Nathan Hanna - bass, Kim Chavez - trumpet



Receiving Outstanding Soloist Awards at the GCIC Jazz Festival for COM
Kim Chavez –trumpet Charles Delgado - alto saxophone
Ed Hooven – guitar Nathan Hanna – bass

Diaz Music Institute Presents

Noché Caliente featuring "Candido"



Join us for a magical evening of great music with the NEA Jazz Master Candido and Diaz Music Institute's Caliente.

Sunday July 6, 2014 8:00 PM

Free Admission!

Miller Outdoor Theatre 6000 Hermann Park Drive

Tickets may be picked up at Miller Outdoor Theatre or call 832-858-5855





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Stan Kenton Alumni Band Tour takes aim at 2015



THE STAN KENTON ALUMNI BAND DIRECTED BY MIKE VAX

BAND PERSONNEL FOR 2015 SPRING TOUR

SAXOPHONES:

Kim Richmond*, Phil Hilger, Pete Gallio, Rick Condit*, Joel Kaye*

TROMBONES:

Roy Wiegand*, Dale DeVoe*, Scott Whitfield, Kenny Shroyer*, Rich Bullock

TRUMPETS:

Mike Vax*, Dennis Noday*, Carl Saunders*, Don Rader*, Steve Huffsteter*

PIANO: Charlie Ferguson

BASS: Jennifer Leitham

DRUMS: Gary Hobbs*

VOCALS: Scott Whitfield and Ginger Berglund

*Alumni of the Stan Kenton Orchestra

Mike Vax Music Productions * Priends of Big Band Jazz
PO Box 10701 * Prescott, AZ 86327
925-872-1942 * vaxtrpts@aol.com
www.bigbandjazz.net * www.mikevax.net

Mike Vax, the director of the **Stan Kenton Alumni Band** communicated the following message to jazz fans in Texas. "As you may know, we had to cancel the **Stan Kenton Alumni Band Tour** for 2014 because of extenuating circumstances, but we are determined to keep the band alive and touring. Many schools that would have loved to have the band in for a clinic and concert, stated

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that they would have liked more time to be able to plan for our appearance, so we are now booking for 2015 a year in advance. Our tour will be in April into early May of next year."

"We hope that this will give you enough time to plan for us to perform at your school. The schools that book with us early will get their choice of dates and a special "early" price."

"Any school that books the band for an evening concert, gets a FREE afternoon clinic from the whole band."

"We hope to hear from you to possibly plan an appearance at your school. Please do get in touch with us at your earliest convenience. We are hoping to obtain many bookings for the tour before the end of this school year."

Mike Vax
928-771-1268
Friends of Big Band Jazz, Prescott Jazz Summit,
Stan Kenton Alumni Band
www.mikevax.net
www.bigbandjazz.net
www.prescottjazz.com
www.getzen.com

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 <u>Word formatted attachment</u>. Avoid sending PDF files, transfer them to Word before sending. Any photos should be placed in your Word formatted article or sent as separate JPEG images.

Email should be sent to the newsletter editor, John Goode, at newsletter@tjea.org.

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.