UCM Jazz Ensembles Auditions Information – Fall, 2024

WIND AUDITIONS (AVAILABLE EITHER ONLINE OR LIVE)

LIVE AUDITION OPTION

All wind players (sax, trumpet, and trombone) opting to audition LIVE for a jazz ensemble will need to sign up for an audition time at the board outside of my office (Utt-202E). Auditions will be held the first three (3) days of classes (Monday, August 19 – Wednesday, August 21).

The audition process is very simple. You will be asked to play two (2) excerpts (something slow, with straight eighth notes and something in a medium swing feel). Music is posted online – see link below (although you could just come in and read them). OPTIONAL: If you would like to do some improvising, I will play piano for you (and I am also providing online options for this). You are not required to bring in any prepared materials. However, if you really want to bring in something prepared, you may play that in addition to the reading. The whole audition takes no more than 10 minutes.

ONLINE AUDITION OPTION

I will include a link for the jazz auditions information form for you to fill out (see below). Music 0.2fi -

Please share a video of you playing Audition Etude 1 (Ballad) and Swing Etude (Etude 2) with me at aaberg@ucmo.edu (Google Drive might work best for this). Please note, you are to play the etudes unaccompanied.

Optional: If interested, please also include an example of you improvising (with accompaniment). For your convenience, I have provided changes and accompaniment for Blues in concert F and also a tune based on a classic jazz standard. If you prefer sending something else, that is fine with me. It is pretty easy to find backing tracks for many tunes on YouTube. Again, this step is OPTIONAL. If you are not comfortable improvising, no worries!

Also Optional: If you happen to have a short prepared piece that you believe really shows off your abilities well, you are welcome to share that (in addition to the etudes).

DEADLINE: Please share your videos by Wednesday, August 21st at 4:00 PM, if possible. Rehearsals will begin Thursday, August 22nd.

RHYTHM SECTION AUDITIONS

LIVE AUDITION OPTION

Since rhythm section instruments do not create aerosol like wind instruments, I am planning to hold the rhythm section auditions live. If you have concerns with this, please let me know, and I will arrange a means for you to audition virtually.

Rhythm section auditions will be held in Utt-102B on