



# Jazz Lab 2019

## *Sample Curriculum*

### CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

At Jazz Lab, we help participants explore their musical interests by exposing them to a myriad of styles and ideas. This document is an introduction to the Jazz Lab curriculum, specifically the rotating and weeklong courses taken from Jazz Lab 2018. While the course offerings will change for Jazz Lab 2019, the below information provides students and families a sense of the educational philosophy of the program. **The Jazz Lab 2019 Curriculum and Survey document will be posted mid-spring 2019.**

### JAZZ CONCEPTS

#### *Rotating Courses*

The morning jazz concepts course is rotating, so it will change each day. Students will take five, hour-long courses during the week to explore different concepts. 2018 rotating courses included drumming, designing vocal loops, 10 must-listen to albums, the music of Duke Ellington and how to approach recording – DIY and studio recording.

#### *Weeklong Courses*

The afternoon jazz styles courses are weeklong classes where students can dig in to a single topic. Page 2 includes the complete list of 2018 weeklong courses and their description. The survey page will be a student's opportunity to request their weeklong courses for Jazz Lab.

**1. Odd Meters (Michael Thomas)**

This course explores the structure of complicated rhythms (5/8, 7/8, 9/8, 11/8), offering strategies and ideas for how to play, improvise, arrange and absorb these meters.

**2. World Music Improvisation (Lihi Haruvi and Elinor Speirs)**

A hands-on course focused on improvisation and music of different cultures around the globe. Explore Brazilian, Indian, Balkan, African and Middle Eastern musics along with different improvisational ideas.

**3. Composition (Henrique Eisenmann)**

This course will explore 5 innovative and creative ways of composing music. We will be exploring human speech, bird songs, unexpected harmonies, rhythmic ostinatos and techniques to quickly compose melodies and harmonies.

**4. Improvisation Workshop (Shane Simpson)**

This course focuses on the fundamentals of improvisation. It will feature practical exercises on developing creativity and improvisational skills, regardless of the style or level. Students will play together in different combinations and engage in group discussions.

**5. Songwriting (Wendy Eisenberg)**

Learn how to construct a song from the very beginning: creating melodies, organizing rhythm, choosing the words and the chords. We will explore how to use rhythm and melody to support the meaning of the lyrics.

**6. Free Jazz (Ehud Ettun)**

Learn to understand and play Free Jazz with a series of group improvisation exercises. You'll explore ways to interact musically with others using rhythm, harmony and melody.

**7. The Art of the Solo (Jason Palmer)**

Explore modern jazz concepts on improvisation, new ways of playing bebop and creating lines using different processes. Learn what elements are essential for creating a "great" solo.