jazz lab

Jazz Lab 2019 Auditions

Jazz Lab auditions will take place in 8-10 minute increments on Sunday, June 30 at New England Conservatory. The audition includes two components – live performance with improvisation and ear training. Students will perform their selected audition pieces with a live, faculty rhythm section, and the ear training will be done using the piano in the audition room. The audition schedule, including your specific audition time and location, will be sent during the week of June 17. If you have specific needs based on travel to NEC please let us know at timothy.lienhard@gmail.com or jazzlab@necmusic.edu.

Performance

Jazz Lab students will perform two pieces in the performance portion of their audition:

1.) A selection of their choice which demonstrates personal style. Think of this piece as something that will show us musical interests and abilities. This will be performed with a faculty rhythm section (piano/guitar, bass and drums) so please provide at least three lead sheets, or sheet music in concert key .
2.) A traditional jazz piece. This can be any piece from the standard jazz repertoire. Please see the list below for examples.

For access to lead sheets, visit the Fake Book Library online. **PLEASE NOTE:** students should provide concert pitch lead sheets for the audition rhythm section. If you have questions about an audition selection or providing parts for the rhythm section, feel free to contact Henrique Eisenmann.

Bassists and Drummers should be prepared to play in at least one contrasting style (i.e. latin jazz, bossa nova, shuffle, odd meters etc.). Students can show their contrasting styles by using an audition piece or by performing a specific groove/style for faculty in the audition.

Examples of Jazz Repertoire:

Blues
Now's the Time
C Jam Blues
Blue Monk
Straight no Chaser

Standards
All the Things You Are
Autumn Leaves
There Never be Another You
My Romance
Stella by Starlight
You Stepped Out of a Dream

Rhythm Changes
Oleo
I Got Rhythm
Eternal Triangle
Moose the Mooch

Jazz
Ask Me Now
Well You Needn't
Lady Bird
Giant Steps
26-2

Ear Training

The ear training portion of the audition will ask students to identify intervals between two notes, chord types, including triads and 7th chords and, for more advanced students altered chords. Students will also be played a melody on the piano that they will sing back, and finally, play on their instrument (vocalists and drummers will play the melody on piano).

A great resource to prepare for the ear training component of the audition is musictheory.net. This site includes free resources on ear training, including a section with Excercises on identifying intervals, chords and other practical ear training skills. If you have questions about ear training, feel free to contact Henrique Eisenmann.