

# VSO SCHOOL OF MUSIC

## Jazz Combo Program Audition Guidelines

Applicants to the VSOSoM Jazz Combo program are asked to submit the following audition material to the school's [Registrar](#) via online audio/video link (ie. YouTube, SoundCloud, etc.) so that instructors can determine the best placement for each student. Current VSOSoM jazz combo students are encouraged, but not required, to submit/update audition materials.

*\* If unable to play any of the listed items, simply omit and placement assessments will be made accordingly. Students may update their audition files at any time by sending updated audio/video links to the school Registrar.*

### Jazz combo "audition file" requirements:

#### Woodwind/Brass:

- play three major scales of your choice with metronome, 1 or 2 octaves, 1/8th notes, at quarter note = 100
- play arpeggios (1-3-5-7) on concert C major7, C minor7, and C dominant 7.
- play melody of one "standard" jazz song (ie. Autumn Leaves, All The Things You Are, All of Me, Blue Bossa, etc.) in time with metronome. Tempo of your choice.

#### *\*Optional "advanced" level requirements*

- perform melody and improvise 2-3 choruses on a "standard" 12-bar blues of your choice (ie Tenor Madness, Billie's Bounce, Things Ain't What They Used to Be). Students may perform this material with either metronome, play-along recording, unaccompanied or with an ensemble.

#### Piano/Guitar:

- play three major scales of your choice with metronome, 1 or 2 octaves, 1/8th notes, at quarter note = 100
- play arpeggios (1-3-5-7) on concert C major7, C minor7, and C dominant 7.

- play melody of one "standard" jazz song (ie. Autumn Leaves, All The Things You Are, All of Me, Blue Bossa, etc.) in time with metronome. Tempo of your choice with chordal "comping" if possible.

*\*Optional "advanced" level requirements*

- perform melody and improvise 2-3 choruses on a "standard" 12-bar blues of your choice (ie Tenor Madness, Billie's Bounce, Things Ain't What They Used to Be). Students may perform this material with either metronome, play-along recording, unaccompanied or with an ensemble.

**Voice**

- sing two jazz standards of contrasting styles (ballad, swing, straight 8th feel) with a backing track or accompanist

*\*Optional "advanced" level requirements:*

- improvise over a standard 12-bar blues, 2-3 choruses  
- sing a one-octave ascending and descending chromatic scale

**Bass:**

- play three major scales with metronome, 1 or 2 octaves, 1/8th notes, at quarter note = 100  
- play arpeggios (1-3-5-7) on concert C major<sup>7</sup>, C minor<sup>7</sup>, and C dominant 7.  
- play melody of one "standard" jazz song (ie. Autumn Leaves, All The Things You Are, All of Me, Blue Bossa, etc.) in time with metronome. Tempo of your choice.  
- play walking bass line on "standard" 12-bar blues in F. Quarter note = 140  
- play bass line on one standard "Latin jazz" song of your choice (ie. So Danco Samba, Girl from Ipanema, Night in Tunisia, etc.). Quarter note approx. = 140-160

*\*Optional "advanced" level requirements*

- perform melody and improvise 2-3 choruses on a "standard" 12-bar blues of your choice (ie Tenor Madness, Billie's Bounce, Things Ain't What They Used to Be). Students may perform this material with either metronome, play-along recording, unaccompanied or with an ensemble.

**Drums:**

- play 2 choruses of unaccompanied comping on a swinging "standard" 12-bar blues of your choice (ie Tenor Madness, Billie's Bounce, Things Ain't What They Used to Be). Quarter note = 140  
- trade fours on a standard 12-bar blues (ie. solo for 4 bars, play time for 4 bars, solo for 4 bars, etc.) for 2-3 choruses.  
- play 1 chorus of unaccompanied comping on one standard "Latin jazz" song of your choice (ie. So Danco Samba, Girl from Ipanema, Night in Tunisia, etc.). Quarter note approx. = 140-160