2019
ATHENS JAZZ FESTIVAL
-application and info-

Saturday, April 13, 2019
for High School Jazz Bands and Combos
with Visiting Artist MIKE TOMARO, saxophonist/arranger

and Ensemble Clinicians

Pete Mills
Saxophonist and faculty @ Denison University

Sean Parsons
Pianist and faculty @ Ohio Univ.

Zach Compston
Drummer and Columbus Jazz Arts Group Director of Education & Community Engagement
Please join us for the annual non-competitive high school jazz band & combo festival at Ohio University! Each ensemble will receive written comments and an immediate post-performance workshop with the clinicians. Participating groups also perform a second time during the day for the public at the Baker Center Front Room Coffeehouse. At least one clinic/masterclass will be scheduled for all participants during the day Saturday. You are also encouraged to attend Saturday’s main Athens Jazz Festival concert at 4pm, featuring saxophonist/arranger Mike Tomaro with Ohio University Jazz Ensembles, in Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium, Ohio University. Concert admission is FREE!

1. APPLICATION DEADLINE is Monday, April 1, 2019. Send attached form via email (jamesm1@ohio.edu) or US Mail.
2. ENTRY FEE: $125 for one ensemble; $50 for each additional ensemble per school. Please make checks payable to OHIO UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
3. SATURDAY “ROAD MAP”. An OHIO student will meet and guide all ensembles from arrival to the conclusion of their activities performance and clinic.
4. PLEASE LIMIT SELECTIONS TO THREE PIECES. Each group should perform works in a variety of styles (swing, ballad, funk, Latin, etc.).
5. SATURDAY POST-PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES:
   • Each ensemble will receive an immediate clinic after their performance.
   • Ensembles have the option of a second performance in the Baker Center Front Room coffeehouse.
   • Various activities will take place throughout the day, including a jazz clinic/masterclass for all participants (time TBA).
6. EQUIPMENT STORAGE: Storage space for school/personal equipment will be provided.
7. COMMENT SHEETS: All ensembles will receive written comments and a certificate for participation. The emphasis is upon education. The clinicians’ comments will be mailed to each ensemble.
8. EQUIPMENT: Ohio University will provide all equipment (chairs, stands, amps, drums, percussion, keyboards, etc.) in warm up and performance rooms. Drummers may use their own cymbals, snare drum, and bass drum pedal.
9. GENERAL INFORMATION: All big bands must perform in the "stacked" format. A campus map, parking and food information and a scheduling update will be communicated to you upon receipt of your application.

QUESTIONS: Dr. Matt James or Dr. Sean Parsons - 740-593-4244
jamesm1@ohio.edu   parsons1@ohio.edu
2019 ATHENS JAZZ FESTIVAL APPLICATION

SCHOOL: _____________________________ DIRECTOR: _____________________________

ENSEMBLE: (big band) _______ (combo) _______
(complete separate applications for each ensemble)

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____________________________

DIRECTOR’S CELL NUMBER: _________________ SCHOOL PHONE: _________________

EMAIL: _____________________________

EQUIPMENT: Ohio University will provide the following equipment for warm-up and performance spaces:
- Chairs & stands - set up assistance will be provided.
- Guitar, keyboard & bass amplifiers; drum set, vibraphone, tuned acoustic piano, PA system
- Risers for trumpets and trombones will be provided in the performance space.

NOTE: Drummers may use their own cymbals, bass drum pedal, and snare drum in performance.

PLEASE LIST ANY ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT NEEDS:

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

REPERTOIRE

PLEASE LIMIT YOUR SELECTIONS TO A MAXIMUM OF THREE WORKS.

1. Title: _____________________________Composer/Arranger: _________________
   Soloists (name/instrument): ________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

2. Title: _____________________________Composer/Arranger: _________________
   Soloists (name/instrument): ________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

3. Title: _____________________________Composer/Arranger: _________________
   Soloists (name/instrument): ________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

Please include a personnel roster/schematic for each ensemble with your application.

APPLICATION DEADLINE is Monday, April 1, 2019

RETURN THIS FORM VIA EMAIL OR US MAIL TO: ATHENS JAZZ FESTIVAL
School of Music, 440 Glidden Hall, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701
email: jamesm1@ohio.edu or parsons1@ohio.edu; telephone: 740-593-4244.
Mike Tomaro, saxophone/arranger/composer

Presenting a Jazz Clinic for all participants on Saturday, April 13
PLUS appearing with Ohio University Jazz Ensembles, 4pm
Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium, Ohio University

Mike Tomaro has been the Director of the Jazz Studies Program at the Mary Pappert School of Music at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA since 1997. This saxophonist, composer, arranger and educator earned his B.S. degree in Music Education from Duquesne University and his M.A. degree in Saxophone Performance from George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. Prior to his appointment at Duquesne, he lived in the Washington, D.C. area for seventeen years as a member of the Army Blues Jazz Ensemble, a unit of the prestigious “Pershing’s Own” U.S. Army Band. While a member of this group, he served as its Enlisted Musical Director and performed for Presidents Reagan, Bush and Clinton as well as heads of state from around the world. He also composed and/or arranged much of the Army Blues repertoire and was featured as a soloist on several of the group’s albums and CDs. Mike is a Yamaha Performing Artist and endorses Vandoren reeds, mouthpieces and ligatures exclusively.

Mike has four nationally released recordings under his own name that showcase his talents as both performer and writer - “Forgotten Dreams” (Seabreeze Jazz), “Dancing Eyes” (Seabreeze Jazz), and “Home Again” (Positive Music) and “Nightowl Suite” (Seabreeze Jazz). Additionally, Mike has also been featured on many other CDs as performer and/or arranger, most notably on Nancy Wilson’s last two Grammy Award winning releases, “Turned To Blue” and “RSVP,” the Bob Mintzer Big Band’s “For The Moment,” New York Voices, “A Day Like This,” Sheryl Bailey’s “A New Promise” and the 21st Century Swing Band’s “Pittsburgh Jazz Legacy,” all on the MCG Jazz label. On the last two releases, Mike is prominently featured as the main arranger as well as a soloist.

Mike’s music has been performed by the likes of jazz greats David Liebman, Wayne Bergeron, Ivan Lins, Claudio Roditi, Mike Stern, Ernie Watts, Bobby Shew, Randy Brecker, New York Voices, Al Vizzutti, and many more, as well as high schools, colleges and universities around the world. His orchestral arrangements have been performed by the Pittsburgh and National Symphony Orchestras. Over one 200 of his compositions and arrangements have been published by Doug Beach Music, Hal Leonard Publications and E-Jazz Lines. Mike also scored all the music for the 2009 MCG/Opera Theater of Pittsburgh’s production of Duke Ellington’s musical “Beggars Holiday.”

As a performer, Mike has worked with such diverse artists and groups as Rosemary Clooney, Ray Charles, Michael Feinstein, Linda Ronstadt, Debby Boone, Johnny Mathis, Wayne Bergeron, Terence Blanchard, Louis Bellson, Terry Gibbs, Dizzy Gillespie Tribute Big Band, Woody Herman Orchestra and the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra, where he is featured on their latest DVD, “Live at MCG.” In his hometown, he is a member of the Pittsburgh Jazz Legacy Band, and has performed with guitarist Joe Negri, Pittsburgh Symphony, River City Brass Band, Pittsburgh Ballet and Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble in addition to leading his own small groups and the Three Rivers Jazz Orchestra, a group he co-founded. He is also a member and Co-Artistic Director (with trumpeter Sean Jones) of the Pittsburgh Jazz Orchestra, the city’s premiere big band. Aside from playing lead alto, Mike’s duties involve composing and/or arranging most of the material that group performs. Through this organization, he is Co-Artistic Director (with trumpeter James Moore) of the PJO Youth Band, a group comprised of 19 talented high school musicians from the local area and Artistic Director of the National Jazz Workshop at Duquesne University.

Mike co-authored the textbook “Instrumental Jazz Arranging: A Comprehensive and Practical Guide” (Hal Leonard Publications), with his long-time mentor, Dr. John Wilson, who was Director of Jazz Studies at Duquesne University from 1972-1996. It has been internationally recognized as one of the prime resources on this subject.

Mike is affiliated with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers where he has received numerous ASCAP Plus awards, the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences and the Jazz Education Network. Mike is in great demand both nationally and internationally as a guest soloist, adjudicator, and clinician.

Since his wife’s passing from pancreatic cancer in 2010, Mike has dedicated much of his time to organizing, arranging and performing yearly concerts designed to benefit the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PANCAN).
2019 Athens Jazz Festival

ENSEMBLE CLINICIAN BIOGRAPHIES

A native of Toronto Canada, saxophonist and composer **PETE MILLS’** discography includes 4 solo titles, with his most recent, 2014’s Sweet Shadow. The CD released on Vancouver’s Cellar Live Records has garnered critical acclaim - “A stellar recording”-JazzTimes, “Man, what a gas!”-DownBeat and a 4 1/2 star rating from Dan McClenaghan at Allaboutjazz.com. The recording features drummer Matt Wilson (who is also a part of Mills’ disc Art and Architecture), his long time collaborator, guitarist Pete McCann, bassist Martin Wind and pianist Erik Augis. Mills' 2007 release, Fresh Spin on the Summit Records label features B3 organist Tony Monaco and Pete McCann. It received enthusiastic reviews in both DownBeat (31/2 Stars) and JazzTimes magazines and was on the Jazz Week top 50-radio chart for 8 weeks. His 2004’s release on Summit, Art and Architecture (4 stars All Music Guide), features drummer Matt Wilson, bassist Dennis Irwin and Pete McCann. A top 50 Jazz Week radio release, it also received airplay on the MTV networks. His first solo release was the critically acclaimed, Momentum (COJAZZ Records). As a sideman he appears on over a dozen CDs including those by The Columbus Jazz Orchestra, saxophonist Chad Eby, the eclectic ensemble Madrugada, guitarist Stan Smith, The Cleveland Jazz Orchestra and The Paul Ferguson Jazz Orchestra. As a soloist Mills works throughout the U.S and Canada. In Columbus Ohio he performs as a featured soloist with the Columbus Jazz Orchestra (Byron Stripling Musical Director). Educated at the Eastman School of Music and the University of North Texas, Mills has received Grants from the Canada Council and was a recipient of the North Carolina Arts Council Jazz Composer’s Fellowship. In addition to his performing, Mills teaches saxophone, improvisation and directs the jazz ensemble at Denison University in Granville, Ohio.

**ZACH COMPSTON** directs the overall education programs for the Jazz Arts Group. He oversees logistical and administrative duties, vision and direction of JAG’s educational programming in schools and in the community, including the Columbus Youth Jazz Program, All That Jazz, PBJ & Jazz, Jazz Academy programs and school programs for pre-K through college. Zach is a highly regarded drummer, percussionist and music educator, known for his passion and experience in many avenues of the music world. He is versatile in drum set, world and classical percussion performances, and educational settings. His drum set experience includes performances with Andrea Bocelli, Pete Mills, and Vaughn Wiester’s Famous Jazz Orchestra. His classical and world percussion experience includes the Lafayette Symphony, Owensboro Symphony, River City Brass Band, Columbus Jazz Orchestra, and the Latin Jazz Collective. An associate instructor at Indiana University while pursuing his MM, he taught the percussion techniques course, gave private lessons, and conducted the percussion ensemble. A former instructor at the Ohio State School for the Blind summer band camp, Zach has developed a keen ability to communicate and connect with people of all ages. Zach is a graduate of Indiana University with a Masters in Music, and is a graduate of Capital University, where he received a BM in Jazz Studies.

**SEAN PARSONS** is a jazz pianist, composer, arranger, and educator. Originally from Illinois, Sean holds a Bachelor’s degree in music composition from Illinois Wesleyan University, a Master’s degree in jazz studies from DePaul University, and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Illinois. Prior to his appointment at Ohio University, Sean has held faculty positions at Marshall University and Illinois Wesleyan University. He is in demand as a performer and clinician nationwide. Sean has been invited to direct several All-State and district big bands, combos, and vocal jazz ensembles and has shared the stage with many of the most notable musicians in jazz including Clark Terry, James Moody, Jon Faddis, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Steve Turre, and Randy Brecker. Additionally, he has regularly performed with and arranged for Landau Eugene Murphy, Jr.