

Churchill Jazz Festival April 20th, 2024

Hello fellow directors,

Our 3rd Annual Churchill Jazz Festival will be held Saturday, April 20th, 2024 for middle school and high school ensembles. You can find the application at www.wcchargerband.org. In a nutshell, this festival will give each band the opportunity to receive a performance, clinic, ratings, and a concert by The Churchill Jazz Ensemble featuring Guest Artist, Bill Muter on Tuba and Bass!

Competing bands will be selected on a first-come first-serve basis, as determined by the online timestamp date or postmark on the envelope containing the application forms and competition fee. There will be a standby list for schools to enter should a competing band withdraw from the contest. Competition will start around 8:00am Saturday with middle school groups and end with high school bands.

As a reminder, all participants will receive 10 free tickets to their respective evening concert and awards ceremony while all other extra tickets needed for students, spectators, family, and friends will need to pay \$10.00 for admission. **Entries for the competition must be postmarked by March 18th and participation for this festival is on a first come first serve basis.** The entry fee is \$225.00 for each band which will include recording services in the entry fee. We will also be offering concessions and professional ensemble photos.

I would like to encourage schools of all sizes and levels of experience to participate. The experience of playing in a jazz festival and the helpful comments given by the adjudicators are invaluable to a jazz program. The judges are instructed to share their knowledge of jazz by giving educational comments that will help students and directors alike. As a reminder, you may choose to opt out of ratings and be given comments only. This means your band will not be considered for the competition part of the festival. Whether you choose ratings or comments only, your students will still be considered for All-Star Awards. Note: High School or Middle Schools with one performing/competing ensemble will compete as Varsity. Schools with two ensembles will have a Varsity and Non-Varsity. Any schools with three bands will have a Sub-Non Varsity Category.

The primary goal for the Churchill Jazz Festival is to provide a positive and educational opportunity for jazz enthusiasts. I hope that you take advantage of our efforts and support the festival by attending the events and encouraging others to enjoy your ensembles as well. I look forward to hearing your group perform in April and please continue to support jazz education in Texas.

Sincerely,
Amanda Stevenson