



January 1, 2010

Fellow Music Educators:

I am proud to announce that Newbury Park High School will be hosting its 2nd annual Jazz Festival coming this March. We have managed to secure some of the best adjudicators and clinicians from all over Southern California to come here for a full day of performances, concerts, clinics, and free workshops all geared to inspire and educate your students as they grow musically. We have two venues for MS and HS Big Bands including a state of the art 400 seat Performing Arts Center with professionally run sound.

Here are some of the highlights:

We will have competitive divisions for MS and HS Big Bands and Combos. The judging panels will include: Jeff Jarvis (CSULB and Kendor Publishing), David Roitstein (CalArts), Jeff Tower (Hemet High School), MJ Wamhoff (Delta College and CAJ President), and Jim Mooy (Santa Barbara City College); all distinguished jazz performers and educators. Of course all groups can choose not to compete if they wish and just receive comments and a rating. Combos will each have 45 minutes in their performance room to play for our adjudicator and receive a clinic.

Free hourly workshops will be provided for the directors and their students throughout the day addressing all areas of jazz performance, instrument master classes, and improvisation. Clinicians will include: Tom Peterson (Saxophone/Improvisation), Mitch Holder (Basic Comping and Chord Voicing for Guitar), Matt Finders (Trombone & Improvisation), Chuck Findley (Lead Trumpet Masterclass), Joe La Barbera with Tom Warrington and Larry Knoose (Rhythm Section Masterclass), Matt Harris (Jazz Comping and Chord Voicing for Piano), and a special Latin Jazz Percussion workshop with Brian Kilgore, MB Gordy, and Aaron Serfaty. Your students will have intimate access to some of the best jazz educators available in this area.

There will be two fabulous concerts during the day. The Joe LaBarbera Trio will be performing before lunch and a rhythm section Masterclass will follow with Joe, Tom Warrington, and Larry Knoose. And then the Cal State Long Beach Concert Jazz Orchestra will be performing before awards. (You never know what surprise artists may show up to play with the band.) Both concerts are sure to get your students fired up about music and playing their horns.

Jeff Tower and the Idyllwild Arts Summer Jazz Workshop have very graciously donated 2 one-week scholarships to the Outstanding Middle School and Outstanding High School Soloists for their 2010 camp.

There is more in the works to make this a great day (on-site vendors, great concessions) and I couldn't be more excited about it. I hope that you will consider joining us! If you have any questions at all, please give me a call (805-498-3676) or send me an email ([dcrystal@conejo.k12.ca.us](mailto:dcrystal@conejo.k12.ca.us)).

Warmest Regards,

Dennis Crystal  
Director of Bands  
Newbury Park High School