

HEID MUSIC



Middle & High School Level Improvisation Competition

Directors from middle/high school band, choral, orchestra and jazz ensembles throughout the Fox Valley region are invited to participate in the eleventh annual Fox Jazz Fest Jazz Improvisation Competition. Fox Jazz Fest and Heid Music are sponsors of the annual Labor Day weekend jazz festival held at Jefferson Park in Menasha.

How does this work? Outstanding soloist(s) will be selected by a panel of area jazz professionals. They will receive gift certificate(s) and will then have the opportunity to perform at the Jazz Fest.

Please read the following application guidelines below.

Student Eligibility:

Students must attend schools that are in or reside in the Fox Valley or surrounding region.

Applicants must:

- Be currently enrolled in their middle or high school's jazz ensemble, choral, or instrumental program
- Have the application signed by their school director (digital signature is acceptable)
- Include a recommendation for this award with the application

Previous winners of this competition are ineligible to participate. The Fox Jazz Fest reserves the right to choose one or no finalists based on the quality of the audition materials received.

Requirements:

- Completed application form
- Two mp3 audio files or video submissions no longer than 5 minutes each

Each applicant should pick two jazz standards in varying styles and tempos. Feel free to pick any style such as medium swing, blues, bebop (up tempo), ballad, bossa nova or other Latin styles.

Both recordings should feature the applicant playing through the head/melody of the composition and two (2) solo choruses.

Recordings may be made either with backing tracks from the Aebersold series, Hal Leonard, etc. or with live rhythm section accompaniment. Finalists will be chosen based on **musicality** and **improvisational skills**.

All materials must be sent to:

Jason Reisdorf,
Education Director
Fox Jazz Fest
355 8th St.
Menasha, WI 54952

jasonreisdorf@gmail.com

Judging:

This year the Jazz Corner Society board of directors will decide two finalists.

Finalist(s) will be notified of their selection and invited to perform “live” with the **Harmon Bros.** band *date tbd*. First & second place will be decided after their performance. Winners will then be featured with a professional rhythm section at the Fox Jazz Festival at Jefferson Park in Menasha on Labor Day weekend. This year’s performance date is Saturday, September 3rd, 2022.

Finalist(s) receive gift certificates from Heid Music: 1st place \$100 / 2nd place \$50 and the middle/high school music program represented by the winner(s) will also receive a matching monetary award in the form of a school credit at Heid Music.

Deadline for Applications: All applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Thursday, June 30th 2022.