

61st Jazz Festival Results

Nearly 60 middle school and high school jazz bands performed for appreciative audiences from January 30 through February 1.

60th Jazz Festival Results

Bothell High School Jazz 1 takes the Beacock Sweepstakes prize in the 60th Clark College Jazz Festival.

60th Clark College Jazz Festival

The 60th annual Clark College Jazz Festival will feature The One O'Clock Lab Band® with a fundraising concert on Wednesday.

A rousing coda



Members of the Clark College Jazz Band watch for a cue from Band Director Rich Inouye during their performance at the 56th Annual Clark College Jazz Festival.

Every year during the last weekend of January, the Clark College Jazz Festival fills Gaiser Hall with swinging tunes from middle and high school bands. This year was no exception, with a total of 1,116 students from 55 schools flocking to the highly regarded festival—including some from as far away as Alaska.

But among the bright jazz tunes were a few bittersweet notes, for this festival marked the last to be helmed by music professor Richard Inouye.



Prof. Rich Inouye speaks during the 11th and final Clark College Jazz Festival that he will organize.

On Saturday night, at the conclusion of the AAA and AAAA Finals, President Robert Knight got on stage to recognize Inouye for his 11 years of service with Clark College as the Director of Bands. Knight praised his teaching in the classroom, his conducting skills with Concert Band and the Jazz Ensemble, his leadership of the Annual Jazz Festival, and his committee and leadership work across the campus. President Knight presented Richard with a collage canvas print of the colored jazz festival covers which were directed by Inouye during his tenure.

Behind the scenes, Clark students decorated the festival's "green room" with some of their favorite "Richisms," including, "Own it, fix it," "Results, not excuses," "You set the tone," and "Rhythmic resistance."

The 56th Annual Clark College Jazz Festival's Dale Beacock Memorial Sweepstakes trophy was awarded to Mead High School Jazz Band I from Spokane, Washington. Other honorees included:

Thursday Middle School Silver Division jazz ensemble finals results:

- 1st place – Jane Addams Middle School, Seattle, WA
- 2nd place – Beaumont Middle School, Portland, OR
- 3rd place – Chief Umtuch Middle School Advanced, Battle Ground, WA

Blue Division Judge's Award – Chief Umtuch Middle School Advanced, Battle Ground, WA

Outstanding Middle School Jazz Musician certificates were presented to:

- Parker Bruning – Hockinson Middle School, Hockinson, WA
- Adam Haunreiter – Hockinson Middle School, Hockinson, WA
- Connor Cuff – Liberty Middle School, Camas, WA
- Deitrich Vu – Liberty Middle School, Camas, WA
- Tai Beaulieu – Liberty Middle School, Camas, WA
- Mireia Pujol – Liberty Middle School, Camas, WA
- Mason Calaway – Wahluke Middle School, Mattawa, WA
- Isaac Moroshan – Laurin Middle School, Vancouver, WA
- Justus Jones – Carmichael Middle School, Richland, WA
- Shelby McCombs – Pleasant Valley Middle School, Vancouver, WA
- Dominic Mendoza – Chief Umtuch Middle School, Battle Ground, WA
- Reagan Speakman – Skyridge Middle School, Camas, WA
- Grady McHenry – Tukes Valley Middle School, Battle Ground, WA
- Chris Moore – Beaumont Middle School, Portland, OR
- Nate Moore – Beaumont Middle School, Portland, OR
- Parker Casazza – Jane Addams Middle School, Seattle, WA
- Lacy George – Jane Addams Middle School, Seattle, WA

Friday, January 26, 2018 A and AA division high school jazz ensemble finals results:

A Division:

- 1st place – Northwinds High School, Port Angeles, WA
- 2nd place – Petersburg High School, Petersburg, AK
- 3rd place – Woodland High School, Woodland, Wa

Outstanding high school musician awards for the A Division were presented to:

- Jesse Weaver – Douglas High School, Winston, OR
- Noah Pratton – Mcloughlin High School, Milton Freewater, OR
- Ciaran Healey – University Prep, Seattle, WA
- Ursula Sargent – University Prep, Seattle, WA
- Adam Kennedy – Northwinds High School, Port Angeles, WA
- Tristan Lowman – Northwinds High School, Port Angeles, WA
- Isaac Hall – Woodland School District, Woodland, WA

AA Division:

- 1st place – Hockinson High School, Hockinson, WA
- 2nd place – Mead High School, Spokane, WA
- 3rd place – Mt. Spokane High School, Spokane, WA

Outstanding high school musician awards for the AA Division were presented to:

- Kara Stella – RA Long High School, Longview, WA
- Saunder Borst – Mt. Spokane High School, Spokane, WA
- Elaine Scott – Mead High School, Spokane, WA
- Meggie Rodewald – Mead High School, Spokane, WA

- Kaylin Woods – Mead High School, Spokane, WA
- Grant Hobbs – Columbia River High School, Columbia River, WA
- Cade Lilley – Fife High School, Tacoma, WA
- Kaelyn White – Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, WA
- Emily Johnson – Washougal High School, Washougal, WA
- Jack Broer – Hockinson High School, Hockinson, WA
- Riley Lyons – Hockinson High School, Hockinson, WA
- Erik Hawkins – Hockinson High School, Hockinson, WA
- Zeke Dodson – Hockinson High School, Hockinson, WA

Saturday, January 27, 2018 AAA and AAAA division high school jazz ensemble finals results:

AAA Division:

- 1st place – Mead High School Jazz I, Spokane, WA
- 2nd place – Prairie High School, Brush Prairie, WA
- 3rd place – Mt. Spokane High School Jazz I, Spokane, WA

Outstanding high school musician awards for the AAA Division were presented to:

- Ashton Hemming – Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, WA
- Dominic Mendoza – Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, WA
- Jacob Khawaja – Lakeridge High School, Lake Oswego, OR
- Penelope Tharp – Lakeridge High School, Lake Oswego, OR
- Isaac Ford – Kelso High School, Kelso, WA
- Tony Brence – Prairie High School, Brush Prairie, WA
- Ericka Mecham – Prairie High School, Brush Prairie, WA
- Josh DeQuiroz – Mountain View High School, Vancouver, WA
- Ricky Gagliardi – Mead High School, Spokane, WA

- Connor Brennan – Mt. Spokane High School, Spokane, WA
- Chris Ramirez – VSAA Focus, Vancouver, WA

AAAA Division:

- 1st place – Bothell High School Jazz I, Bothell, WA
- 2nd place – Battle Ground High School Advanced, Battle Ground, WA
- 3rd place – Lake Stevens High School, Lake Stevens, WA

Outstanding high school musician awards for the AAAA Division were presented to:

- Justin Foley – Heritage High School, Vancouver, WA
- Amy Boedigheimer – Heritage High School, Vancouver, WA
- Mairead Rising – Glacier Peak High School, Snohomish, WA
- Galin Hebert – Glacier Peak High School, Snohomish, WA
- Hannah Whitlow – West Salem High School, Salem, OR
- Cameron Roche – West Salem High School, Salem, OR
- Anthony Bolden – West Salem High School, Salem, OR
- Mario Esquivel – Chiawana High School, Pasco, WA
- Benito Ramirez – Chiawana High School, Pasco, WA
- Gabe Aldape – Lake Stevens High School, Lake Stevens, WA
- Manuel Aldape – Lake Stevens High School, Lake Stevens, WA
- Chase Williams – Union High School, Camas, WA
- Sean Grimm – Union High School, Camas, WA
- Gary Hobbs – Union High School, Camas, WA
- Gabe Bradley – Mountain View High School, Vancouver, WA
- Nick McClatchey – Bothell High School, Bothell, WA
- Preston Lee – Bothell High School, Bothell, WA
- Laney Pham – Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, WA
- Shane Walz – Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, WA

Shelly Williams contributed this article. Photos: Clark

Swing into Jazz Fest



Each year, the Clark College Jazz Festival brings young musicians from throughout the region to Clark.

The 56th Annual Clark College Jazz Festival presents three full days of exhilarating big band jazz on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, January 25-27, 2018 in Gaiser Student Center on Clark College's main campus. Admission is \$5 per day. Clark College students and children under 12 accompanied by an adult will be admitted free of charge.

Sixty middle and high school jazz ensembles from throughout Washington and Oregon are scheduled to perform in this year's competition with trophies presented to the top three jazz ensembles for middle schools and A through AAAA division high schools. Individual outstanding musician awards will also be presented at the end of each division's preliminary competitions. At the end of Saturday evening, the Dale Beacock Memorial Sweepstakes Award will be presented to one outstanding band selected from the entire festival.

Preliminary competitions for the 2018 festival will start on Thursday with middle schools from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with middle school finals starting at 5:30 p.m. On Friday and Saturday, competition will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the A and AA division jazz bands performing on Friday and AAA and AAAA jazz bands taking the stage on Saturday. Finals competitions will begin

at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings ending with the trophies presentation.

The Clark College Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Festival Director Richard Inouye, will perform at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, noon and 8:30 p.m. on Friday, and at 12:20 p.m. on Saturday. The 2017 Sweepstakes Band, Garfield High School Jazz Band (Seattle, WA), under the direction of Clarence Acox, will hold the spotlight on Saturday evening at 8:30 p.m.

For complete information about the Clark College Music Department concerts featuring the orchestra, band, jazz ensemble, and choirs, please see <http://www.clark.edu/campus-life/arts-events/music/index.php>.

The History of the Clark College Jazz Festival

The heritage of the Clark College Jazz Festival dates back to 1962 when Hudson's Bay H.S. band director, Don Cammack, began organizing a one-day high school stage band invitational for schools from Clark and Skamania counties. Organized by the Vancouver and Evergreen public schools, Fort Vancouver H.S. and Evergreen H.S. took turns hosting the festival each year. Sponsors of the festival included Southwest Washington Music Association and Lower Columbia River Music Educators Association. In the early years, the trophies were made by middle school band director, Jack Ager, creatively constructing musician figures from miscellaneous hardware and car parts! In 1970, Dale Beacock, then the band director at both Fort Vancouver H.S. and Clark College, held the invitational "Clark Stage Band Contest" for the first time at its current home, Clark College. This inaugural event hosted 17 high school jazz bands with preliminary competitions held in what was then known as the Gaiser Hall dining area, with finals in the gymnasium. Dale's vision of a competitive jazz showcase for schools throughout Washington and greater Portland promoted the growth of the festival and in 1971 the festival grew

to 32 bands held over two days on Friday and Saturday. In 1976 the number of participating bands grew to 52, welcoming bands from Oregon and Idaho. In 1985, Chuck Ramsey took over the reigns as Festival Coordinator successfully organizing the festival for the next 22 years. Chuck's achievements bringing consistency in the operations of the festival and increased student involvement set the groundwork for the educational enhancement, leadership, teamwork, and a sense of ownership the Clark student volunteers experience today. In 2008, Richard Inouye came onboard as Festival Director. His professional and educational experience has brought a new dynamic to the festival by encouraging a focus on jazz education and utilizing technology to promote community awareness, public support, and streamline festival operations. In 2012, the Clark College Jazz Festival celebrated its 50th Golden Anniversary. Highlights of this milestone included the Clark College Alumni Band directed by Chuck Ramsey which featured Clark band alumni from three generations of Clark band directors. Dale Beacock and Chuck were also presented Legacy Sweepstakes Awards for their historic contributions to the festival. Today the Annual Clark College Jazz Festival welcomes 60 middle and high school jazz ensembles, over 1,200 student jazz musicians to the campus, and over 3,000 people to the Vancouver community throughout the three-day event. In 2013, the festival went international welcoming two bands from Tsawwassen, British Columbia!

About the Clark College Music Department

Clark College offers a two-year Associate in Music Degree (DTA/MRP) that includes music theory/ear training, instrumental and vocal performance training, and ensemble experience. Classes are designed to prepare the music major for advanced studies at a four-year institution while providing the non-major with the skills and background to fully enjoy music as a cultural pursuit. Ensembles on campus include three choral groups, orchestra, concert band, and jazz

ensemble. Three tenured and several adjunct faculty, provide professional instruction to the 500+ students that pass through Beacock Music Hall each year.

A new beat



Battle Ground High School Advanced Jazz Band wins First Place and Sweepstakes award at the 54th Annual Clark College Jazz Festival.

Three days, 57 bands, and more than a few firsts—the 54th Annual Clark College Jazz Festival had plenty to keep people entertained. The event, which draws jazz bands from middle and high schools around the region, kept Gaiser Student Center swinging with big-band music January 28-30.

For 2016, the Dale Beacock Memorial Sweepstakes trophy was awarded to Battle Ground High School Advanced Jazz Band, Battle Ground, Washington. This is the first time Battle Ground had taken the Sweepstakes trophy in at least a decade. Many of the band's members have been directed by Greg McKelvey since middle school.

In other surprises, La Center—which had not been to the festival in more than 10 years—took third place in the A division. In the AA division, a newcomer to the festival, South Whidbey High, took first place, ending Hockinson High's five-year tenure at the top.

Find out about more Clark College music events coming up during winter quarter.

RESULTS

Thursday, January 28, 2016 middle school jazz ensemble finals results:

- 1st place – Jane Addams Middle School, Seattle
- 2nd place – Eckstein Middle School, Seattle
- 3rd place – Chief Umtuch Middle School, Battle Ground and Beaumont Middle School, Portland OR

Outstanding Middle School Jazz Musician certificates were presented to:

Lukas Miller, VSAA; Evan Siegel, VSAA; Tanner Linton, Hockinson; Ashton Hemming, Chief Umtuch; Dominic Mendoza, Chief Umtuch; George Fulton, Eckstein; Anna Thilke, Eckstein; Aiden Shapero, Eckstein; Colin Brace, Jane Addams; Jack Atwater, Jane Addams; Hannah McCollum, Beaumont; Aaron Freedman, Beaumont; Alex Wagstaff, Beaumont; Owen Traw, Beaumont.

Friday, January 29, 2016 A and AA division high school jazz ensemble finals results:

A Division

- 1st place – Creswell I High School, Creswell, OR
- 2nd place – Northwinds Homeschool, Port Angeles
- 3rd place – La Center High School, La Center

AA Division

- 1st place – South Whidbey High School, Langley
- 2nd place – Hockinson High School, Hockinson
- 3rd place – Mead II High School, Spokane

Outstanding high school musician awards for the **A Division**

were presented to:

Gabe Pol, VSAA; Aubrey Hatch, Creswell 2; Diego Romero, McLaughlin; Brendan Smith, McLaughlin; Adam Kennedy, Northwinds; Claire Henninger, Northwinds; Tyrelle Massey, Woodland.

Outstanding high school musician awards for the **AA Division** were presented to:

Lorenzo Ponce, Ridgefield; Vincent DePiuto, Central Catholic; Connor Brennan, Mt. Spokane; Kent Stricker, Colombia River; Liam Twomey, South Whidbey; Nick Torres, Washougal; Nick Baciuc, Hockinson.

Saturday, January 30, 2016 AAA and AAAA division high school jazz ensemble finals results:

AAA Division

- 1st place – Mead High School, Spokane
- 2nd place – Roosevelt II High School, Seattle
- 3rd place – Meadowdale High School, Lynwood

Outstanding high school musician awards for the **AAA Division** were presented to:

Nikki Anderson, Bothell II; Hunter Coleman, Mountain View II; Gabe James, Mead I; Michael Galeotti, Mead I; Jacob Volz, Meadowdale; Carter Eng, Roosevelt II.

AAAA Division

- 1st place – Battle Ground High School Advanced Jazz, Battle Ground
- 2nd place – Roosevelt I High School, Seattle
- 3rd place – Garfield High School, Seattle

Outstanding high school musician awards for the **AAAA Division** were presented to:

Mariah Jones, Kelso; Jacob Sanders, Chiawana; Steve Montecucco, Battle Ground; Brandon Pressley, West Salem I; Calvin Huynh, Bothell; Santosh Sharma, Roosevelt I; Isaac Poole, Garfield.

Photo: Clark College/Shelly Williams

Notes from the Fest



Clark College Band Director Rich Inouye leads the Clark College Jazz Ensemble at the college's 52nd annual Jazz Festival.

From January 30 through February 1, Gaiser Student Center was swinging with the sounds of big-band jazz during Clark College's renowned Jazz Festival. The event brought 60 jazz bands from middle and high schools around the region to compete in multiple divisions.

But while the sounds were big, some of the musicians were still quite small: The first day of this annual tradition was devoted entirely to middle school performers. Festival director and Clark College music professor Rich Inouye explained the importance of including these young performers in the competition.



Aspire Middle School
participates in the Jazz

Festival.

“Encouraging jazz performance at the middle-school level is very important to ensuring young people realize how important jazz music is to our culture,” he said. “The style and characteristics of the music promote independence of thought, self-discipline, responsibility, communication, and teamwork, and the festival environment not only allows them to strive for excellence in their performance, but also allows them to listen to the excellence their peers from the other schools represent.”

On Friday night, before the A and AA awards were announced, Inouye gave the gathered competitors another source of inspiration: Before he led the Clark College Jazz Ensemble through their own performance, he introduced his students by name and said which high school each had attended, illustrating how many had come from A and AA schools. The crowd cheered loudly as the names of their schools were mentioned.



This year's Jazz Festival poster and program were designed by Clark College student Luke Acevedo, who is nearing the completion of his Associate of Fine Arts degree in Graphic Design at Clark College.

“I have been fortunate to have all the high school directors in the area encourage their students to perform in my bands at

Clark,” Inouye said later. “I appreciate all the students who have chosen to come to Clark to play in our bands, but in the last couple years I have had the privilege of getting the top musicians from smaller schools in the outlying areas. The Greater Vancouver-area high schools have some of the strongest band programs in the country ... but having been the product of a small, rural school myself, I do have affinity for the smaller, outlying schools. I believe the mix of these students with some of the students from the larger schools is what provides the excitement and distinction for what we do here.”

Now in its 52nd year, the Clark College Jazz Festival is one of Southwest Washington’s largest jazz festivals. Trophies are presented in all divisions, and individual outstanding musician awards are presented at the end of each day’s preliminary competitions. On Saturday evening, the the Dale Beacock Memorial Sweepstakes Award is presented to one outstanding band selected from the entire festival.

For 2014, the Dale Beacock Memorial Sweepstakes trophy was awarded to Garfield High School from Seattle, Washington.

Thursday, January 30, 2014 middle school jazz ensemble finals results:

1st place – Eckstein Middle School from Seattle, Washington

2nd place – Beaumont Middle School from Portland, Oregon

3rd place – Hamilton International Middle School from Seattle, Washington

Special recognition went to Washington Middle School from Seattle, Washington, for being asked to perform in the evening finals.

Outstanding Middle School Jazz Musician certificates were presented to:

Hannah Wells and Joseph Gardner from Aspire Middle School, Lacey, Washington

Milli McFall, Misae Nguyen from Hamilton International Middle School, Seattle, Washington

Brayton Sobolewski and Daniel Conway from Vancouver School of Arts and Academics Middle School, Vancouver, Washington

Eltan Davis and Sammie Wiegand from Beaumont Middle School, Portland, Oregon

Marco Thompson from Washington Middle School, Seattle, Washington

Kai Despain, Sean Bowman, Julia Tanner, Austin Isgrig, and David Maltby from Eckstein Middle School, Seattle, Washington

Katriana Armstrong and Vanessa Gress from Chief Umtuch Middle School, Battle Ground, Washington

Jerich Embleton from Creswell Middle School, Creswell, Oregon

Shermon Mattson from Pleasant Valley Middle School, Vancouver, WA

Shane Walz, Morgan Kennedy, and Ainsle Cromer from Tukes Valley Middle School, Battle Ground, Washington

Skyler Verity from Laurin Middle School, Vancouver, Washington

Friday, January 31, 2014 A and AA division high school jazz ensemble finals results:

A Division:

1st place – Ridgefield High School Jazz I, Ridgefield, Washington

2nd place – Woodland High School, Woodland, Washington

3rd place – Astoria High School, Astoria, Oregon

AA Division:

1st place – Hockinson High School, Brush Prairie, Washington

2nd place – Fife High School from Tacoma, Washington

3rd place – Washougal High School from Washougal, Washington

Outstanding high school musician awards for the A Division were presented to:

John Mcgee from Philomath High School, Philomath, Oregon

Devin Van Laar from Trout Lake High School, Trout Lake, Washington

Nick Bischoff from Ridgefield High School II, Ridgefield, Washington

Nathan Mitchell and Gabrielle Allegri from Ridgefield High School I, Ridgefield, Washington

Outstanding AA high school musician awards for the AA Division were presented to:

T Anderson from Washougal High School, Washougal, Washington
Erin Jones from Fife High School, Tacoma, Washington
Nathan Nyseth and Lillian Quintana from Hockinson High School, Brush Prairie, Washington
Jack Tietjen from R.A. Long High School, Longview, Washington
Daniel Kransuler and Jenny Kim from Sammamish High School, Bellevue, Washington

Saturday February 1, 2014 AAA and AAAA division high school jazz ensemble finals results:

AAA Division:

1st place – Meadowdale High School from Lynnwood, Washington
2nd place – Mt. Spokane High School from Spokane, Washington
3rd place – Mead High School Jazz I, Spokane, Washington

AAAA Division:

1st place – Garfield High School from Seattle, Washington
2nd place – Battleground High School from Battleground, Washington
3rd place – Union High School from Camas, Washington

Outstanding high school musician awards for the AAA Division were presented to:

Cormac Liotta Sharma from Roosevelt High School II, Seattle, Washington
Ori Levari from Meadowdale High School, Lynnwood, Washington
Andrew Sauage and Travis Widmer from Mt. Spokane High School, Spokane, Washington
Lanie Pham from Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, Washington
Jorge Marcia from Vancouver School for the Arts and Academics, Vancouver, Washington

Outstanding high school musician awards for the AAAA Division were presented to:

Kaleb Armstrong, Steve Mantecuccio, and Nickolas Schell from Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, Washington

Devin Perez from West Salem High School, Salem, Oregon

Isak Washuburn-Gaines, Alice Mar-Abe, and Jack Swigget from Garfield High School, Seattle, Washington

Stephen Reid from Union High School Jazz I, Camas, Washington

Jimmy Root from Lake Stevens High School, Lake Stevens, Washington

Shelly Williams contributed to this article.

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

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