

Boardman Jazz Ensembles News

2019-04-05

BHS Jazz Fest

Thanks for your support of the BHS Jazz Fest! I hope you enjoyed the concert and our guest artist. He had nothing but great things to say about our program and students. Andy Martin's appearance got me reflecting on the history of the Jazz Fest. The first two years were just concerts. From 2002 to the present, we have had some incredible guests including Mike Tomaro, Roger Ingram, and Bernie Dresel. There aren't many high school jazz programs who do what we do. I hope to continue this great tradition and have already reached out to some pretty big names in the music world.

Jazz Ensemble 2 at Pinwheels for Prevention

By the time you read this, Jazz 2 will have performed at the Holiday Inn for this amazing event that raises awareness and promotes the prevention of child abuse and neglect in our area. Jazz 2 students have always been emotionally moved by the speeches we hear at Pinwheels. The organizers, speakers, and guests are always very impressed by our performance.

I've been promoting this event incorrectly. I always say, "There are way too many pinwheels in the ground at Boardman Park," or that "It will be great when we no longer have this event at which to perform." What I really mean is that I hope that someday there are no cases of child abuse or neglect for anyone to report. Until that day, those pinwheels are a good thing to see because each represents a *reported* case of abuse. If this terrible thing is going to still happen, it is very important for people to report it so something can be done about it.

Yesterday, we provided appropriate musical selections between speeches by Sheriff Jerry Greene and Bull, President of Bikers Against Child Abuse. If you've never heard the BACA Creed, you should look it up online. It is very emotional to hear a BACA member recite the creed at this event.

Next year is the 15 year of Pinwheels and they absolutely want Jazz 2 to be a part of it on Friday, April 3. They have plans to include the student in the count for lunch next year so we won't need to spend any money at Burger King. Thanks to Karen Veri for chaperoning today's trip.

Jazz Ensemble 1 at Packard JAM Fest

Thursday, April 11 at Packard Music Hall in Warren. This event is FREE and open to the public. Parents and guests are encouraged to attend. Jazz 1 will get on a school bus at BHS at 4:50pm on Thursday. We should return about 10:00pm.

The show starts at 6:00pm with the Lakeview HS Jazz Ensemble. Warren Harding plays at about 6:20. Boardman Jazz 1 plays at about 6:40. The Big Band Sound of Packard is a professional jazz ensemble. Mr. Shevock and I both play in the group. We stay and watch the Packard Band, then depart for home.

ATTENTION 8th Graders in Jazz 1 or 2 Next Year - I've got room on the bus to Packard for 4 of you who would like to see this event. You and your parent must email me to reserve your spot.

Slippery Rock University Jazz Fest

Another incredible jazz concert is happening nearby on Saturday, April 13 at 7:30pm. The Slippery Rock University Jazz Fest will feature the SRU Jazz Ensemble with guest trombonist John Fedchok and the best college jazz ensemble in the world, The North Texas State University One O'Clock Lab Band. Admission at the door is only \$5. I am going and may have room to take one or two students. Email me if you want to go.

Jazz Trip to NYC

- Monday, April 15
 - 6:00am - Building is open
 - 6:30am - Motorcoach arrives for loading
 - 7:00am - Depart for NYC
 - TBA - Rest stops and lunch stop (out-of-pocket)
 - 3:00pm - Brief check-in at LaQuinta Meadowlands
 - 4:00pm - Depart hotel for Brooklyn (be in performance clothes)
 - 5:30pm - Performances at Albee Square Plaza
 - 7:15pm - Dinner on your own in Brooklyn (out-of-pocket)
 - 9:30pm - Return to hotel
 - 10:30pm - Everyone in rooms
 - 11:00pm - Lights out
- Tuesday, April 16
 - 6:15am - Breakfast at hotel
 - 8:00am - Checkout and depart for Manhattan
 - 9:30am - Set up at U.S.S. Intrepid
 - 10:30am - Performances
 - 12:00pm - Explore Intrepid Sea, Air, & Space Museum. Get lunch (out-of-pocket) while there (some food trucks at the Intrepid).
 - 2:00pm - Go to Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island
 - 5:00pm - Go to Chinatown/Little Italy for exploring, shopping, dinner (\$20 cash given to each person)
 - 8:00pm - Meet to take subway to Times Square
 - 8:30pm - Explore Times Square
 - 11:45pm - Meet to board bus for home
 - 11:59pm - Depart for home
- Wednesday, April 17
 - 7:00am - Approximate arrival at BHS

Use the itinerary to plan things like spending money, how to dress, how to pack. Figure out when you'll want a change of clothes or at least comfortable shoes. Check the weather forecast, too.

As always, remember your responsibility as a Boardman Band and Jazz student.

Jazz Ensemble 1 at Assumption Village

Monday, May 13, 3:00pm. We will not take a bus to this one. It's on Market Street in North Lima before you get to Dairy Queen and Steamers. If any parents have a van and can help us move some big items like a vibraphone, please let us know. I'd rather not rent truck or use the trailer if the weather is bad. We should be finished by 4:00pm. Students don't need to dress up like we do for concerts but nicer than they do for most school days.

Bernie Dresel

One of our former Jazz Fest guest artists will be in the area in May. World-renowned drummer Bernie Dresel will be at the Ohio Theatre in Cleveland on Saturday, May 18. Tickets are available online.

He will play on Sunday, May 19 from 2:30-4:30pm at the Corinthian in Sharon, PA. More affordable tickets than for the night before might still be available. That is the night of our Band Banquet so I can't go but students would make it back here well before the banquet.

Tickets for either show can be purchased on Bernie's website: <https://www.berniedresel.com/shows>

All-State Jazz Ensemble

Students auditioning for the 2020 OMEA All-State Jazz Ensemble (hopefully a bunch!) may ask me for help in preparing and recording their auditions. You must submit your materials online by May 31.

Spring Jazz Concert

May 31? That's the date of our Spring Jazz Concert in the cafeteria! By this time of the year, all three high school groups are at the top of their game. Please bring people to this show. You know they will thank you for it. Everyone says it's so much fun to hear the Jazz Ensembles in the cafeteria.

Summer Jazz Ensemble Series

I had to make a change for 2k19 at Woodworth Park. We'd be missing to many vocals on July 8 so the only date that works for us there is Monday, July 15. Here is the schedule again:

- Monday, June 10 - 2k19 "School's Out" Rock Show - Boardman Park, 7:00-8:30pm
- Sunday, June 30 - Jazz 1 - Columbiana Firestone Park, 2:00-4:00pm
- Monday, July 1 - Jazz 1 - Jergel's in Cranberry Twp, PA, 7:00-9:00pm
- **Monday, July 15** - 2k19 - North Lima Woodworth Park, 7:00-8:30pm
- Sunday, July 28 - Jazz 1 - Salem Waterworth Park, 6:00-8:00pm
- Thursday, August 1 - Jazz 1 - Boardman Park, 7:00-8:30pm

2k19 students should dress like rock stars! Everything must be appropriate for a school function, but get creative within those limits.

Jazz 1 students should be in nice, summer casual for performances.

I will need help setting up and tearing down before and after each gig. I'll let people know about details and times prior to each.

Jazz 1 will take a school bus to Jergel's on July 1. I didn't order food when I was there but everything coming out to people around me looked really good. I won't be able to buy food for everyone but you'll be able to order off the menu after we play.

Keep Listening!

Listening to the style of music you'll be playing is the best way to pick up the finer details of what you are supposed to sound like.

Please email me if you have any questions

Mr. Ruggieri