

The New Trier High School Jazz Festival
385 Winnetka Avenue
Winnetka, IL 60093

Monday, September 12th, 2011

Dear New Trier Jazz Ensemble Parent,

I am thrilled to announce that on Saturday, February 4th, 2012 the New Trier music department will host the 29th *Annual Frank Mantooth Jazz Festival at New Trier High School*, featuring the **Chicago Jazz Ensemble with special guest artist Nicholas Payton!** Our very own *Jazz Ensemble 1* will open the evening concert at 7:30 p.m.

The daytime portion of our festival is free and open to the public, and will feature **Marquis Hill's Black-tet** at noon, the **Jazz Director's Big Band** at 3:30, and the **Michigan State University Jazz Orchestra** at 4 p.m. Of course, the primary purpose of this festival is to feature the performances of 45 visiting high school and junior high jazz ensembles, as well as New Trier's Freshman Jazz Ensemble, Concert Jazz Ensemble, and Lab Jazz Ensemble. Our festival is designed to be a day of intense jazz education, and I am confident that all of our New Trier jazz students will have an especially memorable day!

Every year we ask parents of New Trier jazz ensemble members to contribute to the success of this massive undertaking. Donations to the festival have become essential to the financial viability of the festival and allow us to bring in the finest professional big bands in the world. If you have attended the festival in previous years you know this to be the truth! With the addition of so many nationally acclaimed jazz educators serving as clinicians throughout the day, our festival truly is a uniquely ambitious event. Now, the part you've been waiting for...

Will you please consider making a donation to our jazz festival fund? Donations of \$250 or more will make you a **Jazz Festival Sponsor**, entitling you to four complimentary seats to the evening performance and recognition in the concert program. *Additional tickets may be purchased at the regular price of \$25 each.* All donations will be used to offset the tremendous cost of bringing in world-class musicians and clinicians for the day.

Of course, donations of all amounts are greatly appreciated, and donations under \$250 will have you listed in the evening concert program as **Jazz Festival Supporters.**

It is our goal to pack the 1500 seat Gaffney Auditorium for the Jazz Festival's evening concert, and your support will help us make significant strides in that direction. Individual tickets will go on sale to the general public on the night of the *FALL JAZZ CONCERT*, which will be Thursday, November 17th this year. We will accept Jazz Festival Sponsorships until all of our tickets are sold out. While only pledges are requested at this time, your donation can be paid any time between now and the festival. To ensure the best seats, return your sponsorship form as soon as possible!

Since every jazz student who participates in the all-day festival as both a student musician and a jazz fest staff member receives a free ticket to sit in the orchestra pit for the evening concert, you will not need to purchase a ticket for your jazz ensemble member.

Finally, please make sure to fill out and return the enclosed volunteer form. Our festival relies on the support of well over 100 parent volunteers! The support we receive from our amazing network of parent volunteers and the NTFAA (New Trier Fine Arts Association) truly makes this festival possible. Thank you for your support, and I will look forward to seeing you at many music events throughout the year!

Sincerely,



Nic Meyer
Director of Jazz Ensembles

