

THE 8TH ANNUAL
HIGHLAND /ASU JAZZ FESTIVAL

MARCH 24-25, 2017
HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL
GILBERT, ARIZONA



HIGHLAND
ASU
JAZZ
FESTIVAL

Dear Jazz Educator,

We would like to invite you to attend the 8th Annual Highland/ASU Jazz Festival on **March 24-25, 2017** at Highland High School in Gilbert, Arizona. Please visit the Highland/ASU Jazz Website for more details, full artist/clinician bios and links, and other information about the festival. We have designed this festival to be beneficial to your jazz program in multiple areas. Join us to help educate, experience, and grow jazz education in our schools and communities.

www.highlandjazz.com

This year's featured guest artists are:

Dick Oatts



Born and raised in the state of Iowa, Dick Oatts was brought up in a musical family. He was introduced to the saxophone by his father Jack Oatts, a respected jazz educator and saxophonist. After high school, Dick attended Drake University and in 1972 he began his professional career in Minneapolis/St. Paul.

It was 1977 when Oatts decided to move to New York City. He then became a member of the Thad Jones - Mel Lewis Orchestra. Since then he has recorded and toured with small groups such as Red Rodney, Eddie Gomez, Vic Juric, Bob Brookmeyer, Mel Lewis, Dom Salvador, Jerry Bergonzi, Flim & the BB's, Fred Hersch, Dave Berkman, Soren Moller, Terrell Stafford, Jon Faddis, Lalo Schiffrin, and Ray Mantilla.

For 30 years, Mr. Oatts has appeared at college jazz festivals as a soloist and clinician throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, Canada, South America, and the Middle East. Oatts is a professor of Jazz Studies at the Boyer School of Music at Temple University and has been an artist-in-residence at the Amsterdam Conservatory since 1997.

Jim McNeely



Jim McNeely was born in Chicago, and moved to New York City in 1975. In 1978 he joined the Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra. He spent six years as a featured soloist with that band and its successor, Mel Lewis and the Jazz Orchestra (now The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra). 1981 saw the beginning of Jim's 4-year tenure as pianist/composer with the Stan Getz Quartet. From 1990 until 1995 he held the piano chair in the Phil Woods Quintet. At the present time, he leads his own tentet, his own trio, and he appears as soloist at concerts and festivals worldwide.

Jim's reputation as composer/arranger and conductor for large jazz bands continues to flourish, and has earned him nine Grammy nominations. In 1996 he re-joined The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra as pianist and Composer-in Residence. He is also artist-in-residence with the Frankfurt Radio Big Band. Other recent work includes projects with the Danish Radio Big Band (where he was chief conductor for five years), the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band, the Metropole Orchestra (Netherlands), the Swiss Jazz Orchestra, and the Stockholm Jazz Orchestra. The New York Times has called his writing "exhilarating"; DownBeat has said that his music is "eloquent enough to be profound".

HIGHLAND ASU JAZZ FESTIVAL

The guest artists will be joined by some of our clinicians in an all-star combo performance with the Arizona State University Concert Jazz Band led by Michael Kocour. In addition, the jazz band/combo that receives the Judge's Most Outstanding Award will open Saturday's concert!

Our clinicians include:

- * Andy Baker - Trombone - Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago
- * Barb Catlin - Piano - Director of Jazz Ensembles at Pomona College
- * Alex Parker - Trumpet - Director of Jazz Studies at Baylor University
- * Marlene Rosenberg - Bass - Northern Illinois University Jazz Combo & Jazz Bass Coordinator
- * John Wojciechowski - Saxophone - St. Charles North High School Director of Music

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Due: February 3, 2017

Festival Registration: \$250.00 per Big Band
\$525.00 per Big Band + Tickets for 1 Concert (All Members, Director, & 4 Chaperones)
\$750.00 per Big Band + Tickets for Both Concerts (All Members, Director, & 4 Chaperones)

\$250.00 per Combo
\$375.00 per Combo + Tickets for 1 Concert (All Members, Director, & 2 Chaperones)
\$475.00 per Combo + Tickets for Both Concerts (All Members, Director, & 2 Chaperones)

All Elementary, Junior High, High School, & College Big Band and Combos are welcome!!!

Concert Ticket Prices:

Participants	Friday – Dick Oatts	\$15.00
	Saturday – Jim McNeely	\$15.00
	Both Concerts	\$25.00
General Admission	Friday – Dick Oatts	\$20.00
	Saturday – Jim McNeely	\$20.00

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Friday & Saturday, March 24-25, 2017

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Festival Performances/Clinics
3:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Festival Performances/Clinics
7:30 PM	Festival Guest Artist Concert

We hope you will come out for a weekend of great jazz performances and experiences. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email us. We look forward to seeing you at the Highland/ASU Jazz Festival.

Sincerely,



Kevin Bennett
highlanddirector@cox.net



Michael Kocour
Michael.Kocour@asu.edu

MISSION STATEMENT

The Highland/ASU Jazz Festival is dedicated to educate and inspire students, educators, and audiences; and to enhance the appreciation and importance of jazz education.

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