

AUDITION FORM

HIGH RENDITION JAZZ 2020-21



Thank you for your interest in joining High Rendition Youth Jazz Band, it is a rewarding and challenging experience!

The band is accepting auditions for all instruments, though availability of positions varies from year to year based on the turnover of band members. The band consists of trumpets, trombones, saxophones (alto, tenor and baritone), drums/percussion, piano/keyboard, bass guitar, electric guitar and vocals.

Please complete this information form and send it to info@highrenditionjazz.ca. You will be contacted with a date and time. Auditions will be held October 21 & 22, 2020.

Preparing for the audition

The audition will be 15 minutes long. Due to the pandemic, auditions will be held via a Zoom video call. At the audition, please be prepared to play:

- **Scales:** major and minor scales concert F and G; blues scale concert F; chromatic scale
- **Repertoire** (you will likely only be asked to play part of the song):
 - Lyrical/ballad jazz style piece of your choice (with or without backing track)
 - Technical jazz style piece of your choice (with or without backing track)
- **Sight reading** a jazz chart chosen by the Director
- **Improvisation (optional)** to concert Bb or F blues, or a backing track of your choosing

Instrument-specific notes:

- Bass: should demonstrate walking blues in F
- Drums: should be prepared to play in various jazz styles
- Voice: scales are not applicable; backing track is recommended

If there are any questions about these audition components, don't hesitate to contact highrenditionjazz@gmail.com.

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Contact information

Student's Name	
School & Grade (Sep 2020)	
Audition contact email(s)	
Audition contact phone(s)	
Instrument	

Other information (eg. how long you have played, what other groups you play with (school and outside), music lessons, other instruments played, etc.)

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Other important information about the band

COVID-19 Considerations

Due to public health considerations associated with the pandemic, the band will start with an on-line format. When we are able to do so safely and within Town and Province guidelines, the band will resume in-person rehearsals.

Fees

The band member fee is \$350 (\$175 per term). We also often hold a band retreat run in the fall which is approximately \$200. (Note: our goal is to make the band available to all

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interested students regardless of financial circumstances, so if there is concern about the fees you may have a confidential discussion with band President Dave Gretzinger).

This year we anticipate that band expenses will be reduced, and so the band fee will be \$150. There is no retreat planned at this time.

Rehearsals

Band members are expected to attend all rehearsals. Ordinarily, these would be held weekly at Queen Elizabeth Park Cultural and Community Centre, Wednesdays from 7:15-9:15 PM. This year the band will start in an on-line format, with in-person rehearsals or performances planned when this is possible. There will be a combination of group on-line gatherings and team coaching via Zoom, and individual practice. Rehearsals are intended to bring the pieces of the band together; a robust personal practice schedule is also expected.

Participation

This is a relatively small ensemble with few back-up positions. With rare exceptions, band members are expected to attend all performances, which may occur on weekends and in the summer. A preliminary list will be provided in the fall, though due to the uncertainties of obtaining performances there will be changes and updates through the year (band members will be polled for availability for any new or changed dates). This year in particular, the performance schedule will depend greatly upon the state of the pandemic in Ontario. Band members are expected to manage their schedules to identify and avoid conflicts between HRJ events and other personal events.

Also, band members have a role in running the activities of the band! Everyone will participate in various tasks, such as stage setup/tear down, promotion (eg. social media), sheet music management, leading workshops, etc.

Parents

Parents also play an important role: High Rendition is supported by parents of band members. It is critical that everyone provides support for the band, including attending monthly parent meetings, helping organize events (especially the annual spring fundraiser), and potentially taking an executive committee position (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Marketing/Communications, Events, and Fundraising). Further parent participation opportunities are described on the website at highrenditionjazz.ca/parents.

It is mandatory that every member family completes at least 5 hours of tasks to support the band operations. This must be completed by an individual(s) over the age of 15. If unable to commit to this, the member will be responsible for an additional fee of \$150 for the season.

For more information about the band, see highrenditionjazz.ca or email highrenditionjazz@gmail.com.