

Directors: Doug Styers and Joe Metzer

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GREEEN COUNTRY YOUTH JAZZ

HANDBOOK 2019-2020

This group was founded with a stated mission to “cultivate and grow” jazz education within the student population of Northeastern Oklahoma, through the study, practice, and performance of advanced level “Jazz Music”. We strive to stimulate and encourage each student’s musical growth with the hopeful outcome of creating lifelong jazz musicians.

The following pages are meant to serve as a handbook of rules and information to better help you and your parents understand our program and operate successfully within it. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at gcyouthjazz@gmail.com .

**TUITION AND FEES**

To cover operational costs, we are asking for a membership fee of $450.00 for the 2019-2020 season. This can be paid up front ($450.00) or in monthly payments ($60.00 per month). This fee will go to cover directorial costs, sheet music costs, entry fees to festivals and competitions, t-shirts, and concert venue fees. Please make all payments payable to: **Green Country Youth Jazz.** Anyone facing financial hardships should contact the Directors as soon as possible so that suitable arrangements can be made.

**REHEARSAL TIMES AND LOCATION**

Rehearsals will be held on a weekly basis, Tuesday evenings beginning at 6:30pm and ending at 8:30pm. All members must arrive for warmups at least 15 minutes prior to downbeat (6:30pm). Rhythm section players are responsible for setting up all rhythm equipment prior to the 6:30pm downbeat. All rehearsals will be held at the Edison Preparatory High School Band Room (2906 E. 41st Street).

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Membership in Green Country Youth Jazz is both a privilege and a responsibility. Acceptance of your placement in Green Country Youth Jazz is a season long commitment. Consistent participation of each individual at weekly rehearsals results in successful performances. The attendance guidelines outlined here define each player’s individual responsibility in ensuring the collaborative success of the group. This policy protects the musical integrity of the ensemble, as well as the individual efforts and investments of each player involved.

**ABSENCES**

The maximum number of absences allowed per season is 3. Please complete the rehearsal/performance conflict form using the following link even if you have no scheduling conflicts. Please remember to check your personal as well as your band, jazz band, or orchestra schedule. ***Work is never considered an excuse for missing rehearsals/performances.***

Last minute emergency absences must be reported immediately. Please contact the Directors at gcyouthjazz@gmail.com to report any emergency absences.

Excessive absences/tardies or failure to notify Directors in a timely matter is considered a violation of the Green Country Youth Jazz attendance policy, and may result in seat demotion, loss of part or in extreme cases suspension from Green Country Youth Jazz activities for the remainder of the season.

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

Members of Green Country Youth Jazz perform locally and tour as a group. All participating musicians are representatives of the organization, and the behavior and appearance of each musician reflects upon the entire group. This includes any online presence concerning Green Country Youth Jazz. It is essential to respect the rights and property of others. We count on all participants to use common sense in avoiding situations and behavior that would put themselves or others at risk, cause problems for the group, or adversely affect the safety, performance, and enjoyment of all. Students will treat all staff, volunteers, visitors, and other students with respect.

Electronic devices will be off and stored during rehearsals. Green Country Youth Jazz reserves the right for staff to confiscate electronic devices that are being used improperly and return them at the end of rehearsal.

Green Country Youth Jazz strictly enforces a zero-tolerance policy with regards to the use of drugs and alcohol, tobacco, illegal activities, and any form of harassment towards students and staff. Violation of **ANY** local, state, or federal law will result in immediate removal from rehearsal, expulsion from the organization without refund, and notification to the proper authorities.