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# Jazz Ensemble

## Course Syllabus 2021-2022

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### **Course Description**

The BAHS Jazz Ensemble is open to any 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> graders who perform a successful audition. Students in the Jazz Ensemble will be held to an even higher standard of performance, rehearsal etiquette and personal practice. Students will be expected to demonstrate a high level of discipline, responsibility, and organization.

### **Goals for Student Learning**

- Perceiving, Performing, and Responding – Aesthetic Education
  - Students will use listening skills to adjust balance and blend, and demonstrate the ability to play in tune with appropriate tone quality. Students will learn how music, as an affective art, utilizes tempo, dynamics, phrasing, and tone color to communicate musical, expressive, and aesthetic qualities.
- Historical, Cultural, and Social Context
  - Students will interpret music according to the historical style or culture of composition. Students will learn how musical styles of any time period correlate to the period in history and the culture it represents.
- Creative Expression and Production
  - Students will demonstrate the ability to read musical notation accurately, demonstrate proper instrumental technique, demonstrate proper rehearsal and performance expectations, and perform in a variety of settings. Students will improvise melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic structures as well as notation of music using accurate theory practices to enhance creative expression.
- Aesthetic Criticism
  - Students will demonstrate the ability to critique music with understanding.
  - Students will give musical critiques and creative analyses to define the quality of music and develop a personal set of criteria and preferences.
- In keeping with the curriculum-wide focus on skills for success, students will develop learning skills through careful practice and regular evaluation of performing skills as an individual as well as part of an ensemble. Thinking skills are developed through critical thinking, problem solving, and achievement of individual and group goals. Skills for success in communication are strengthened as the student applies knowledge of history and style in crafting historically informed performances. Special emphasis is placed on interpersonal skills in both rehearsal and performance settings. The students operate on several levels simultaneously—with a stand partner, as a member of a specific section, and as a member of the entire ensemble. Effective interpersonal skills will help to make the musical situation successful and satisfying for performer and audience alike.

### **Textbook and Materials**

- Students will be provided with a Jazz folder in which to keep all their music, assignments, etc. Students are expected to keep this folder organized.
- Sheet music is our textbook. Students will be held accountable for their copy of the music. Every student must have a part for each piece being studied in class. Financial obligations could be incurred if students lose or damage their music.
- **PENCIL!** – Students must have a pencil for every class!
- Please bring your instrument to every class.
- Students are expected to provide their own reeds, neck-straps, sticks, valve oil, slide oil, etc.
- Percussionist are expected to bring their own sticks, etc.

## Course Outline

In this course, students will be expected to utilize resources and in-class instruction to gain a better understanding of the only truly American music, Jazz. Students are expected to complete frequent listening and playing assignments. Students will learn about jazz history, theory, and musicians who further developed the genre.

Co-curricular, *graded performances* can be found on our online calendar. Please see the BAHS Band Program Calendar more details. Students are expected to look at our Link to Google calendar:

<https://sites.google.com/view/belairhsband/home>

## Attendance:

Students are expected to attend every rehearsal and class period. Missed rehearsal time will impact the overall quality of performance and be detrimental to all students in the ensemble. **Our performances are co-curricular.** Be sure to prioritize this class over any extra-curricular activities. Students are responsible for inquiring about, completing, and returning all work or material missed during rehearsal. It is **not** the Director's responsibility to remind the student of missed work. Students are responsible for all information on the calendar and updates to the calendar (link listed above).

## HCPS Grading Policy

<b>Examples of Product, Process, and Practice</b>		
<b>PRODUCT (50%)</b> <i>Culminating Demonstration of Knowledge</i>	<b>PROCESS (30%)</b> <i>Addressing Specific Short-Term Learning Outcomes</i>	<b>PRACTICE (20%)</b> <i>Building Attitudes, Habits, and Skills</i>
Does it measure how well students achieved specific learning goals, standards, and/or competencies?	Does it provide feedback to students regarding growth towards the attainment of specific learning goals, standards and competencies?	Does it allow students to practice skills and/or reinforce content learning?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Primarily completed in presence of teacher</li><li>Rubric aligned to standards</li><li>Accuracy graded</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Primarily completed in presence of teacher</li><li>Rubric aligned to standards</li><li>Accuracy graded</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Graded for completion and participation</li></ul>

\*\*Extra credit will not be given for non-academic purposes\*\*

## Classroom Rules and Procedures

- Be respectful and kind to everyone at all times. The BAHS Music Department is a family, and disrespect or negativity of any kind towards members or anyone else will not be tolerated.
- Be prompt and present (physically and mentally) at all rehearsals.
- “To be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late. To be late is unacceptable.” All rehearsals START at the designated time, so you must plan ahead in order to be set up and ready to go at start time.
- Students are responsible for anything on the calendar or on HAC and. for any information sent via email. Students must communicate promptly and effectively with their teachers and parents.

## Performance Expectations:

- Whenever the BAHS Jazz Ensemble is travelling and/or performing, please understand that we are representing the BAHS Music Department, BAHS, HCPS, and the state of Maryland. Any behavior that the director believed to not represent the values of the BAHS Music Department will be met with appropriate disciplinary measures. Negative behavior of any kind will impede the ensemble's opportunity to travel and perform.

### Absent Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time. Students will be given the number of class periods equal to the number of class periods absent to turn in completed make up assignments. If a student is lawfully absent, work will be accepted without penalty. If a student is unlawfully absent, work will be accepted with a penalty of one letter grade off the assessed value.

### Late Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time. If a student submits an assignment late (past the due date) within the timeframe noted, the assignment will be accepted and will receive a letter grade penalty off the assessed value. Late work will only be accepted one class period after the due date.

### Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is taking responsibility for the quality and completion of one's own work. Academic dishonesty is taking someone else's work and claiming it as one's own. Students at Bel Air High School are responsible for knowing what is considered to be Academic Dishonesty and the subsequent consequences. More information can be found in the BAHS Student Planner.

### Cell Phone Policy

- Students will place their cellphones in a teacher designated area as they enter each classroom. Teachers will review with students the specific location for each room. The phones will remain in the teacher designated area unless teachers explicitly tell students to take out the phones for instructional use.
- Cellphones will remain in the teacher designated area during bathroom visits, assemblies and trips to the nurse/counseling office/main office.
- Cellphones will be retrieved from the teacher designated area at the end of class at the direction of the teacher.
- School-appropriate cellphone use is permitted during class changes and lunch. Students are not permitted to make phone calls during school hours.
- If the cell phone policy is violated, it is a referable offense.

### Lockers/Rental Instruments:

Each student will be assigned a school locker. The Locker Contract details are listed below. All Locker Contracts are due Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.

- Students will only use their assigned locker for their **instrument, instrument accessories, and music**. No other belongings (backpacks, cups, lunches, etc.) are allowed to be stored in band lockers. Students may only store books in their lockers for the duration of class.
- Food is prohibited in the band room and the lockers. If food is seen in a locker, the lock will be cut and the food discarded.
- Students will not put anything in or on other students' lockers.
- Locker assignments are final and will not be debated.
- Students must purchase a lock for their locker and are responsible for keeping their locker secure. (There are many outside groups that use our room – keep your locker secure at all times!)
- Students may not use the storage room to store any personal belongings.
- Students must provide Ms. Romero the combination to their locker. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- **ALL LOCKS MUST BE REMOVED AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.**

Students may borrow available school instruments upon approval of the director. Students must fill out and return the Instrument Loan Agreement Form to the director **BEFORE** using the instrument.

- Everyone in the RHYTHM SECTION must also fill out an Instrument Loan Agreement form if they are using a school instrument. Due to Ms. Romero (DUE FRIDAY, 9/14)
- If a student needs to take a school instrument home over the summer, there is a separate form that must be completed, signed, and returned before the end of the school year. This must be pre-approved.

**Concert Attire:**

- Males are required to purchase tuxedos, and females are required to purchase dresses. We will order as a group at the beginning of each year. Order forms will be available on the first day of school. Students must have the required attire in order to participate in a performance.
- Gigs: **Students should have an array of dress clothes to appropriately dress for any gig.** Black pants/long skirt are a must. Students should have black shoes and socks as well as different colored dress shirts or blouses. All clothing must be appropriate for a performance and comply with the school dress code.

**BAHS JAZZ ENSEMBLE SYLLABUS CONTRACT**  
**2021-2022**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ understand and agree to abide by the policies and procedures as stated in the Course Syllabus. I have read and understand the course requirements for the ensemble(s) in which I participate. I understand that I am responsible for any information listed in the Course Syllabus and that failure to comply with the rules set forth could impact my membership in the program and in the Music Department.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(DO NOT detach)

**BAHS BAND**  
**LOCKER CONTRACT**

Each Band student will be assigned a locker for the 2021-2022 School year. Using a locker in the Band Room or Storage Room is a privilege. Please adhere to these guidelines to ensure access to a band locker.

1. Students will only use their assigned locker for their **instrument, instrument accessories, and music**. No other belongings (backpacks, cups, lunches, etc.) are allowed to be stored in band lockers. Students may only store books in their lockers for the duration of class. **\*\*Sneakers and Dinkles will be allowed to be stored in lockers for marching band season only.\*\***
2. Food is prohibited in the band room and the lockers. If food is seen in a locker, the lock will be cut and the food discarded.
3. Students will not put anything in or on other students' lockers.
4. Locker assignments are final and will not be debated.
5. Students must purchase a lock for their locker and are responsible for keeping their locker secure. (There are many outside groups that use our room – keep your locker secure at all times!)
6. Students may not use the storage room to store any personal belongings.
7. **Students must provide Ms. Romero the combination to their locker. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
8. **ALL LOCKS MUST BE REMOVED AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to abide by the above rules regarding band locker use. I understand that not adhering to the above guidelines could result in me not being able to use a band room locker. I understand that my lock is subject to being destroyed and my locker contents will be discarded if any of the above guidelines are not met.

Locker #: \_\_\_\_\_

Locker Combination: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date