

North American Saxophone Alliance

2020 High School Jazz Competition

March 7-8, 2020 – Arizona State University

1st Prize

\$750 in cash and/or merchandise

2nd Prize

\$500 in cash and/or merchandise

3rd Prize

\$250 in cash and/or merchandise

The First Place Prizewinner will be featured on the Winners' Recital at the
2020 NASA Biennial Conference in Tempe, AZ.

I. Eligibility

- 1.) Contestants must be between 15-18 as of March 8, 2020.
- 2.) All contestants must NOT be enrolled full-time in a college, university, or other post-secondary school.
- 3.) All contestants must be current members of the North American Saxophone Alliance (NASA) as of December 15, 2019.

II. Application Guidelines

- 1.) All application materials must be submitted online via the Accepted application system (<https://getaccepted.com/>). The deadline for submission of applications, **video recordings**, and fees is DECEMBER 15, 2019. A direct link to the system will be provided as soon as it is made available.
- 2.) Contestants must submit an entry fee of \$40. All payments must be made through the online application by December 15, 2019.
- 3.) Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- 4.) The contestant's birth date must be verified at the competition site with the contestant's driver's license, birth certificate, or passport. Any contestant who does not show proof of age, is younger than 15 years of age, or older than 18 years of age as of March 8, 2020, will be disqualified.
- 5.) There are two rounds of the NASA High School Jazz Competition: a recorded Preliminary Round, and a live Final Round. The deadline for the recorded Preliminary Round is December 15, 2019. The live Final Round will be held in conjunction with the 2020 NASA Biennial Conference in Tempe, AZ on March 7-8, 2020.

6.) Due to the logistical difficulties of preparing facilities, dates listed in the application for Semi-Finals, Finals Rounds, and Winners Recitals are subject to slight change.

III. Preliminary Round – 15 minutes

THE PRELIMINARY ROUND WILL CONSIST OF A RECORDED **VIDEO** AUDITION. **AUDIO AND VIDEO COMPONENTS OF THE RECORDING MUST BE UNEDITED**, and all recordings must be submitted on Acceptd with the initial application materials by the deadline, December 15, 2019. The recorded music must be performed with live rhythm section accompaniment. Play-a-long formats are not acceptable. Technical guidelines for the audio recording will be posted when the Acceptd application webpage becomes available. The recording should contain three selections in the following order:

- 1.) *There Is No Greater Love* by Isham Jones and Marty Symes - Include a minimum of three choruses of improvisation. Tempo at minimum of quarter note = m.m. 180
- 2.) A jazz ballad of your choice, that includes a minimum of one chorus of ballad-tempo improvisation. Rhythm section must maintain ballad tempo throughout entire performance. Tempo between quarter-note = m.m. 60-80
- 3.) An up-tempo composition of your choice in any jazz style. Minimum tempo of quarter-note = m.m. 200

IV. Finals – 30 minutes

Up to 6 saxophonists will advance to the final round. The final round will take place during the 2020 NASA Biennial Conference. A professional rhythm section for rehearsals and performances will be provided by NASA. Each finalist will be allowed to perform a new, four-selection, 30-minute program that includes the following styles; jazz ballad, medium tempo swing, up-tempo swing and jazz-Latin. Final round repertoire may not duplicate repertoire from the preliminary and semi-final rounds. Tempo requirements are the same as in the preliminary round. Performance of original compositions is not permitted.

VI. Video Submission Guidelines

1. Previous pre-recorded live performances of any kind are not acceptable.
2. Special effects and transitions of any kind are not allowed.
3. Do not edit within a selection.
4. Make sure that the camera captures a good quality image.
5. Make sure that the audio quality, balance, and feed to the camera is good.
6. Ensure that the video orientation is correct.
7. Multi-camera recordings are not allowed. Use a single camera in a fixed position and aimed straight at the saxophonist from the waist up. Do not move (pan) the camera.
8. The saxophonist must be clearly visible at all times.
9. The video background behind the performer **may not** change for any reason.
10. Allow 3-5 seconds of silence before the beginning of each selection.

VII. General Guidelines

1. Finalists will be announced via the Acceptd application system. All communication with the semi-finalists will be handled via Acceptd; therefore, it is the contestants' responsibility to make sure they can receive email communications from Acceptd throughout the entire competition.
2. The Winners' Recital will feature the First Place Prizewinner in the High School Jazz Competition and will be held on Sunday, March 8, 2020 during the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference. Winners must be able to perform on the Winners' Recital.
3. Eligible contestants may also enter the High School Classical Solo Competition, but they must submit a separate application and separate entry fee.
4. All fees and dues are non-refundable.
5. All expenses, including lodging and transportation to and from the competition, are the sole responsibility of the contestants.
6. A minimum of 20 entries is required to hold this competition. Entry fees will be refunded if the competition is cancelled.
7. Contestants may perform on soprano, alto, tenor, baritone, or any combination of these saxophones during both the preliminary and final rounds.
8. Professional musicians will judge both the preliminary audition recordings and the live round performances. Finalists will be evaluated solely on their Final live round performance.
9. All music performed in each round must be memorized.
10. Questions may be directed to the Chair of the Jazz Competition Committee, Dr. Gene Smith via e-mail at: info@gsojazz.com.