



Announcing the 53rd Annual EIU Jazz Festival February 10 & 11, 2012

Featuring trombonist Conrad Herwig

October 10, 2011

Dear Jazz Ensemble Director:

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the 53rd Annual Eastern Illinois University Jazz Festival to be held on February 10 & 11, 2012. The festival will begin Friday, February 10 at 7:30 with a concert by the EIU Jazz Ensemble featuring this year's special guest Conrad Herwig. High school and junior high competition takes place during the day on Saturday, February 11.

As in past years, our festival allows for both competitive and noncompetitive groups. The format allows each group a twenty-five-minute time slot. This includes setup, and allows for up to three selections to be performed. One of the judges will then be available for a short on-stage clinic during any remaining time. The fee is \$175 per group. Competitive bands receive a division rating on the point system. The top three groups in each classification (see application) receive awards at the conclusion of the festival. Depending upon enrollment, an additional class or classes may be created for second big bands.

The high school combo classification will follow the same format as the big bands (time requirements, number of judges, etc.) however, a special combo rating sheet will be used. All combos will be grouped into one classification regardless of school size. Competing combos should have between four and nine members.

We believe strongly in the educational aspects of jazz festivals. The EIU Jazz festival offers clinics for trumpet, trombone, saxophone, and rhythm section that participants may attend. These clinics are presented by recognized professionals who also serve as festival judges. We present individual performer awards to many students each year in an effort to encourage their involvement with jazz. Several scholarships to the EIU Summer Jazz Camp will also be awarded.

Please mail the \$175 registration fee and submit the online 2011 EIU Jazz Festival Application available at: http://www.eiu.edu/music/news_events_jazz_festival.php. Applications will not be accepted after Friday, January 6, 2012.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sam Fagaly
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