Dear Jazz Director:

On behalf of the University of Notre Dame, we are pleased to offer you an invitation to audition for the 54th Annual Collegiate Jazz Festival. Notre Dame continues the tradition of excellence in collegiate jazz music by bringing together outstanding college jazz musicians and directors to be judged in performance by world-renowned jazz artists. This year’s festival will take place on Friday, March 2 and Saturday, March 3, 2012.

One of the hallmarks of the Notre Dame Collegiate Jazz Festival is its noncompetitive status, focusing on learning and not rankings. Each judge will select the soloists they believe set the standard for exceptional performance and interpretation of their jazz genre. Immediately following each band’s 30-minute performance, one of the festival judges will give that band an individual clinic. We have found that through this method of personal recognition, the festival is more enjoyable and becomes more productive for all those involved.

The selection to participate in the festival is very competitive, but certainly not impossible. In the past years we brought together a range of ensembles from across the country, including Alma College, Capital University, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point, Tennessee State, University of Illinois, Indiana University, Western Michigan University.

The panel of judges in past years of Collegiate Jazz Festival have included Bill Evans, Quincy Jones, Cannonball Adderley, Herbie Hancock, Ray Brown, Wynton Marsalis, Dee Dee Bridgewater, and John Clayton. This year’s judges will once again be of the highest caliber and will be announced once they have been selected.

We sincerely hope you consider performing in the 54th anniversary celebration of the nation’s oldest college jazz festival. Enclosed you will find an application and important festival information. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Student Union Board office or e-mail us directly at cjf@nd.edu.

Cordially,

Samuel Bungum & Robert Martin
Festival Directors
Important Festival Information

The Festival dates are Friday, March 2 and Saturday, March 3, 2012. Performances will begin on Friday, and will continue on Saturday night. A free jazz clinic from the judges, open to the public, will be held on Saturday morning.

Applications are to be received by the University of Notre Dame up until Friday, November 25, 2011, but earlier applications are encouraged. Outstanding early applicants will be accepted as performing groups at the 2012 Collegiate Jazz Festival. By applying to the festival, you consent to perform at the 2012 Festival if selected, barring any extreme emergencies.

A $100.00 application fee per applying group is required. If your ensemble would like to receive Collegiate Jazz Festival t-shirts after their performance, we ask that you add $7/member to your application fee. All groups not accepted will have their application fee returned. Please make checks payable to Notre Dame Collegiate Jazz Festival.

A recording of at least ten minutes of good quality flash drive, compact disk, or cassette tape, representative of the applying group, must be sent with the completed application.

Each performing ensemble must represent a college or a university. All group members must be enrolled in the institution they represent, taking a minimum of six credit hours.

Both big bands and combos from the same institution are invited to apply, and students may be members of both groups. The selection criteria will include—but are not limited to—tone, precision, balance, dynamics, improvisation, and rhythmic feel.

Ensemble directors will receive from the festival selection committee prompt notification of whether their group has been chosen to perform at the festival. If scheduling conflicts are anticipated, be sure to indicate so on the application sheet. The schedule of performances is arranged when all the performing groups have been selected and is not subject to change.

Applications should be emailed or sent with a flash drive, compact disk or cassette tape with application fee to:

University of Notre Dame
Collegiate Jazz Festival
201 LaFortune Student Center
Notre Dame, IN 46556

(574) 631-6171  cjf@nd.edu  http://www3.nd.edu/~sub/cjf/
Dear [name],

On behalf of the University of Notre Dame, we are pleased to offer you an invitation to audition for the 52nd Annual Collegiate Jazz Festival. Notre Dame continues the tradition of excellence in collegiate jazz music by bringing together outstanding college jazz musicians and directors to be judged in performance by world-renowned jazz artists.

This year's festival will take place on Friday, February 26 and Saturday, February 27, 2010. One of the hallmarks of the Notre Dame Collegiate Jazz Festival is its noncompetitive status, focusing on learning and not rankings. Each judge will select for themselves the soloists they believe set the standard for exceptional performance and interpretation of their jazz genre. Immediately following each band's performance, one of the festival judges will give that band an individual clinic. We have found that through this method of personal recognition, the festival is more enjoyable and becomes more productive for all those involved.

The selection to participate in the festival is very competitive, but certainly not impossible. This past year, we brought together a range of ensembles from across the country, including Alma College, Eastern Illinois University, University of Illinois, and Western Michigan University, and special performances from the North Carolina Central University Vocal Jazz Ensemble and the Reunion Jazz Orchestra.

The panel of judges for this year's Collegiate Jazz Festival will be headlined by accomplished alto saxophonist Jeff Clayton. Other judges include trombonist Ira Nepus, pianist Llew Matthews, bassist Marion Hayden, and drummer Willie Jones III. All are incredibly talented and we are very happy and excited to have them judging this year's festival.

We sincerely hope you consider performing in the 52nd anniversary celebration of the nation's oldest college jazz festival. Enclosed you will find an application and important festival information. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Student Union Board office or e-mail us directly at cjf@nd.edu.

Cordially,

Bert Hootsmans
Festival Co-director

Michael Rodio
Festival Co-director

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Complete this form in its entirety, printing in ink or typing in the spaces provided. Although not required, supplemental information (such as a list of recent awards may be included with the application.

Ensemble Name: ___________________________________________________________

College or University Represented: __________________________________________

Name of Director: _________________________________________________________

Contact Address: __________________________________________________________

Phone: ____________________ Fax: ____________________

E-mail: __________________________________________________________________

Possible scheduling conflicts (if applicable): ____________________________________

I certify that I have read and understand the enclosed information letter. If selected to attend the Collegiate Jazz Festival, I certify that my ensemble will perform on the day and time specified by the festival selection committee.

________________________________           _________
(signature of ensemble director)                         (date)

Include the $100.00 application fee and your audition recording with this form. If you are emailing your application and recording, we must receive your $100.00 fee by U.S. Mail to complete your application. Applications must be received by FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2011 and are welcome earlier.

If you have questions, please direct them to the Festival Director: Samuel Bungum & Robert Martin
Office Phone: (574) 631-6171
Office Fax: (574) 631-8139
E-mail: cjf@nd.edu
Website: www3.nd.edu/~sub/cjf/

Mail completed applications to: University of Notre Dame
Collegiate Jazz Festival
201 LaFortune Student Center
Notre Dame, IN 46556

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