

2026 PMEA All-State Jazz Ensemble Audition Instructions

Time Frame- Wednesday 11/12/25- Tuesday at NOON 1/6/2026

1. Directors who wish to have their students (grades 10-12 only) considered for selection should: Complete the application form with payment (**\$20.00**) online at www.pmea.net, scroll to “Conferences and Events” and then click on “PMEA All-State Information”. The Director must be a current PMEA member. ***All student applicants must upload a headshot photo - (ABOVE the SHOULDERS) labeled LAST NAME, FIRST NAME (i.e. Smith, John)***
2. The Audition selections must be submitted online via the PMEA Website listed above. The audition selections must be recorded from start to finish without cuts and/or splices. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS on how to submit EACH SELECTION are listed BELOW as well as on the Application. ***ARMS, FINGERS and HEAD must be visible when submitting the application for recording. NO EAR BUDS or HEADPHONES are permitted to be used in the recording.*** To obtain the best audio quality, a good microphone as well as high-end computers or digital recording devices for the recording equipment are suggested. *** NEW- A VIDEO outlining “how to make a better recording online for submission” is available on the PMEA website. Please take the time to review the recording instructions.**
3. No identifying clothing may be worn (i.e. no school t-shirts, no name identification, no PMEA, NAFME All Eastern or National shirts).). ***Additionally, please do NOT include any identifying information in the video file name or in the contents of the recording.***
4. The “Window of Opportunity” to record begins **Wednesday 11/12/2025** and ends at **NOON, Tuesday 1/6/2026. Once completed, a confirmation email will be sent to the address used to register.** Please check your SPAM filters for any communications and also check with your IT Administrator if a school email address is used and no email is received.
5. The director is asked to view the file and verify the recorded audition is consistent with the student’s level of performance.
6. Although PMEA checks to ensure the videos play in the correct format and the file can be opened- PMEA is **NOT** responsible for the content repertoire of the video. ***Please follow the repertoire and file labeling instructions.***
7. Students may audition on multiple instruments. However, a separate payment and application is required for each submission. **All requirements for EACH instrument must be met and sent on a separate upload video.**
8. Results of the 2026 PMEA All-State Jazz Ensemble will be posted on **Friday, 1/30/2026** via the PMEA Website- www.pmea.net.
9. **If selected for the 2026 PMEA All-State Jazz Ensemble, the student will no longer be eligible for any of the other All-State Ensembles.** * Jazz students are eligible to apply for NAFME Eastern Division if applicable for any given year.

WINDS

PART 1

Alto and Baritone Saxophones

SCALES:

- Play a **(written) Bb major scale from low Bb to high F and back to low Bb** in eighth notes at minimum quarter note tempo of 200.
- Play the same exercise on a **(written) B major scale from low B to high F# and back to low B.**
- **You can SWING the scales OR play them STRAIGHT.**

REQUIRED PIECE:

- Play **“Donna Lee”**, found on pages 48-49 of the *Charlie Parker Omnibook* (Eb Edition, pub. Hal Leonard).
- Play from the **BEGINNING** to the **END of measure 64** (end of 2nd chorus)
- Do **NOT** play it with the accompaniment CD.

Tenor Saxophones

SCALES:

- Play a **(written) Bb major scale from low Bb to high F and back to low Bb** in eighth notes at minimum quarter note tempo of 200.
- Play the same exercise on a **(written) B major scale from low B to high F# and back to low B.**
- **You can SWING the scales OR play them STRAIGHT.**

REQUIRED PIECE:

- Play **“Stella By Starlight”**, found on pages 6-7 of the *Sonny Stitt - Improvised Tenor Saxophone Solos* (Transcribed and edited by Gary Keller), pub. Alfred Music.
- Play from the **BEGINNING** to the end of measure 64 (end of 2nd chorus - at Guitar + Piano Solos multirest)
- Do **NOT** play it with the accompaniment CD.

Trumpets, Trombones and Bass Trombones

SCALES :

- Play a **two-octave Bb scale** in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note tempo of 120.
- Play the same exercise on a **concert B scale.**
- **You can SWING the scales OR play them STRAIGHT.**

REQUIRED PIECE

- Play the etude **“Bird’s Blues”**, found on page 42 in the book *Jazz Conception* by Jim Snidero (pub. Advance).
- Play from the **BEGINNING** to the **END of measure 36.**
- Do **NOT** play it with the accompaniment CD.

Part 2 - Winds

Each applicant must submit at least one of the following three sections, but is encouraged to submit two or all three of the sections. A high performance level is foremost, but displaying a broader scope of one's abilities will give the judges a better representation of the total player.

- A. **IMPROVISATION** – Improvise over **one chorus- “You’re the Last One”** found on pages 22-23 in the book *Effective Etudes for Jazz* by Mike Carubia and Jeff Jarvis (pub. Kendor), **playing along with track 30 from the accompaniment CD**. Play from the **BEGINNING** to the **END of measure 32**. Play along tracks are also available for download at kendormusic.com
- B. **LEAD PLAYING** – Play the lead etude provided by PMEA – (Note that this section is not available for tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone or bass trombone.)
- C. **SECTION PLAYING** – Play the entire etude **“Sweet Georgia”**, found on pages 32-33 in the book *Effective Etudes for Jazz* by Mike Carubia and Jeff Jarvis (pub. Kendor), **playing along with track 35 from the accompaniment CD**. . Play from the **BEGINNING** to the **END of measure 32**. Play along tracks are also available for download at kendormusic.com

RHYTHM SECTION

Guitar, Piano, and Vibraphone

- Play the entire etude **“Sweet Georgia”**, found on pages 32-33 (Guitar) or pages 58-61(Piano) (Vibes play lead line only;piano plays lead line and comp) in the book *Effective Etudes for Jazz* by Mike Carubia and Jeff Jarvis (pub. Kendor), **playing along with track 32 from the accompaniment CD**.
- **Comp and Improvise over “You’re the Last One”**, found on pages 22-23 (Guitar) or pages 38-41 (Piano) in the book *Effective Etudes for Jazz* by Mike Carubia and Jeff Jarvis (pub. Kendor), **playing along with track 30 from the accompaniment CD**. **Comp** the first chorus (**BEGINNING** to the **END of measure 32**), **Improvise** a solo over the 2nd chorus (**measure 33** to the **END**). Play along tracks are also available for download at kendormusic.com

*A vibraphonist may be added to the All-State Ensemble roster at the discretion of the Conductor and based on the online audition scores and recommendation from Judges.

Bass

- Play the entire etude **“ Sweet Georgia”**, found on pages 32-33 in the book *Effective Etudes for Jazz* by Mike Carubia and Jeff Jarvis (pub. Kendor), **playing along with track 32 from the accompaniment CD**.
- **Walk and Improvise over “You’re the Last One”**, found on pages 22-23 in the book *Effective Etudes for Jazz* by Mike Carubia and Jeff Jarvis (pub. Kendor), **playing along with track 30 from the accompaniment CD**. **Comp** the first chorus (**BEGINNING** to the **END** of measure 32), **Improvise** a solo over the 2nd chorus (**measure 33** to the **END**). Play along tracks are also available for download at kendormusic.com

Drums

- Play along with the track "**High Maintenance**", found on pages 54-57 in the book *Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band Play-Along Series (vol. 1, pub. Alfred)*. Use track 18 from the accompaniment CD.
- Provide an unedited recording of yourself performing the following styles (**Do NOT use a metronome when recording**):
 - * **Swing with brushes**: quarter note =240, play two choruses of 12 bar blues
(A total of 24 measures)
 - * **Salsa (Mambo)**: half note=110, 2:3 clave, play exactly 16 full measures, use idiomatic comping/fills, play with sticks.
 - * **Bossa Nova/Samba** quarter note=120, 4/4 time, play exactly 15 full measures of Bossa Nova time, then play a one bar fill into 16 measures of double time Samba (half note=120). Use idiomatic comping/fills and play with sticks and/or brushes.