



Sam Houston State University

A Member of The Texas State University System

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Annual SHSU Bill Watrous Jazz Festival

- Artistic Director & Coordinator:** Dr. Aric Schneller, Director of Jazz Studies
(936) 294-1381 (WK), (718) 308-7505 (Cell)
- Eligibility:** Bands must be comprised of students from the entering school, represented and sponsored by the school band director. All high school and junior high school students must be “eligible” to perform in accordance with state U.I.L. rules. The director may only conduct, but not perform with his/her band. High School, Junior High School, and Community / Junior College groups are eligible. No tape audition is required
- Competition:** Awards: Ratings will be assigned to each band’s performance and written comments will be furnished by our panel of judges.
- Time Limits:** Each band will be allotted 60-minutes of warm-up time and then 30-minutes TOTAL “on-stage” competition time, which includes setup (5-minutes), performance (20-minutes max), and complete removal of all equipment (5-minutes). Immediately after the performance and removal of equipment, each band will receive a private 20-minute session with one of our guest clinicians in the Recital Hall.
- Warm-up:** Each band will have a designated warm-up location and have an SHSU Jazz Ensemble / Jazz Lab Band member to guide the bands to each area at the appropriate times.
- Equipment:** SHSU will furnish Steinway grand piano, risers, stands, chairs, microphones, sound system, & basic drum set (i.e., high hat pedal, bass drum w/pedal, snare drum, tom & floor tom w/cymbal stands). Schools must bring amps (for bass & guitar, etc.), cymbals &/or complete drum set if desired, and other instruments. Call or email if you have questions.
- Adjudication:** Each band will receive critique sheets from each of the judges. Division ratings will appear on these sheets. First, Second, and Third place trophies will be awarded to the three outstanding high school groups on the consensus of the judges at the awards ceremony. Outstanding musicians will also be selected. Awards will be announced and presented during the SHSU Jazz Ensemble closing performances.

Sam Houston State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution