

JazzDC Youth Orchestra

FAQs

What is the JazzDC Youth Orchestra?

Brand new for the 2024-2025 season, the DC Jazz Festival, DC Youth Orchestra and Sitar Arts Center presents the JazzDC Youth Orchestra. The ensemble is designed to give students interested in jazz a space to develop their skills in the following areas: improvisation, sight reading, ensemble playing, and general musicianship. In addition, the students will be able to network and build a community of like-minded people around this unique art form.

Who is eligible?

Intermediate to Advanced students ages 12-18 on any instrument. Ideal instrumentation might include Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trombone, Trumpet, Flute, Violin or other string instrument, Guitar, Piano, Bass, Drums, Percussion, and Vocals.

When does the program take place?

The program will take place on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm starting in October 2024.

Where does the program take place?

Sitar Arts Center: 1700 Kalorama Rd NW #101 Washington, DC 20009

How much does it cost to participate?

Tuition for the 2024-2025 school year is \$600. Tuition assistance is available to eligible families.

How do I join?

Live auditions will take place on September 17th and 18th from 6:00-8:30 pm each day at Sitar Arts Center. Please complete this form to sign up:

<https://form.jotform.com/241696395852067>

I have questions. Who do I reach out to?

Contact DCYOP Program Manager, Tim Provost, at tim@dcyop.org

Auditions Requirements

Each student should prepare two jazz standard compositions (sample list provided below). Accompaniment will be provided at the audition.

1. If student is comfortable, they should prepare to improvise over the chorus; if not, student can prepare only the melody for each standard.
2. For blues standards, prepare to play over two choruses, for other standards, prepare to perform one chorus.
3. Be prepared to perform the list of scales below
4. Student may also elect to perform a composition of their choice, such as an etude, study, or work in the jazz style.

Medium Tempo Jazz Standards

Song Title	Key (concert)
Ladybird	C
Blue Bossa	Cmin
Green Dolphin St	C or Eb
Softly as in a Morning Sunrise	Cmin
Solar	Cmin

Blues Melodies

Song Title	Key (concert)
Billie's Bounce	F
Now's the Time	F
Sonny Moon For Two	Bb
Blues in the Closet	F or Bb
Sandu	Eb
Things Ain't What They Used To Be	Eb

Ballads

Song Title	Key (concert)
Body and Soul	Db
In a Sentimental Mood	D-
What's New	C
Peace (Horace Silver)	Bb
Polkadots and Moonbeams	F

Skylark	Any
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Scales

- Concert Bb Major
- Concert G Natural Minor
- Concert G Dorian Minor
- Concert C Harmonic Minor
- Concert C Dorian Minor
- Concert F Mixolydian