

JMU JAZZ AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS- BASS

FALL 2020

You will find two audition components on the “Bass” link:

#1: “Colorado All-State Jazz Etudes”

#2: backing tracks for *Now’s the Time* (blues in F) and *Blue Bossa*

REQUIRED AUDITION MATERIALS:

- **If you are auditioning for a big band ONLY:** video record both #1 and #2 (combined into one video submission; you may pause the video recorder in between the written excerpts and the backing track walking/improvisations if you wish).
- **If you are auditioning ONLY for one of the Jazz Chamber Ensembles (combos):** video record and submit #2 only.
- **If you are auditioning for BOTH a combo and a big band:** video record both #1 and #2 (combined into one video submission; you may pause the video recorder in between the written excerpts and the backing track walking/improvisation if you wish).

You must register for this audition using the google form linked in the “Jazz Audition Information” block; use that form to send a private Youtube video link to your completed audition recording (see the registration form for instructions on creating and submitting a private Youtube video link).

Your registration form and completed audition video must be submitted by 5:00 pm Monday, August 17th.

Acoustic bass is preferred for the audition recording, but electric bass is acceptable.

AUDITION INFORMATION: Colorado All-State Jazz Etude

1. Play the first etude (“Medium Swing”) as written where indicated; where chord symbols are given, you may play the walking bass line that is written, or supply your own bassline.
2. Supply an appropriate bass part for the second etude (“Bossa Nova”). You may embellish the rhythm as you feel appropriate for the style.
3. As far as I know, no recording exists of these two etudes. Use your best sense of samba and swing styles.
4. Use the tempo marking indicated for each etude if possible. If you need to take the tempo down a bit, it’s always better to record at a tempo that allows you to play with a convincing sense of swing/groove, rather than *almost* making it at the written tempo. Do not play along with a metronome or any type of backing track (ie: Drum Genius) for this recording.

AUDITION INFORMATION: *Now's the Time* and *Blue Bossa*

You will record two excerpts, *Now's the Time* and *Blue Bossa*. **Include both on one video submission** (along with your recording of the required big band excerpts if you are auditioning for a big band as well as a combo).

a) *Now's the Time*: Taking your cue from Professor Hallahan's count in on the following backing track, record two choruses of walking (blues in F) and two choruses of soloing.

[https://www.dropbox.com/s/2o0mqfaf2e5fiaa/Now%27s%20the%20Time BckgTrk for %20Bass.mp3?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/2o0mqfaf2e5fiaa/Now%27s%20the%20Time%20BckgTrk%20for%20Bass.mp3?dl=0)

b) *Blue Bossa*: Record as follows (taking your cue from Professor Hallahan's count in on the following backing track):

1. 8 bars of intro (play the bass part as written, the lead sheet PDF link is below)
2. one chorus (16 bars) of time (bossa nova feel) under Bob's statement of the head on piano
3. one chorus (16 bars) of soloing (you may stop after this chorus; Bob plays the head out with a brief vamp on the tonic).

Blue Bossa backing track:

[https://www.dropbox.com/s/38cmsrlx5r65osj/Blue%20Bossa BckgTrk for%20Bass%20%281%29.mp3?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/38cmsrlx5r65osj/Blue%20Bossa%20BckgTrk%20for%20Bass%20%281%29.mp3?dl=0)

Blue Bossa lead sheet:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/8sqahytpf9vfr0/Blue%20Bossa.pdf?dl=0>

Please make a test recording to make sure that the balance between your playing and the backing track is good on the recording that you submit (think 60% you and 40% backing track). It's highly advisable to connect a Bluetooth or other external speaker with your laptop/desktop/phone.

Years of:
2014-2015
2017-2018
2020-2021

COLORADO ALL-STATE JAZZ ETUDES

BASS - SET A

COMPOSED BY MIKE TOMARO

MEDIUM SWING (♩=160)

Fmi6/9 Dmi7(b5) G+7(#9) C+7 F7(b9) Bbmi7 Eb13 Ab9

(PLAY AS WRITTEN)

Bbmi6/9 Gmi7(b5) C+7(#9) F+7(#9)

(PLAY AS WRITTEN)

BOSSA NOVA (♩=140)

BbMA9 Aø7 D7(b9 #5)

Gmi9 C7(b9 #5) Fmi9 Bb7(b9 #5) EbMA9

(GO TO PAGE 2)

Handwritten musical notation on a bass clef staff. The staff contains five measures of music, each with a slash indicating a whole note. Above the staff, the following chords are written: EbMIN9, Ab13, Ab7(b9 #5), DbMA7b9, C#MIN9, and F#13. The last two notes of the fifth measure are written as eighth notes with accents.

Handwritten musical notation on a treble clef staff. The staff contains five measures of music, each with a slash indicating a whole note. Above the staff, the following chords are written: F#7(b9 #5), BMA7b9, C#7, and F7(b9 #5). The first note of the first measure is written as a quarter note with an accent.

Handwritten musical notation on a treble clef staff. The staff contains five measures of music, each with a slash indicating a whole note. Above the staff, the following chords are written: DMIN7, Db13, CMIN9, F7(b9 #5), and BbMA7b9. The last two notes of the fifth measure are written as eighth notes with accents.

RECOMMENDED LISTENING

Now's the Time

Charlie Parker, original quintet recording with a young Miles Davis:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YuVWNv2kEkE>

Charlie Parker, quartet recording, faster tempo: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RP29Qn00_Nw

Clifford Brown, trumpet; with Lou Donaldson, alto saxophone; Horace Silver, piano; Curly Russell, bass; Art Blakey, piano <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEnCya11yjc>

J.J. Johnson, trombone; Nat Adderley, cornet; Tommy Flanagan, piano; Tommy Potter, bass; Albert "Tootie" Heath, drums: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQPzOLrkIYU>

Blue Bossa

Joe Henderson, tenor saxophone; Kenny Dorham, trumpet; McCoy Tyner, piano – the original recording:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M69YdmAJoLs>

Dexter Gordon, tenor saxophone; Barry Harris, piano; Sam Jones, bass; Al Foster, drums:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zdR7v0WbZbA>

Bob Mintzer, tenor saxophone; Steve Kuhn, piano; Eddie Gomez, bass; Steve Gadd, drums:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPhIFbww0Y>