

# Highland 2022/2023 Jazz Band Auditions

## Bass

### General Information

There are two jazz bands at Highland Middle School. These ensembles, Jazz 1 and Jazz 2, use “traditional” jazz band instruments (saxophones, trumpets, trombones, guitar, piano, bass, and drums). An audition is required in order to be considered for Jazz 1 and Jazz 2, but does not guarantee placement. Exact dates for the auditions and extra-help sessions will be posted outside the band room at the beginning of the year. They will also be available on the jazz audition website (<https://bit.ly/HighlandJazz>).

Every seat in each jazz band is open at the start of the school year. Placement in either jazz band as a 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grader does not guarantee placement in that same band or a higher band the following year.

### Directions for the Music

Attached to this note is the audition material for next year’s jazz auditions. Included are portions of songs that Jazz 1 will be performing. Do not worry if some of it seems difficult. The audition material must challenge students from grades 6 through 8.

Unfortunately, if more than four students audition, not all of them will be placed into a jazz band. Each jazz band will take only up to two bass players. The first selection is a swing tune called, “Blues of a Different Color.” Play this selection in a swing style (uneven eighth notes and hard accents). The second selection is a Latin tune called, “No Hablo Espanol.” Play this selection with straight eighth notes and hard accents.

Metronome markings are indicated for each selection. If these are too fast for you it is O.K. to audition at a slower tempo, but students performing well at the correct speed will score higher than students playing well at a slower speed.

### Listening to the Music

Recordings of this music are available online - See the jazz audition website (<https://bit.ly/HighlandJazz>) for the link.

# Highland Jazz Auditions September 2022

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There are two songs for this jazz audition.

### #1 "Blues of a Different Color" -- Beach/Shutack

#### Special Note:

Below are instructions for a "basic audition" and an "advanced audition". Students new to jazz, or unfamiliar with creating their own bass lines should simply play the "basic audition." Students who perform a good advanced audition will be placed into higher jazz band than students who perform a good basic audition.

#### Basic Audition:

The music below is the first 20 measures of the actual bass part to "Blues of a Different Color."

In a good swing style the bass player should play beats 2 and 4 with more emphasis than beats 1 and 3.

#### Advanced Audition:

Students with jazz training should play through this section as many times as they would like to. They should play it as written the first time. With each repeat these more advanced jazz bassists should create a new bass line from the chord symbols.

**Swing** ♩ = 120

Chord symbols: Dmi9, Eb9, Dmi9, A+7(#9), Dmi9, Emi7(b5), A+7, Dmi9, A+7, Dmi9, Dmi9, Gmi9, Gmi9, Dmi9, Dmi9, Emi7(b5), A+7(#9), Dmi9, A+7

Measures: 1, 6, 11, 16

Dynamic markings: *f*, *mf*

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## Bass

There are two songs for this jazz audition.

### #2 "No Hablo Espanol" - Kris Berg

Latin ♩ = 146

