



UTAH MUSIC
EDUCATORS
ASSOCIATION

Dear Directors,

We're excited to announce the second annual UMEA State Junior High/Middle School Jazz Festival. This festival will give schools an opportunity to perform for and receive outstanding clinics from nationally renowned directors/clinicians from outside and inside the state of Utah. Clinician bios will be published on the UMEA website.

The festival will be hosted by **Skyridge High School** on **February 22, 2018**. Bands that are selected to participate will have the opportunity to perform and then receive an off-stage clinic with an out of state clinician. The festival is modeled after the State Junior High Concert Band Festival which has proven to be a rewarding experience for bands that have participated in the past. The goal of this festival is to give directors and students new knowledge and insights to help sustain and lift their programs to an even higher level of excellence.

This year, 15 jazz bands will be selected to perform. All selected bands will need to prepare a 20 minute or less program of grade level II literature or above. Bands should program a swing chart, a ballad, and one other contrasting piece of their choice (ie. rock or Latin). After bands perform, they will attend a workshop with one of our out of state guest clinicians. All 15 bands will receive a plaque recognizing their significant achievement for their qualification and participation in their state jazz festival performance. The selected bands will be based upon a blind audition format. Bands wishing to audition will need to **submit a swing chart of their choosing**. Schools are welcome to have more than one band apply (due to the size of some schools and programs), but they will only be allowed to have more than one performing group if the 15 slots are not filled.

We have some amazing junior high jazz programs in the state and hope that you will apply to be a part of our second annual State Junior High/Middle School Jazz Festival.

Sincerely,

Dave Faires
UMEA Vice President, Junior High

Richard Bateman
UMEA Junior High Jazz Festival Chairman