



Dear Jazz Instrumental Level I Students and Parents,

We are pleased that your child will be attending NOCCA this fall. Students are required to attend **Prelude on Wednesday, August 15th, 4:00 p.m. for Level I. Please report to your arts instruction classroom. This is a mandatory event.** Your child should report for classes on **Thursday, August 16th, 4:00 p.m. for Level I. If the student is in Academic Studio, he/she should report for class at 8:00am.** Students who are due at NOCCA at 4:00 p.m. may arrive no earlier than 3:30 p.m. However, students who arrive earlier than 3:30pm must wait in the canteen or breezeway. This time period must be used to do homework or other school assignments until classes start at 4:00 p.m. All students are responsible for transportation to and from NOCCA.

During the first day of school, each student will be assigned an interim schedule for the first two-week period. Students who are not present on Thursday, August 16th will jeopardize their chances of success for the first semester at NOCCA. The interim schedule will remain effective until Decision Day (**August 31**). At this time, students who have not met the course requirements during the Decision period will be released from NOCCA with no grade penalty. Students who have met the requirements to end Decision status will be given permanent schedules. It may become necessary to make other schedule adjustments during the school year as we become better acquainted with the respective students' abilities.

Every student will be held accountable for attendance and class assignments throughout the day. There will be no time for inactivity during the school day at NOCCA. No student may leave campus during school hours without a parent/guardian's written consent. If any student leaves the campus without prior permission from the office it is grounds for suspension or expulsion.

Friday Performance Class 4- 5:00pm

Each Friday there is a performance forum referred to as "Performance Class." Jazz Instrumental, Vocal, and Classical Instrumental students present well-prepared performances in preparation for recital and concert performances. Parents and friends are invited to these weekly presentations. All students will be dismissed at 5:00 p.m. except Level I who continue until 6:30. On rare occasions, the performances will run beyond 5 p.m., should this happen, students are expected to stay until all performers have been heard. **Every music student is required to attend Performance Class each week.**

4:00 – 6:30pm Weekly Session Level I

Level I: This schedule carries three units of credit. Level I is an introduction to the NOCCA curriculum. Each day for Level I classes consists of one period (50 minutes) of Theory/Ear Training and two periods of Applied Jazz (combo). **Level I students will be required to**



attend Performance Class each Friday from 4:00 – 5:00 and to resume their normal daily schedule afterward. Level 1 students will be released from school at 6:30 p.m. each Friday. Successful completion of Level 1 entitles a student to enter Level II the following year.

Each student is required to have at least two lessons per month from a private teacher. The NOCCA Institute provides financial aid (Term Aid) for private lessons to families that qualify. The NOCCA Jazz faculty provides lessons free of charge during normal class time to pianists, bassists, and saxophonists only. If a pianist, bassist, or saxophonist prefers to study with a non-faculty member, those lessons will not be eligible for financial aid. Any non-NOCCA private teacher who would like to teach current NOCCA students on campus will be subject to the normal state clearances (police check, drug test, etc.). The NOCCA Jazz faculty can assist with private teacher recommendations for any instrument.

The curriculum at NOCCA is intensive. This will serve your child, in preparation for the increasingly more competitive and rigorous realities facing student musicians who are interested in pursuing a life in performance or teaching, whether at the college level or professionally.

Students' responsibilities

Private Instrumental Instruction

Instrumental students will be **required** to have bi-weekly private lessons on their instruments. Failure to maintain regular instruction for a period of three or more weeks will be grounds for expulsion from the program

Instrument Maintenance

Each student must have an instrument of his/her own or dedicated to his/her exclusive use. The instrument must be maintained in working condition, with any necessary repairs completed promptly.

Required Materials

Each student should have the following:

- Metronome
- three-ring binder with dividers for each course
- dependable supply of pencils



We welcome all returning and new students and look forward to seeing you for an exciting new school year at NOCCA.

Sincerely,

Michael Peller
Jazz Department Chair
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