



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**HERITAGE SCHOOL OF MUSIC
HOLDS AUDITIONS FOR SPRING SEMESTER**

The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival and Foundation, Inc., will hold auditions for its Don “Moose” Jamison Heritage School of Music – a free after-school program – January 22 and 24.

The auditions will be held:

- Thursday, Jan. 22, at 3:45 p.m., at Lusher Charter High School (5624 Freret St.)
- Saturday, Jan. 24, at 10 a.m., in the Cook Fine Arts Center at Dillard University (2601 Gentilly Blvd.)

Classes will continue at the Lusher campus on Thursday afternoons through April 23. Classes will continue at the Dillard campus on Saturday mornings through April 18.

The auditions are open to music students ages 11 to 17 from the greater New Orleans area. Instruction will be in: brass, woodwinds, piano, bass, drums and voice.

The school accepts beginners to advanced students. Beginners and intermediate-level students are being directed to the Lusher campus; the Dillard campus will cater to more advanced students.

Beginners should have completed at least some instruction on their instruments. They should be able to play a major and minor scale, identify notes on a staff and play at least one song. Students should own their own instruments and should bring them to the auditions.

More advanced students auditioning for the Dillard campus should be prepared to:

- Perform a song (preferably a jazz standard) that demonstrates their full range of ability
- Demonstrate an ability to improvise over a blues form in the keys of F and B flat
- Play chromatic scales (F major and B flat major) over the entire length of their instrument.
- Sight-read an unfamiliar jazz composition
- For pianists and bassists, demonstrate a fundamental ability to read chord changes
- For drummers, demonstrate an ability to play “straight-ahead jazz time” (swing and shuffle beats) at different tempos.

The Don “Moose” Jamison Heritage School of Music is a free after-school program funded by the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation.

The Jazz & Heritage Foundation created the Heritage School of Music in 1990 under the leadership of renowned saxophonist Edward “Kidd” Jordan, who ran it at Southern University at New Orleans until Hurricane Katrina. In September 2006, the Foundation restarted the program and moved it to Lusher High School, where it attracted more than 40 students from throughout the area in its first semester of post-Katrina operation.

In January 2007, the Foundation expanded its program to include campuses at Dillard University and other local schools. The school will operate this semester at Lusher and Dillard; both campuses will accept students from the entire metropolitan area.

In addition to providing free music education to young people in the community, the Heritage School of Music creates employment opportunities for the musicians who serve as teachers. These include some of the city’s most respected performers, such as Edward “Kidd” Jordan, Kent Jordan, Germaine Bazzle, Jonathan Bloom, Edward Anderson, Leah Chase, Geoff Clapp, Brent Rose and Jesse McBride.

The Heritage School of Music also provides professional performance opportunities for the students, with appearances at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival presented by Shell, the French Quarter Festival, the Crescent City Blues & BBQ Festival and other events.

The Heritage School of Music is named in honor of Don “Moose” Jamison, a beloved jazz authority and longtime disc jockey on radio station WWOZ. As a Jazz & Heritage Festival and Foundation board member, he played a leading role in establishing the program. He died in 2003.

The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival and Foundation, Inc. is the nonprofit organization that owns the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival presented by Shell, proceeds from which support the foundation’s year-round community development activities in the areas of education, economic development and cultural programming. Programs and assets of the foundation include: radio station WWOZ 90.7-FM; the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation Archive; the Don “Moose” Jamison Heritage School of Music; the Tom Dent Congo Square Lecture Series; the Jazz Journey concert series; the Community Partnership Grants program; and the Raisin’ the Roof housing initiative. The foundation also produces community events such as the Crescent City Blues & BBQ Festival, Fiesta Latina, the Congo Square Rhythms Festival and others.

For more information, please call the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation at (504) 558-6100.