



## NEW ORLEANS JAZZ & HERITAGE FESTIVAL AND FOUNDATION, INC.

# CLASS GOT BRASS: A SCHOOL BRASS BAND COMPETITION

## GUIDELINES

**Application Deadline: Thursday, March 17, 2022**

Competition Date: Sunday, April 3, 2022

**Class Got Brass** is a program of the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation to support music education in the Louisiana school system by promoting the New Orleans brass band tradition.

It is a competition open to public and private middle schools and high schools in Louisiana. Schools may enter brass bands of no more than 12 members and must adhere to guidelines that emphasize the brass band tradition.

### The deadline to apply is Thursday, March 17, 2022

The competition will take place on Sunday, April 3, in the outdoor performance space at the George and George and Joyce Wein Jazz & Heritage Center (1225 N. Rampart Street). Check in begins at 11:00am. Doors open at 1:00pm. The competition starts promptly at 2:00pm.

All competing groups will earn grants for their school music programs. These grants can be used for instruments, instrument repair or other equipment and supplies.

There are two categories for the competition – advanced/ intermediate and beginner.

For the advanced/ intermediate category, the first prize is \$10,000; second prize is \$7,000; third prize: \$5,000.

For the beginner category, the prizes are: \$5,000 (first), \$4,000 (second), \$3,000 (third).

Performing schools that do not place in either category will earn a stipend of up to \$1,000.

Application Guidelines are available from the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation, by calling (504) 558-6103, and online at [www.classgotbrass.com](http://www.classgotbrass.com).

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#### 1. Eligibility – Who May Apply to Compete?

- a. Public and non-public accredited middle schools (6-8) and high schools (grades 9- 12) in the state of Louisiana are eligible to participate.
  - b. In order to participate in the competition, schools must submit a completed application signed by the band director and school principal.
  - c. Travel: The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation does not provide travel or lodging expenses, or reimbursement for any expenses associated with participation in this competition.
2. **Band Size:** Band may have no fewer than five instruments and no more than 12.
  3. **Beginner or Advanced?** Bands may compete as either “intermediate/advanced” or “beginner.”
  4. **Instrumentation:** Bands may consist of the following:
    - a. Bass Drum – 1 only
    - b. Snare Drum – 1 only
    - c. Sousaphone (tuba) – 1 only

- d. Saxophone(s)
  - e. Trumpet(s)
  - f. Trombone(s)
  - g. Clarinet(s)
  - h. Other (must be recognized as a traditional brass band instrument; e.g.: banjo)
- 5. Extra Credit:**
- a. Bands may be accompanied by groups of dancers, or “steppers,” numbering no more than six, and/or a grand marshal.
- 6. Students Only:**
- a. All performers – whether band members or accompanying dancers or grand marshal – must be students currently enrolled in the school.
  - b. Band directors may accompany the group during the performance but not perform with them.
- 7. Dress Code:**
- a. *No* school or school band uniforms
  - b. Blue, black or khaki pants (jeans are acceptable)
  - c. White shirt
  - d. Hat optional
  - e. Black neck tie optional
  - f. The Grand Marshal may wear a black suit and/or sash
  - g. Dancers’ outfits must match those of the band
- 8. No Props:**
- a. Bands may not bring any props (for example: a mock coffin) into the performing area. Banners or flags are not allowed.
  - b. The only exceptions are:
    - i. The Grand Marshal may carry a baton or umbrella
    - ii. Dancers may carry umbrellas and/or handkerchiefs
- 9. Required Elements - Repertoire (Song Selection):**
- a. Bands must perform two songs from the Approved Song List.
    - i. Bands must start their performance with a dirge from the [Approved Song List](#).
    - ii. The second selection must be an up-tempo song (traditional or contemporary) from the [Approved Song List](#).
- 10. Competition Date & Place**
- a. The competition will take place in the outdoor performance space at the George and Joyce Wein Jazz & Heritage Center, at 1225 N. Rampart Street at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 3, 2022. Check in begins at 11:00am. Competition starts at 2:00pm.
- 11. Performance Length:**
- a. Bands will be allotted no more than four minutes for their entire performance.
- 12. Judging Criteria:**
- 1. Judges will rank competing bands according to criteria that will include:
    - a. Adherence to tradition
    - b. Originality
    - c. Group cohesion
    - d. Improvisation, especially collective improvisation
    - e. Energy
    - f. Technical merit
    - g. Artistic merit
    - h. Entertainment value
    - i. Adherence to guidelines

- i. Repertoire
- ii. Uniform
- iii. Presentation
- j. Extra Credit
  - i. Dancing Group (“Steppers”)
  - ii. Grand Marshal

**13. Application:**

- a. Applicants must complete the required application form in its entirety. It must be signed by the school’s band director as well as the principal.

Applications must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 17, 2022.

To enter, please use in the online application form here:

<https://www.jazzandheritage.org/2022-class-got-brass-registration/>

**Questions?** Please contact the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival and Foundation, Inc., by calling (504) 558-6103, or by sending e-mail to: [kia@jazzandheritage.org](mailto:kia@jazzandheritage.org) .