

New Jersey Youth Symphony

WhartonARTS

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director & Principal Conductor

NJYS Jazz Audition Requirements – 2024-2025

Jazz Requirements Dropbox Link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/vz9ywpnlnkmmx5h3od0ie/h?rlkey=emr7pu9zum53i0x03x4qv0tng&dl=0>

1. SCALES

- Scales must be memorized and played in two octaves when possible.
- They should be played with a swing feel.
- Tempo (quarter note = 110-140 bpm)
- Students should play Major 7th scale starting on the bottom note.
- Pianists should play scales with two hands in octaves if they're comfortable.
- Drummers will not play scales. Please see below for additional requirements.

2. EXCERPTS

- Download and print your excerpts from the Jazz Requirement Dropbox

3. SIGHT-READING

4. IMPROVISATION

- Each student should improvise 3 chorus of "C Blues". The student will be responsible for ending their solo at the appropriate time. (quarter-note = 140bpm.)
- Download the practice mp3 in the dropbox
- Drummers will not use the play along track but will instead trade 4s unaccompanied.
 - The format for the trading 4s will be four measures of medium swing timekeeping, followed by four measures of drum solo. There will be three sets of trading 4s (24 measures total).

Additional Requirements for Drummers

Drummers will be required to display the ability to play different types of grooves including: medium-up tempo swing (tempo anywhere between ~180-260bpm), medium swing with brushes (~110-140bpm), Bossa Nova (~120-140bpm), and Funk (~100-130bpm).