



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

When was the FAME Jazz Band Program (FJBP) established?

FJBP was established in August 2015 by A. Toni Lewis Founder of FAME – Foundation for the Advancement of Music & Education, Inc., with the advice and assistance from top local and national educators, community leaders and musicians. The overall goal is to provide year-round, high caliber music and STEM instruction for middle and high school students, who play musical instruments and who live and/or attend school in Prince George’s County Maryland. We bring a diverse group of talented students together to learn, practice and perform in a dynamic jazz band. In addition to receiving superior music instruction, students receive subject matter tutoring, college prep, life skills training and support, and more.

Who is the band’s Artistic Director?

The Artistic Director is **Nat Adderley, Jr.**, international jazz pianist and former music director, songwriter, and arranger for music icon Luther Vandross. The Assistant Artistic Director is renowned educator and musician, **Dr. Clarence Knight**.

GOALS

Provide professional direction on playing America’s original art form - Jazz

- to stimulate interest in jazz in young musicians
- to promote and support high performing musicians by providing opportunities for growth through performance
- to provide in-service growth through workshops, clinics, competitions, & conferences
- to meet state and national music and academic standards
- to give students a chance to play alongside exciting professional musicians
- long term exposure to national artists and performances on major stages
- help parents and students access resources to close financial gaps for college; and
- serve as musical ambassadors for FAME and Prince George’s County MD.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Youth musicians apply for membership and auditions will be conducted by a panel, including the Artistic Director. Visit www.FAMEmusic.org for details.



TIMEFRAME

The band is structured to operate throughout the school year and students receive subject matter tutoring, high school and college prep; participate in master classes, seminars, workshops & FAME's signature summer enrichment programs conducted in partnership with our partners the University of Maryland School of Music, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS), and other area venues.

INSTRUMENTATION –

- Alto Saxophone
- Tenor Sax Saxophone
- Soprano Saxophone
- Baritone Saxophone
- Trombone
- Trumpet
- Piano
- Bass (electric/upright)
- Drums
- Guitar
- Percussions

Note: String instrument players are encouraged to contact Barbara Blair at bblair@fameorg.org regarding our FAME String Ensemble

Fee: The application fee is \$50 and is non-refundable.

How is the Jazz Band Funded?

Scholarships for participants are made possible by monetary and in-kind support from the Prince George's County Government, United Parcel Service (UPS), University of Maryland College Park School of Music, PGCPS, PEPCO an Exelon Company, Wells Fargo, individual donors, corporate sponsors and foundations.

Rehearsals & Tutoring Sessions

Music Rehearsals and STEM tutoring sessions are held weekly after school at the University of Maryland College Park School of Music, FAME Bowie & Largo offices, or other performing arts venues. The One on one Tutoring, SAT, Test Prep, College Planning, Study Skills workshops, are provided in partnership with Innovative Study Techniques in Largo, Maryland.

Performances:

The band participates in concerts, galas and festivals at various locations throughout the year.