

Highland 2024/2025 Jazz Band Auditions

Bass

General Information

There are two jazz bands at Highland Middle School. These ensembles, Jazz 1 and Jazz 2, use “traditional” jazz band instruments (saxophones, trumpets, trombones, guitar, piano, bass, and drums). An audition is required in order to be considered for Jazz 1, and rhythm section instruments only in Jazz 2. Exact dates for the auditions and extra-help sessions will be posted outside the band room at the beginning of the year. They will also be available on the jazz audition website (<https://bit.ly/HMSjazz>).

Every seat in each jazz band is open at the start of the school year. Placement in either jazz band as a 6th or 7th grader does not guarantee placement in that same band or a higher band the following year.

Directions for the Music

Attached to this note is the audition material for next year’s jazz auditions. Included are portions of songs that Jazz 1 will be performing. Do not worry if some of it seems difficult. The audition material must challenge students from grades 6 through 8. If more than four students audition, not all of them will be placed into a jazz band. Each jazz band will take only up to two bass players. The first selection is a ballad called, “Prayer Meetin’.” Play this selection with straight eighth notes. The second selection is a Latin tune called, “Children of Sanchez.” Play this selection with straight eighth notes and hard accents. Metronome markings are indicated for each selection. If these are too fast for you it is O.K. to audition at a slower tempo, but students performing well at the correct speed will score higher than students playing well at a slower speed.

Listening to the Music

Recordings of this music are available online - See the jazz audition website (<https://bit.ly/HMSjazz>) for the link.

Highland Jazz Auditions September 2024

#2 "Children of Sanchez" Bass

There are two songs for this jazz audition

Special Note: This song has two options. The harder option (Option #1) is the original music from this song. The easier option (Option #2) includes music from this song, but is easier rhythmically. Those students who play "Option #1" well will score higher than those who play "Option #2".

Option #1 MEDIUM LATIN ♩ = 112

Musical score for Option #1, "Children of Sanchez" Bass, Medium Latin, 4/4 time, ♩ = 112. The score consists of five staves of music in B-flat major. The first staff begins with a 4-measure introduction marked 'f' and contains eighth-note patterns with accents. The second staff continues with eighth-note patterns and accents. The third and fourth staves feature a steady eighth-note bass line. The fifth staff concludes with a final cadence.

Option #2

Musical score for Option #2, "Children of Sanchez" Bass, easier rhythmically. The score consists of four staves of music in B-flat major. The first three staves feature a steady eighth-note bass line. The fourth staff concludes with a final cadence.