AUDITIONS
for the
Los Angeles Youth Jazz Ensemble
Benjamin Scholz

Audition for LAYJE!!!

LAYJE provides talented high school students in greater Los Angeles with the opportunity to play in a premier big band on the USC campus and around Los Angeles. Our goal is to provide an ensemble opportunity that will enrich the musical experiences and development of all LAYJE members. Membership is open to students in grades 9-12.

As a member of LAYJE, 2016-17, you will:

· Participate in weekly ensemble rehearsals on Sundays, 12:00pm-2:30pm at USC, beginning Sunday, September 18
· Receive periodic master classes from world-renowned USC Thornton faculty; recent clinicians include Bob Mintzer, Paul Young, Peter Erskine, and Frank Potenza.
· Participate in challenging performance and recording projects; LAYJE recently played at the House Of Blues and recorded at the professional studio, The Bridge.

· Ensemble dues are $50/member per school year to help support various programs and materials.

ENTRANCE AUDITIONS will be held as follows, on the USC campus: Room G-128
Sunday, September 11th 2016
10am-2pm 15 minute slots.

Schedule an audition today!!
E-mail: bscholz@usc.edu
Your name, age, phone number, instrument
Two preferred audition times (from the options listed above)
AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

USC Thornton Outreach Program/JazzReach seeks to make the audition process a learning experience for all participants. We encourage all young musicians to apply and to do their best with the following:

FOR ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS (not vocalists):

· Please bring a prepared piece of music of your choice, or one of the pieces provided. If you require accompaniment you may bring a CD or provide an accompanist of your choice. *Improvisation within this chosen piece is optional.
· Be prepared to sight read a few short fragments of music.
· Be prepared to improvise over a blues sequence in concert F.
· You will be asked a few questions regarding your interest in music.

ADDITIONALLY:

· DRUMMERS AND PERCUSSIONISTS*
  - You will be asked to play “time” with a metronome, using the grooves:
    ▪ FUNK feel
    ▪ SWING feel
    ▪ BOSSA NOVA feel (straight eighths)

· BASSISTS*
  - You will be asked to play walking bass lines with a pre-recorded accompaniment over a simple blues chord progression in concert F and a rhythm changes progression in concert B-flat.

· PIANISTS AND GUITARISTS*
  - You will be asked to demonstrate “comping” ability over the following:
    ▪ BLUES IN CONCERT F, SWING FEEL
    ▪ RHYTHM CHANGES PROGRESSION, STRAIGHT FEEL

*Rhythm section players - while LAYJE members are familiar with a variety of styles, it is expected that jazz (swing, straight ahead) should be one of the strongest areas of playing.

FOR ALL VOCALISTS:

· Please prepare a selection of your choice. You will need to provide your own pre-recorded accompaniment or accompanist.
· You will be asked to improvise (“scat sing”) over a blues sequence in F.
· You will be asked a few questions regarding your interest in music.