

# CSU Jazz Ensemble/Jazz Combo Audition Information for Spring 2006

This spring, the CSU Jazz Studies Program will consist of two large jazz ensembles and two jazz combos. The CSU Jazz Ensembles perform several concerts throughout the academic year, including appearances at jazz festivals and clinics at local schools. The CSU Jazz Combos give students the opportunity to develop their improvisational skills in a performance environment while also fostering the group dynamics of small ensemble playing. Both the ensembles and combos expose students to classic and contemporary jazz literature and styles with an emphasis on quality performance and education.

Participation in jazz ensembles and combos is determined by audition. **Students must audition to be placed in an ensemble and/or combo and must also enroll in the appropriate course to participate.** (Course number information will be posted at auditions and will be included with the results.) Both the jazz ensembles and the jazz combos are open to students of all majors at Colorado State University.

**PLEASE SIGN UP FOR EARLIEST AUDITION TIME POSSIBLE! If you are unable to audition at the appropriate time for your instrument, please contact Professor Sommer ([Peter.Sommer@colostate.edu](mailto:Peter.Sommer@colostate.edu)) BEFORE December 6<sup>th</sup>!**

Guitar and bass players need to provide their own patch cords for the audition. Amps, drums, cymbals and a piano will be provided.

Personnel for each jazz ensemble will include 5 saxophones (2 altos, 2 tenors, 1 bari), 4-5 trumpets, 4-5 trombones (3-4 tenor, 1 bass), piano and/or guitar, bass and drums. Personnel for the jazz combos will include 2-5 horns, piano and/or guitar, bass and drums.

A preliminary schedule of concerts and a syllabus will be provided at auditions.

Please feel free to send questions regarding auditions to [Peter.Sommer@colostate.edu](mailto:Peter.Sommer@colostate.edu) or call 970-491-3010.

Thanks! See you at auditions!

Peter Sommer  
Professor of Jazz and Saxophone  
Colorado State University

## *Audition Times*

### Saxophones, Trumpets and Trombones

**Returning students: Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm in Room 200. (For those who played in jazz ensemble in Fall of 2005.)**

**New students: Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 5-6:30pm in Room 200.**

### Piano and Guitar

**All students: Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from Noon-1pm in Room 200.**

### Bass

**All students: Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm in Room 110.**

### Drums

**All students: Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm in Room 212.**

### **ALL HORN PLAYERS AUDITIONING FOR JAZZ COMBO**

**Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm in Room 200.**

## **Audition Material:**

### Saxophones, Trumpets and Trombones

For Jazz Ensemble Auditions:

- 1) Provided prepared piece.
- 2) Sight-reading
- 3) Improvisation on minor blues if interested in combo or jazz chair

(accompaniment will be provided)

For Jazz Combo Auditions:

- 1) Improvisation on minor blues
- 2) Improvisation on standard of your choice (please bring chart).
- 3) Sight-reading

### Piano and Guitar (For Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo)

- 1) Sight-reading
- 2) Demonstration of comping in various jazz styles (music provided at audition)
- 3) Improvisation on minor blues if interested in combo

### Bass (For Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo)

- 1) Sight-reading
- 2) Demonstration of bass lines in various jazz styles (music provided at audition)
- 3) Improvisation on minor blues if interested in combo

### Drums (For Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo)

- 1) Demonstration of various jazz styles including swing (in “two” and in “four”), bossa nova, samba, funk, rock, jazz waltz, shuffle and afro-cuban 12/8
- 2) Sight-reading
- 3) Suitable time-keeping/comping for large and/or small ensembles