



## Giant Steps Big Bands 2024-2025 Auditions

Welcome! We're very happy you're interested in auditioning for the Giant Steps Big Band program! Please read these instructions carefully, and you'll be well-prepared for your audition.

Auditions will be held at Stanford University during the day on Saturday August 24 and Sunday August 25. All auditions will be in person.

This document tells you how to schedule your audition and access to the materials you need to prepare. The audition materials are easy and fun, and they give our faculty a chance to get to know you and your level of musical experience.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us:

For registration and scheduling questions:

[registrar@stanfordjazz.org](mailto:registrar@stanfordjazz.org)

For questions about the band experience:

Steven Lugerner, [slugerner@stanfordjazz.org](mailto:slugerner@stanfordjazz.org)

### 1. Schedule your audition

To schedule your audition, just click on the link below.

**[CLICK TO SCHEDULE YOUR AUDITION](#)**

We'll send you a confirmation email once you have chosen your preferred auditioned date and time. See the next page for more about how to prepare for your audition.

## 2. Download your audition materials

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD YOUR AUDITION MATERIALS\*\*](#)

### Shee music excerpts

Download and practice the excerpt corresponding to your instrument. Practice with a metronome until you feel confident. Some excerpts are only one page long, others are two pages long; prepare all of the music on all pages.

Excerpts are included for:

- Alto sax and bari sax
- Tenor sax
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Piano
- Bass
- Guitar

In addition to the excerpt, be prepared to play a chromatic scale, ascending and descending in quarter notes at  $\text{♩} = 100$ , starting from the lowest to the highest note that you can play.

- Piano and guitar: Be prepared to play chords in as many different voicings as you can.
- Drums: Be prepared to play the following grooves. You won't be asked to play all of these, but be ready to play as many as you can:

Up-tempo swing

Medium swing

Medium shuffle

12/8 slow swing

Ballad with brushes

Swing with brushes

Rock ballad

Funk

Samba

Cha-Cha

Mambo (2-3, and 3-2 claves)

Reggae

New Orleans street beat, second-line drumming

Rock

### 3. Improvisation

For the improvisation portion of your audition, please prepare “Dorian’s Lament,” using the version on SJW’s placement player app.

#### **CLICK TO GO TO THE SJW PLACEMENT PLAYER APP**

- On the first screen, read the instructions carefully, then click the “Get Started” button.
- On the second screen, select your instrument.
- On the third screen, select “Dorian’s Lament”.
- On the fourth screen, read the instructions, then select “Practice with this” to practice the melody with a sample horn section, or select “Record with this” to practice the melody on your own.

At your audition, we’ll ask you to play and improvise on “Dorian’s Lament,” and we’ll play the backing track on a bluetooth speaker.

If you’d like to prepare a more challenging piece to improvise on, feel free to choose any of the songs available on the SJW Placement Player App.

### 3. Sight Reading

We’ll provide music to sight-read for your in-person audition when you arrive.

### 4. Be prepared for anything

The audition team may ask you to play something that has not been listed here. Give them your best!

That’s all! If you have any questions, please contact Steven Lugerner at [slugerner@stanfordjazz.org](mailto:slugerner@stanfordjazz.org).