

The Art of

# SINGING & SWINGING

Jazz House Kids provides educationally based music programs that stimulate creativity, develop collaborative skills and invigorate our classrooms and community through the medium of jazz - America's original art form.



Expressing, Creating, Building - One child at a time

## Student Letter

Dear Melissa,  
The things I learned about the music  
jazz is that there can be different  
types of jazz. There can be swing,  
blues or rock jazz. I also learned  
that each instrument has a specific  
part in jazz. So it is important  
for each instrumentist to practice  
their music. My favorite part  
of the jazz house performance  
was when we sang "Big House"  
written from Wreckin' Train. I enjoyed  
the song very also.

Sincerely,  
Aashirah  
Aashirah A. Carter



## Message from the Executive Director

**A**t Jazz House Kids, we foster a love and an enthusiasm for America's original art form – jazz.

Through our innovative approach to instruction and performance, JHK has ensured that jazz remains forever young in the hearts of our youth. In building a Jazz House, we cultivate tomorrow's responsible global citizens and community leaders by creating an exciting environment for the development of positive values such as respect, teamwork, creative thinking and a dedication to excellence.



**PURPOSE:** JHK was established to boost achievement of young people by enhancing their quality of life and invigorating the classrooms where they learn and the communities where they live. We strive to fill the gap in music education for our children through:

- Interactive assemblies in elementary schools
- Extended instrumental and vocal residencies for middle and high schools
- Professional development for teachers across disciplines
- Fun-filled family discovery series
- Engaging community concerts which promote health and well being
- Masterclasses conducted by world-class musicians
- After-school programming

**EDUCATION INITIATIVE:** We utilize visual and performing arts core curriculum content standards as well as career education and consumer, family and life skills as the foundation for our programs. We bring together a diverse group of professional musicians and educators to provide dynamic, innovative, and multi-disciplinary learning opportunities to enrich school curricula.

**HISTORY:** Since our founding in 2002, JHK has become a multi-faceted, not-for-profit organization providing a wide range of music education support and character building programs necessary for the successful development of our youth.

*Welcome to JHK and thank you for taking this opportunity to get to know us,*

**Melissa Walker**

Founder & Executive Director

## Friends of Jazz House Kids



### Al Roker & Deborah Roberts

During the past six years, Jazz House Kids has introduced thousands of public school students and their teachers to America's treasured musical art form. Through engaging school workshops, residencies, and professional development programs, JHK provides outstanding opportunities for young people to learn from, and be inspired by, some of the most renowned jazz musicians and educators on the scene today. These programs safeguard the future of jazz for years to come as they ensure that young people will develop an appreciation for jazz and become the jazz performers and listening audience of tomorrow.

### Build a Jazz House ~ Build a Child's Future

"When I was growing up around Kansas City, I was so lucky to be mentored by many of the best older musicians in town. I always felt like I learned how to play on the bandstand by being exposed to the infinity of possibilities that exist within the jazz realm through the goodwill of the players who took the time to talk to me and share their wisdom.

I am excited about the work that Jazz House Kids is doing. Exposing young people to great music is one of the most important things in the world. The future will be enhanced by an enlightened group of children that have benefited from having had the chance to hear and experience great jazz played by the excellent players and educators that the Jazz House Kids family offers in their presentations, clinics and workshops."

—Pat Metheny

## What is a Jazz House?

**Quite simply**, a Jazz House is the creative space where we come together with young people, their families and teachers to share, appreciate and learn about the jazz experience.

**It's a mobile house**, constantly in play, with wheels that turn on improvisation as it negotiates its way toward that incandescent goal: the celebration of jazz.

**It's a house whose foundation is built on:**

- **Respect for creativity**
- **Tolerance for diversity**
- **Harmony in teamwork**
- **Love for self and others**
- **An abiding passion to preserve the legacy and ensure the future of jazz.**

**It's the place where we live.**



## Assembly Programs

### Let's Build a Jazz House Workshop Series™

**Creative adventure and a stomping good time are in store for the participants of this workshop series!**

Our acclaimed youth enrichment series examines the musical, historical, geographical, social and cultural influences that form the foundation of jazz. Utilizing an interactive multi-media approach, a professional jazz ensemble conducts workshops using an informative video learning tool as its backdrop. We support the development of critical learning skills while aiding in the development of motor coordination. All sessions are conducted in a safe environment by professional jazz musicians and educators.

#### Assemblies are:

- Between 45 to 60 minutes in length
- Designed for 100 students, can accommodate 250
- Either grouped together or conducted individually
- Conducted by JHK's professional teaching artists jazz combo

*Ask about our school-wide jazz concerts*



The Pat Metheny Trio featuring Christian McBride and Antonio Sanchez greet a JHK donor's family backstage.



### Building a Jazz House

**Grab your tool belt because it takes everyone to build this house!** This highly entertaining session lays the foundation for hearing and recognizing jazz music. Participants construct a *virtual* Jazz House using their voices and rhythm instruments to explore the basic *function* and unique *roles* within a jazz band. The audience will learn the importance of a strong skill set for individual development and the satisfaction derived from group collaboration. Building a Jazz House will be a memorable journey!

**Target Audience: 5 - 12 years old**



### Singing the Blues

**What are the blues? Why do we get them? Better yet, learn how to get rid of them!** Come explore the universally recognized world of the *blues* which forms the foundation of virtually all genres of American music. The historical, cultural and social legacies of this musical journey unfold as students examine the basic chord structure, rhythm and emotional storytelling inherent in this music. Participants' spirit comes alive when they construct their very own *blues* story.

**Target Audience: 5 - 12 years old**



### The Jazz Neighborhood

**Let's dance!** Join us for a journey through the heart of jazz and New York's Harlem culture during the 1920s and 1930s. The jazz neighborhood of Harlem was made up of creative men and women pursuing their dreams together. These individuals reached out to the world and changed the way that people heard, read, thought, created, spoke and wrote about America and its people. With the swing era as our musical backdrop, students will delight in watching and hearing the feet of professional dancers. Who knows, maybe some of the participants will find themselves on stage!

**Target Audience: 8 - 12 years old**

## Residency Programs

### School Residency Programs



#### Vocal Summit Jazz Residency Program™

This multi-faceted residency program provides a rare opportunity for existing choral programs to become immersed in the world of vocal jazz performance. Jazz House Kids brings world-class professional artists including singers, arrangers and instrumentalists into schools to collaborate with music instructors to provide intensive instruction in vocal production and technique, fundamentals of jazz singing, repertoire development and basic elements from the jazz idiom. Professionally arranged music provides a platform for students to explore the rich harmonies of jazz. The Vocal Summit culminates with a series of public performances with students, residency clinicians and professional jazz musicians.

**Target Audience:** grades 3–12

**Program Duration:** 12 weeks

**Schedule tailored to school**

**Program culminates with a series of Community Concerts**



#### Instrumental Jazz Residency Lab™

The Jazz Lab brings world-class performing artists and established groups into schools to work with existing jazz and Latin ensembles and school big bands. Students will receive an impressive range of jazz instruction including combo rehearsals, instrumental sectionals, master classes and large ensemble sessions. Clinicians and school music specialists work together to prepare repertoire and to strengthen musical skills needed for improvisation and successful live performances. In the Jazz Lab the art of improvisation and swing comes alive!

**Target Audience:** grades 6–12

**Program Duration:** ranges from 1 to 8 weeks

**Schedule tailored to school**

**Program culminates with a series of Community Concerts**

*After-school residencies available. Ask about our all-star master classes*

## Masterclass

The JHK masterclass provides a rare opportunity for experts in the field to share key skills needed to excel as part of an on-going broader school curriculum. We custom design our masterclass to help your school music program where it needs it most!

### A look at our masterclass...

Distinguished guest artists and JHK's teaching artists meet with your music students for an afternoon or a series of sessions to explore keys to improvisation, ensemble playing, practice techniques, goal setting for individuals and the band, being professional and improving performance, how to listen, and the importance of jazz history. A masterclass can motivate your students to reach the next level of musicianship and provide a musical experience that they will never forget.



**"It was awesome the way Mr. Metheny explained how he started out and his experiences as a jazz player."** 16 year old student from Randolph High School's jazz band - *The New York Times*

### Helping enrich your curriculum...

When it comes to exposing young people to new ideas and experiences, Jazz House Kids knows that with proper preparation, students are able to engage at a much higher level than previously expected. As part of the JHK masterclass, educators will receive level appropriate preparatory material and tools to keep your class growing and playing long after we have gone.



**"They became better performers. It's inspiring."** Music teacher following a masterclass with the Christian McBride Band at the Performing Arts High School - *The Star Ledger*

**"Every musician has to make a place for themselves at the table"**

17-time Grammy winner, Pat Metheny conducting a masterclass for JHK

# Jazz Across the Curriculum<sup>SM</sup>

JAC welcomes teaching professionals and administrators from across academic disciplines to attend an exciting comprehensive arts retreat. It is designed to immerse educators in a jazz environment where you learn to combine jazz with other disciplines and come to see the endless possibilities for bringing jazz into ANY classroom. **Teachers learn to reinvigorate current curricula through interdisciplinary professional development.** Why? Because overwhelming evidence shows that music education enhances social skills, provides leadership tools and increases cognitive abilities in young people and jazz requires both a strong individual and collaborative skill set. **Upon completion, educators will be able to design their own jazz-based units, and return to their schools to put into practice what they learned.**

History, Science, Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Art, Music, and Library/Media  
**Jazz has something to offer today's classrooms!**



## JAC Highlights

- Earn up to 27 NJ Professional Development Credit
- Earn Graduate credit or Continuing Education Credit
- Performances by internationally recognized jazz artists
- Workshops, breakout sessions and roundtable discussions with educators, internationally recognized artists and leading jazz institutions
- Worldclass concert performances
- Teacher jam sessions and student demonstrations
- Scholarships available

**Where:** William Paterson University - Wayne, NJ

**When:** First week in February



## Wide Range of Training

- **Participants gain** a look at jazz from a historical, geographic and socioeconomic context which gave rise to America's original music
- **General education teachers** receive specific tools and lessons to incorporate jazz into any classroom (grades K-8)
- **Music educators** gain tools to start or strengthen instrumental and vocal programs (grades K-12)
- **Music generalists** learn to create or expand a jazz unit in their classroom (grades K-8)



## Teacher Jazz In-Service

- A team of JAC clinicians will conduct an in-service program for your teaching staff.
- We will show you easy to use and engaging musical exercises which can be used to teach any subject
- Learn how to use fundamentals of jazz to refresh and renew your classroom to excite students using creativity, teamwork, responsibility, and knowledge.



## Bring JAC to your school!

- JAC's clinicians will spend an exciting day bringing jazz to your students to teach English, Music, Visual Art, Drama, History and Math.
- Music is an excellent tool for memorization and can make learning challenging concepts more easily understood.
- Students will gain a new perspective of American culture and music. They will learn how to use the philosophy of jazz to provide life direction, energize their creative spirit and engage their mind in any academic area.
- Teachers will experience how jazz and the jazz experience embody all that is creative and energizing about the American spirit. Students will be refreshed and ready to approach their academic studies with renewed vigor.

**“This workshop was fantastic. I’m glad I attended!”**

## Family Jazz Discovery Series

### Bringing the Excitement of Jazz to Your Neighborhood!

Whether you and your family are *bebop* beginners or *cool jazz* connoisseurs, our Family Jazz Discovery Series has a program that will get your fingers snapping and your toes tapping! Our programs are as fun as they are educational.

#### What is Family Jazz Discovery Series?

**Family Jazz 101.** Have your family join our JHK Jazz Combo for an interactive one hour journey of music and movement examining the diverse roots of jazz and the wide reaching influence this American music has had on the world.

**Who's That?** Who is James P. Johnson? Who is Bud Powell? Who is Fletcher Henderson? Join the Jazz House Kids staff for a family oriented introduction to some of America's greatest jazz musicians. Play the memorization game and see if you can remember the names and instruments of our famous friends. Great for the novice and perfect for a family with aspiring musicians!

**Family Jazz Sing-along.** Swingin' and singin' the standards with your family is a great way to have fun together and experience the joy of singing classic jazz with our very own JHK jazz combo. No prior singing experience or talent necessary, only a desire for quality family time in an educational environment. *Great fun for the holidays!*



Saxophonist, poet & painter - Oliver Lake

Family Jazz Discovery programs are perfect for any venue. Mention us to your local library, museum, arts facility or community center.

**“Great works of Art or Science are the result of an outrageously creative act. But a great Jazz solo is the creative act itself.”**

*Jazz for Beginners — Ron David*

## Inside the Jazz Note



INSIDE THE

### Get an inside look at the world of jazz!

Inside the Jazz Note<sup>SM</sup> provides a rare opportunity to examine the world of jazz through the eyes of the artist. Have you ever wondered what a great musician was listening to as a child? How their musical tastes and techniques developed? How they cultivated their trademark musical style and sound?

Join us as jazz luminaries explore their craft and share with the audience moments of musical insight and genius. Audience members will listen to the musician's favorite recordings, hear them play and see live performance footage.



Drummer and bandleader, Billy Hart with program participant



Inside the jazz Note w/ Pat Metheny & Christian McBride

**Listening to a great Jazz solo, not only am I getting Charlie Parker's Theory of Relativity, but I am there with him at the moment he is creating it.”**

*Jazz for Beginners — Ron David*

## Community Concerts

### Caring for our Community

Changing lives through our “Caring for Our Community” concert series. Whether it is a nursing home, a children’s hospital, or a long term care facility, JHK believes that “giving back” to one’s community through one’s own service is key to the collective good of a society and building responsible youth.

“Caring for Our Community” gives students an opportunity to get involved in their communities and to help people help themselves. Together with our professional jazz musicians, students perform at local healthcare facilities. Participating in community concerts instills a sense in young people that they can make a difference in people’s lives while improving their musicianship skills and boosting their own self-esteem.

“Caring for Our Community” offers a rich opportunity for young people to interact with residents attending the concerts and provide an incredible boost to an otherwise fragile sense of wellbeing.

#### The Power of Music:

“Our residents were so moved by these young people and the music they were playing, we witnessed a patient stand up for the first time in years.”

“We have seen our residents come alive by the smiles of these young talented people.”

Concert performance at Broadway House, a long term care AIDS facility



### Improving Quality of Life

Lower stress  
Promote happiness  
Increase energy  
Enhance self-esteem  
Improve memory  
Increase confidence  
Calm emotions  
Focus attention  
Accelerate healing  
Increase creativity

**Everyone Benefits!**



## Program Outcomes

**The Power of Music.** Our programs incorporate academic and professional standards that enrich school curricula and boost achievement in the following ways:

**Outcome 1.** Increase students’ knowledge, skills and aesthetic awareness of music through the rich legacy of America’s original art form – jazz. (NJCCCS 1.1)

**Outcome 2.** Enable students to utilize media and methods from the jazz idiom to create and perform works of art. (NJCCCS 1.2)

**Outcome 3.** Provide students with opportunities to learn about and utilize the elements and principles of jazz music. (NJCCCS 1.3)

**Outcome 4.** Help students utilize knowledge about jazz music to reflect upon and critique music and ideas related to music, the arts, and society. (NJCCCS 1.4)

**Outcome 5.** Students and teachers use jazz as a medium to understand the relationships between cultures, historic events and the arts. (NJCCCS 1.5)

**Outcome 6.** Students and teachers use their new understanding of jazz to make explicit connections to disciplines outside the arts. (NJCCCS 2: Comprehensive Health and Physical Education; NJCCCS 3: Language Arts Literacy; NJCCCS 4: Mathematics; NJCCCS 5: Science; NJCCCS 6: Social Studies; NJCCCS 8: Technological Literacy; NJCCCS 9: Career Education and Consumer, Family, and Life Skills)

\*The State of New Jersey’s Department of Education Core Curriculum Content Standards; Career Education and Consumer, Family and Life Skills; and Standards Required for Professional Development

**Outcome 7.** Teachers use jazz-based skills and knowledge to enrich existing school music programs and programs in other content areas by working in cooperation with teachers and administrators. (NJ Standards for Required Professional Development of Teachers)

**Outcome 8.** Provide formal and informal professional development for teachers and collegiate students of music and education about jazz, including skills, knowledge, and other applications. (NJ Standards for Required Professional Development of Teachers)

**Outcome 9.** Enable schools and students to make clear connections with community resources in jazz, other types of music, and the other arts. (NJCCCS 9: Career Education and Consumer, Family, and Life Skills)

**Outcome 10.** Continually improve programs by querying constituents such as grantors, participants, and outside evaluators to assure optimum quality and applicability to current social and educational needs. (NJ Standards for Required Professional Development of Teachers)

Subject: A Moring with  
Jazz House Kids

Dear Director,



There are no words to describe what took place in my school this morning from 10a.m.to 11:45a.m. Jazz House Kids rocked our world!!! I am so grateful to have been a part of this extraordinary performer's talents. My students and teachers were in awe of her powerfully melodic voice and presence. What a wonderful program for children, and so apropos for our Accelerated Schools Process. I cannot thank you enough for allowing this wonderful mental keep-sake for everyone who attended (including yours truly) to be indelibly solidified in our memory banks.

It was indeed pleasurable for all of us at Lafayette to see our choral teacher and instrumental teacher jump into the improvisational mix and really cook with Melissa... You witnessed for yourself how the performing arts in my school impacts my children. They have presence, confidence, and the ability to stand up, perform, contribute, and speak out on the musical influence that the jazz era so delightfully has bequest upon us...

My dear friend -it is always a pleasure to work with you!

**Booking a Program.** Program availability is often limited, please contact JHK as early as possible by calling 973-744-2273, or email us at [booking@jazzhousekids.org](mailto:booking@jazzhousekids.org). All programs require a signed contract to be returned to JHK to secure a date.

**Program Fees.** JHK programs are supported in part by our generous donors. Our fees structure is designed specifically for schools, libraries, museums and community centers.

**Please call** 973-744-2273 or email [booking@jazzhousekids.org](mailto:booking@jazzhousekids.org) for program price list.

**Ways to Save.** "Back-2-back" prices are available for 2 programs conducted in the same school within a 3-hour period. The second program may be a post-performance classroom workshop, masterclass or professional development seminar. Book the same program within the same district, or within 15 minutes driving time, on the same day and the same "back-2-back" rate applies. (Note: The two programs must be performed in the same school or area with both programs concluding within a 3-hour period or an additional fee will be charged.)

**Additional Savings.** Block book four or more schools within the same district and receive additional savings.

**Technical Requirements.** Each program has its own specific technical requirements which will be provided.

**American Disabilities Act.** Typically workshops take place in school auditoriums, which should be ADA compliant. Our workshops are designed to give special needs and physically challenged students the opportunity to fully participate.

**Travel Fees.** Travel fees are charged for programs performed at sites located beyond a 30-mile radius from Newark, NJ.

**Payment Procedures.** Deposits must be received with the signed contract unless other arrangements have been made. The balance of payment must be received by or before the performance date unless other arrangements have been mutually agreed

to in writing. Signed contracts with venue and/or school purchase orders must be received at least 45 days prior to the performance date.

**Mail:** All checks are to be made out to Jazz House Kids and mailed directly to:

### Jazz House Kids

623 Eagle Rock Ave, Suite 118  
West Orange, NJ 07052

**Cancellation/Rescheduling Policy.** If a school or venue must cancel, JHK will make every effort to reschedule the program at a mutually agreed upon time.

**School Closings:** In the event of inclement weather or official emergency closing, the school must notify the JHK office immediately. If no notice is provided by calling the JHK office at 973-744-2273 at least 3 hours prior to the start of the program a \$500 fee will be charged.

**No Show:** In the event that the participants are not on-site or are unavailable, the the contracted program fee for that particular day will be charged.

### Please note the following cancellation penalties:

Cancellations made less than 10 business days before the scheduled program date are subject to a \$250 cancellation charge.

Cancellations less than 4 business days before a scheduled program result in a loss of deposit or 50% of the contracted program fee for that particular day. Notice of cancellation to JHK must be made in writing at least 4 business days prior to the performance date.

JHK Cancellation: If JHK is unable to present program due to an emergency JHK will contact the school or venue to reschedule the performance at a mutually agreed upon time.

**Thank you for your interest in our programming. Please contact us at 973-744-2273.**

## Board & Advisors

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Jazz House Kids

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Jazz House Kids is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

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Celebrated Composer  
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### Committees

JHK appreciates the support of our  
talented and dedicated volunteers

## In the News...

### Multi high school masterclass with Pat Metheny

Thursday June 19, 2008

## The Star-Ledger

### A jazz guitarist virtuoso inspires local kids

by Elizabeth Moore

Jazz guitarist Pat Metheny admitted to high school students that it's a tough road to become a professional musician, but having a love of music makes the journey worthwhile.

"The thing about being a musician is it's really hard," he said. "But the rewards music offers you ... you get so much out of the time and effort."

The program was sponsored by Jazz House Kids, a nonprofit organization that brings music to public schools, hosts teacher development sessions and runs workshops such as the one in South Orange this week.

Metheny fielded questions from the audience on everything from tips for learning improvisation to whether jazz guitarists are undervalued in jazz groups. He described his own upbringing in the Midwest as a misfit in a family of trumpet players, but driven to play the guitar — sometimes as much as 10 to 12 hours a day.

Sunday, June 29, 2008

## The New York Times

### Making a Case for the 'Cult' of Jazz

by Tammy La Gore

He may have won 17 Grammys and dozens of other musical accolades, but that doesn't make him a popular guy.

At least that's what the guitarist Pat Metheny had to say to about 100 sweat-drenched New Jersey high school jazz musicians here earlier this month.

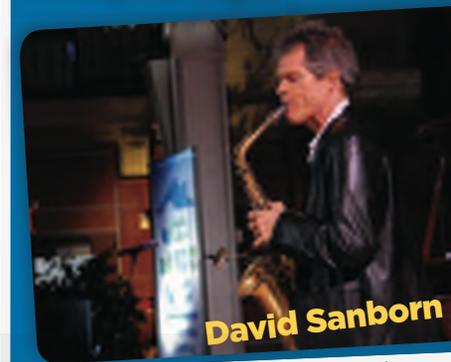
"In 2008 the culture is openly hostile to jazz," Mr. Metheny said at the South Orange Performing Arts Center during a 90-minute question-and-answer session — a "high school master class" — organized by Jazz House Kids, a Montclair group devoted to jazz education.

Tim Egan, 18, a saxophone player at West Orange High, said, "What I took from it is that music is hard, and that I need to have a lot of confidence and keep at it." He drove himself to the arts center even though his school had canceled the trip, and the school day, because of triple-digit temperatures.

For the nonprofit Jazz House Kids, formed in 2002 by the vocalist Melissa Walker, 43, getting Mr. Metheny to speak was a big deal, if not a surprising one. Ms. Walker's husband, the bassist Christian McBride, is a member of the Pat Metheny Trio.

In addition to organizing events like the one with Mr. Metheny, Jazz House Kids conducts programs for students from second through eighth grades at schools throughout New Jersey.

### Jazz House Kids 5th Anniversary Gala Celebration A Magical Night



Tuesday May 27, 2008

## The Star-Ledger

### Jazz great teaches Arts High students to hit all the right notes

By Chanta L. Jackson

Christian McBride, the Grammy-winning jazz musician, plays the bass with Newark's Arts High School Jazz Ensemble during a performance in the high school auditorium. The May 23 concert was a culmination of McBride's weeklong residency at the performing arts school, where he conducted workshops and master jazz classes. The residency program was sponsored by Jazz House Kids, a non-profit organization that promotes jazz education in public schools.

### Instrumental Residency with the Christian McBride Band

Photography: Ed Berger, Richard Conde, William May



**To make a tax-deductible donation or  
to book a program, please contact:**

**Jazz House Kids, Inc.  
623 Eagle Rock Ave #118  
West Orange, NJ 07052**

**973-744-2273  
info@jazzhousekids.org  
www.jazzhousekids.org**