# El Cerrito High School Bands

# SPRING JAZZ CONCERT

Featuring:

JAZZ ENSEMBLE, JAZZ WORKSHOP,
JAZZ LAB, & QUINTET



THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024

7:00pm | El Cerrito High School Theater



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# **PROGRAM**

# JAZZ LAB

CuteNeil Hefty, Arr. Mike StoryJive at FiveBasie & Edison, Arr. Roy Phillippe

# JAZZ WORKSHOP

The Daily BluesBryan KiddMoten SwingBuster Moten & Bennie Moten, Arr. Sammy NesticoA Night in TunisiaDizzy Gillespie, Arr. Michael Sweeney

# JAZZ QUINTET

Angel's LandingAlan FerberMDonny McCaslinNica's DreamHorace Silver

\*\* INTERMISSION \*\*

# JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Off the Cuff

A Walking Thing

Benny Carter

Minuano

Pat Metheny, Arr. Bob Curnow

# **ABOUT THE BANDS**

Located in the East Bay of the San Francisco Bay Area, El Cerrito High School holds a proud history of musical excellence that dates to the school's opening in 1941. The band program at El Cerrito High School offers students the opportunity to develop their skills and passion for music through a variety of experiences that include performances, clinics, festivals, and travel opportunities. The program is comprised of three concert bands: the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band as well as three jazz bands, the Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Workshop, and Jazz Lab. In addition to our classes, the program also offers several extra-curricular ensemble opportunities that include the Gaucho Band and Jazz Combos.

Throughout its 60-year history the El Cerrito High School Wind Ensemble has received superior ratings at local and state festivals and has been recognized as one of the San Francisco Bay Area's top high school wind bands. The band has made regular appearances at the California Music Educator's Association (CMEA) State Band and Orchestra Festival and has performed in venues and cities across the country including San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, and Vancouver. Notable performances include Carnegie Hall in New York City (2015), Chicago's Symphony Hall (2017), and the 2018 California All-State Music Education Conference (CASMEC) in San Jose where the group was selected as a featured performing ensemble.

Since 1965 the El Cerrito Jazz Ensemble has been recognized as one of California's top high school jazz bands and has performed in venues throughout the United States and abroad. Led by El Cerrito alumnus, Keith Johnson, the El Cerrito Jazz Ensemble has earned top ratings and first place awards at numerous jazz festivals across the west coast and have been finalists regular finalists at Monterey's Next Generation Jazz Festival. Over the past 10 years the group has hosted and performed alongside prominent jazz artists that include Chris Potter, Wycliffe Gordon, Alan Ferber, John Daversa, Donny McCaslin, Eric Harland, and Terell Stafford, among others. Notable performances include appearances at the Monterey Jazz Festival, North Sea Jazz Festival, Montreux Jazz Festival, Jazz á Vienne, and Umbria Jazz Festival. The El Cerrito Jazz Ensemble has twice been selected as featured performers for both the CMEA Bay Section Winter Conference (2020 and 2024) and California All-State Music Education Conference (2014 and 2024).

# THE DIRECTOR

**Keith Johnson** serves as Director of Bands at El Cerrito High School and lecturer of music at California State University, East Bay as conductor of the CSUEB Wind Ensemble. A San Francisco Bay Area native, his career as a music educator spans two decades with experience at the middle school, high school, and collegiate levels. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in music and a Master of Arts degree in music education with an emphasis in wind conducting from San José State University.

Keith has been the recipient of various teaching honors that include the El Cerrito High School Teacher of the Year (2020), CMEA Bay Section's Outstanding Jazz Educator Award (2018), KRON 4 Teacher of the Week (2016), CMEA Bay Section's Outstanding Music Educator Award (2014), and the West County Ed Fund's Teaching Excellence Award (2014). in 2014 he was also recognized as the West Contra Costa Teacher of the year. Groups under his direction have received multiple awards and performed across the United States and Europe in venues that include Carnegie Hall in New York, Chicago's Orchestra Hall, the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., and at several international jazz festivals including Jazz á Vienne and the Montruex, North Sea, Umbria, Victoria, and Monterey jazz festivals.

Since arriving to El Cerrito High School in 2009, the ECHS Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble have been featured ensembles at the California All-State Music Education Conference (CASMEC) in 2014, 2018, and 2024. Prior to joining ECHS, Keith held positions as jazz director at Portola Middle School in El Cerrito, CA and later director of the Jazzschool Young Musicians Program at the California Jazz Conservatory. As program director at the CJC, Keith founded and directed the award-winning Jazzschool Studio Band, recipient of four national Downbeat Magazine Student Music Awards and winner of the "Large Jazz Ensemble" category in 2011.

In addition to his teaching commitments Keith works frequently as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor throughout Northern California and has served on the boards of several professional music education organizations including the California Music Educators Association (CMEA), California Alliance for Jazz (CAJ), and is a Past President of CMEA Bay Section.



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# **BAND MEMBERS**

# JAZZ LAB

# **SAXOPHONES**

Evan Ratner
Tristan Dos Santos
Mason Larson
Dipaam Hotho
Collett Green

## **TRUMPETS**

Leonard Abesamis Andrew Ybarra Oliver Arkin Alex McDonald

### TROMBONES

Kinker Jordan Kyan Kurihara Ailyn Arias Sanchez Michael Geller

## **DRUMS**

Sevan Markarian

#### **BASS**

Henry Clason

# **PIANO**

Elliott Jacob

## **GUITAR**

Cameron Square

# JAZZ WORKSHOP

# **SAXOPHONES**

Oliver Kasprzycki \* Alex Jacox Mason Larson Ethan Stafford Sean Fivian

# TRUMPETS

Mimi Odyniec Evan Toth Nico Cohen Humphreys \* Leonard Abesamis Mia Navarro

# **TROMBONES**

Pasha Krasnoiarov Brenden Cech \* Neel Cooney William Bowden Matthew D'Amato

## **DRUMS**

Rani Millstein Sevan Markarian

#### BASS

Henry Clayton

#### **PIANO**

Lewis Parkinson

# JAZZ ENSEMBLE

## **SAXOPHONES**

Nigel Weiss \*
Sean Fivian
Julian Rosenthal
Javier Gutierrez
Kenji Malaowala

#### **TRUMPETS**

Sam Schweitzer Linden Stacey \* Brenna Moore Matteo Diaco

#### **TROMBONES**

Arvid Pokhrel \*
Amelia Harrington
Lucy Lebeck
Benjamin Dutta

#### **DRUMS**

Isaac Satzman

#### **BASS**

Guy Gibson Henry Clayton

#### **PIANO**

Evan Steinkoler

#### **GUITAR**

Willow Bown

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

WCCUSD School Board Members

Dr. Kenneth Chris Hurst, Superintendent of Schools

Malcom Norington, ECHS Principal

Kate Bloomer, ECHS Assistant Principal

Jacob Gran, ECHS Assistant Principal

Monica Eng, ECHS Assistant Principal

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