

## **CNY JAZZ ARTS FOUNDATION VOCAL JAZZ JAM GUIDELINES**

Greetings, jazz vocal students and teachers! If you're planning on taking advantage of the experience to be had at our Vocal Jazz Jams, here is everything you need to know about this unique opportunity.

### **Our Goals**

1. To support young people interested in learning to sing in the jazz style
2. To create a supportive atmosphere in which students may perform with and be coached by professionals in a cabaret-style master-class environment
3. To support regional choral and jazz vocal programs across Central New York
4. To increase knowledge and understanding of jazz vocal history, literature and skills

### **The Event**

Held at Jazz Central, our jazz arts and education center, each open-to-the-public event will offer up to 10 minutes of performing and coaching time for each individual participant 18 and under on a first-come, first-served basis. A professional accompanist will be provided, and two professional coaches will provide positive feedback. They may also suggest repeating a song. There is no guaranteed chance to perform for latecomers. All students will be encouraged to sign up to sing. However, they may just observe and decide to sing at a later date. Teachers, family and friends are encouraged to attend to provide support. The events will last four hours. With suitable rest periods, this means there is time for 12-15 students to be coached.

### **Preparation**

To ensure a positive experience for all, first-time participants should consult with their school choral director to prepare material. Some guidelines for participants:

- Bring in music for the accompanist, preferably in lead sheet format, or folio (solo vocal line plus piano accompaniment). Instrumental jazz teachers will have "Fake Books" for you to use for this purpose. If you can't locate a lead sheet for any title, contact our Chair, Joanne Dinoff, at 437-4459.
- Use the NYSSMA Jazz Vocal Solos List as a guide for suitable material. These titles are available with pre-recorded accompaniment at: <http://www.aebersold.com/Merchant2/merchant.mvc>
- Do not bring in a choral part and sing melody to a choral arrangement.
- Scatting and choreography are not required.

- Do not bring in pop or RnB/Hip-Hop titles. Concentrate on the Great American Songbook, and well-known jazz titles as sung by greats such as Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Dianne Schuur, etc., or show tunes singable in the jazz style.
- If a title is from a musical, it should be a song that is appropriate to interpretation in a jazz cabaret style.

We need the support of all choral music educators to make this event series a successful ongoing resource to your programs, and most importantly to young individuals motivated to learn and perform. If you have additional questions, feel free to contact any Jazz Vocal Educators' Committee member below:

JoAnne Dinoff, Chair	437-4459
Kathy Tompkins	487-0882 h, 426-3400 w
Julie Caruso	635-7758 h, 638-6086 w
Terry Gerber	669-9355 h, 638-6106 w
Cathy Osinski	445-3036 h, 463-1500 w
Carrie Pardee	488-6731 h, 468-2551 w
Jeff Welcher	363-4540 h, 363-6901 w

On behalf of the Vocal Jazz Committee, thanks for your ongoing help and support referring your students to this program.

Larry Luttinger  
Executive Director