

Greetings, Directors!

The Beta Nu chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia would like to welcome you to join us for the 66th annual Tallcorn Jazz Festival. A lot has changed since the last festival, and we wanted to provide an update on what our current plans are. This year, the festival will be held online through video submissions from the bands with feedback from a panel of [world-class clinicians](#) and [UNI Jazz Faculty](#). A culminating [live video showcase](#) will feature new performances from UNI Jazz Bands with some clips from your festival submissions as well. The registration fee has been lowered to \$75 per band, and the festival will be noncompetitive.

## **Clinics**

Our goal is always to provide each band and all participating students with a great educational experience and the opportunity to grow as musicians during the festival. That goal remains the same with our online format. Each participating band will receive recorded video feedback from someone on our incredible panel -- Ryan Keberle, Matt Wilson, David Berkman, and Carl Allen -- by Monday, February 15th. In addition, a UNI Faculty member -- Chris Merz, Michael Conrad, Alexander Pershounin, or Anthony Williams -- will lead your students in an online clinic via Zoom. These individual appointments will be scheduled between the band directors and UNI faculty during the month of January, and will take place between February 2nd and February 18th. The details and logistics of this clinic can be customized to suit your unique needs (options: Zoom clinic with the full band in rehearsal setup, Zoom session with students

on their own individual devices, 1-on-1 with UNI faculty member and band director, etc.). A form indicating your preference will be sent out in a separate email and will be available soon on the [Tallcorn website](#).

## **Recording Guidelines and Video Submission**

Each band's video submission must be a single, continuous, unedited take of your entire set. Please record a maximum of 3 selections with a total maximum video time of under 25 minutes. We understand that everyone is dealing with lost/compromised rehearsal time and many other challenges, so please just submit what you can and remember that the point is for your students to get to learn from our outstanding panel of clinicians!

You are welcome to use whatever recording method you choose (a cell phone video will suffice) as long as we can both see and hear your entire band. The clinicians will not take audio quality into account when reviewing submissions, but the more clearly they can hear the ensemble, the better feedback they can provide.

Each band will upload a single .mp4 or .mov file into a Google Drive folder by the February 1st deadline. Further details on video submission will be sent in a separate email and will be included on the [Tallcorn website](#).

## **SDIJ Showcase \*\*NEW\*\***

This year's [Sinfonian Dimensions in Jazz Concert](#), on Friday, February 19th at 7 PM, will be a live video presentation of UNI Jazz Band One and Jazz Band Two, and will also feature clips of performances from our participating high school groups! Our clinicians will select a few "outstanding ensembles" and "outstanding soloists," which will be announced during the showcase. Directors for each band that would like to be considered for recognition will select timestamps from their performance that they believe represent the band well (i.e. 3:47-5:42; 16:25-17:01). These can be multiple segments from different tunes, or a single segment, but the total time selected should be no longer than 3 minutes. Due to consent laws, we will need all participating students to sign a waiver in order to show the recordings of their performances or solos (entirely voluntary), which we will send out in an email at a later date.

## **Registration and Payment**

Registration for this year's festival has been open since February of 2020, and we are excited to see many bands returning from last year's festival. If you are not yet registered, you may do so by clicking [here](#) or by going to our website ([tallcornjazzfest.com](http://tallcornjazzfest.com)). We ask that you please register your bands by Friday, January 15th, 2021. We also ask that payment be sent in as early as possible. When you submit the registration form, you will automatically be emailed an invoice with the total due and the mailing address to send checks. If you have any trouble registering or receiving your invoice, please let us know at [tallcornjazzfest@gmail.com](mailto:tallcornjazzfest@gmail.com). We will not release any

comments to bands until we have received payment, so please make sure that you get payment to us before you send in your video submission.

## **Deadlines**

- Friday, January 15th: Festival registration deadline
- End of January: Schedule live clinics with UNI Faculty (to take place in February)
- Monday, February 1st: Due date for video submissions from participating bands, as well as payment deadline

## **Questions?**

Please be alert for future mailings, as these will discuss more details, and be sure to check out [www.tallcornjazzfest.com](http://www.tallcornjazzfest.com) as we update it with the latest info and forms. It is our goal to make this experience as smooth for you as possible. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at [tallcornjazzfest@gmail.com](mailto:tallcornjazzfest@gmail.com). If you have questions that might require faculty attention, they can be directed to Mr. Chris Merz at [chris.merz@uni.edu](mailto:chris.merz@uni.edu). We look forward to seeing you (online) in February!

Sincerely,

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Donovan Klutho, Tallcorn Coordinator

Nick Haats, Assistant Coordinator