



VAIL JAZZ WORKSHOP

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HISTORY OF VAIL JAZZ

The Vail Jazz Foundation (“Vail Jazz”) is a nonprofit organization located in Vail, Colorado, a year-round mountain resort located 100 miles west of Denver, Colorado. Now in its 27th year of operation, Vail Jazz is dedicated to the perpetuation of jazz music. Its goals are to further jazz education with special emphasis on young musicians and young audiences, and to showcase jazz music and the artistry and talent of great jazz musicians. To implement this mission Vail Jazz offers the Vail Jazz Workshop, a jazz study program for musicians between the ages of 15-18. The Workshop precedes and coincides with the culmination of Vail Jazz’s annual Vail Jazz Festival with a five-day Jazz Party over the Labor Day weekend each year.

THE VAIL JAZZ WORKSHOP

In 2021 Vail Jazz will celebrate the 26th anniversary of the Vail Jazz Workshop (the “Workshop”), a 10-day residency program (students are guests of host families in Vail) for dedicated and gifted young musicians who have demonstrated a commitment to their musical studies and a level of skill to warrant special attention. The Workshop is limited to twelve students with two students per instructor. The Workshop covers jazz theory, group lessons, private lessons, jazz improvisational work, ensemble participation, and includes multiple performance opportunities. The students attend the Vail Jazz Festival in order to see, hear and meet the world-renowned jazz artists performing at the Festival, and perform for the Festival audience. The Workshop is designed as an intense learning experience set in an environment that is world renowned for its natural beauty. Students have the opportunity to interact with their instructors and each other in a manner which affords them the opportunity to maximize their learning experience, including are jazz rap sessions which provide the instructors with the opportunity to share real life jazz experiences with the students in an open forum style (non-lecture). In addition to the musical instruction, there are outings organized so that the students have an opportunity to enjoy what Vail has to offer - hiking, picnics, etc.

The Workshop commences on Saturday, August 28, 2021 with students returning home on Labor Day, Monday, September 6, 2021.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

It is anticipated that that Workshop can be organized and presented in compliance with all health regulations and safety protocols in effect at the time the Workshop is held. However, the Vail Jazz Foundation will only organize the Workshop if it is able to do so in a safe manner in compliance with all applicable regulations. If it is determined that the Workshop cannot be presented in person because of COVID 19 related issues, the Workshop will be presented virtually. It should be noted that last year the Workshop was presented online and was a great success; however, if for any reason a decision is made to present the Workshop online, each admitted Applicant will have the absolute right to elect whether or not to attend the Workshop online.

INSTRUCTORS

The faculty of the Workshop is comprised of legendary musicians who are world-renowned educators with decades of experience teaching jazz at leading colleges, universities and

conservatories throughout the world. They share a teaching philosophy that stresses learning by ear. In addition, they strongly believe in the value of transcribing the performances of the masters in order to understand their techniques so that a student can develop his/her own technique and voice. The faculty is comprised of:

	<p>John Clayton Bass Instructor Program Director</p>		<p>Dick Oatts Saxophone Instructor</p>
	<p>Terrell Stafford Trumpet Instructor</p>		<p>Bill Cunliffe Piano Instructor</p>
	<p>Wycliffe Gordon Trombone Instructor</p>		<p>Lewis Nash Drum Instructor</p>

ELIGIBILITY

The Workshop is open only to students who play the following instruments: piano, bass, drums, trumpet, trombone and saxophone.

Students attending the Workshop must be at least 15 years of age and not more than 19 years of age (determined as of the first day of the Workshop) and must have been a full time student enrolled in a high school (grades 9 through 12) or been home schooled in compliance with appropriate local law during the school year completed just prior to the Workshop. Applicants who have just graduated from high school may apply but an Applicant may not have attended a university, college, junior college or other post high school educational institution on a full time basis, nor may an Applicant have attended a prior Workshop. Applicants must be a permanent residence of North America at the time of application.

PLEASE NOTE: *If you are a senior in high school now and plan to attend college in the fall, you may have a schedule conflict and should not apply for admission unless you are absolutely certain that the first day you need to be in attendance at college is*

after September 6, 2021. If selected for the Workshop, you must pledge to be in attendance throughout the duration of the Workshop, and you may not leave early to attend college. If there is a potential schedule conflict, please advise Vail Jazz, as many colleges will approve your absence if you are attending the Workshop and Vail Jazz can provide your college with confirmation of your attendance, if selected.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Applicants are selected for the Workshop based upon their demonstrated commitment to their musical studies and a level of skill to warrant the special attention provided by the Workshop. The Workshop is designed for advanced players and an applicant should have a technical command of his/her instrument, good sight reading skills, improvisational skills and a willingness to work hard. Applicants are selected for the Workshop based on the above criteria regardless of financial need.

ADMISSION PROCEDURE + DEADLINE

The application process consists of 1) a written application and 2) video audition. To be considered for admission, an Applicant must complete and submit to Vail Jazz by the stated deadline the completed application materials, a current photograph and tax information (as described below). In addition, an Applicant must comply with the audition requirements (also described below). **The deadline for the submission of all of the above is Friday, April 30, 2021.**

REFERENCE

Because there is no written music used during the Workshop, a student's improvisational ability, knowledge of rhythm changes, chord progressions, and familiarity with jazz standards are extremely important. An Applicant must provide the name and contact information of a music professional (band director, teacher, etc.) who is familiar with the Applicant's musicianship and can comment on the Applicant's level of skill, commitment to his/her musical studies, performance experience and other relevant information that establishes that the Applicant is qualified to attend the Workshop. **Before naming a reference, an applicant should contact the proposed reference and seek permission to list the individual as his/her reference and advise the individual that a representative of Vail Jazz will contact him/her to discuss the qualifications of the Applicant.**

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Jeff Clayton Educational Fund provides full and partial scholarships to all Applicants admitted to the Workshop. Jeff Clayton was a founding faculty member of the Workshop who passionately taught and mentored Workshop students for a quarter century, inspiring and shaping the careers of jazz's next generation. Always willing to share his knowledge and wisdom with his students, Jeff's legacy lives on with the establishment of the Fund.

A full scholarship covers all of the costs of the Workshop, including transportation to and from the Workshop, housing (students are guests of host families), all meals, and all Workshop classes as well as all special activities organized for the students. Partial scholarships, in an amount equal to 50% of the foregoing, are awarded to every Applicant admitted with additional

funding available and determined using a sliding scale based upon household income as set forth below. If the Workshop is presented online, each admitted Applicant will be advised of the revised cost of the program and the amount of the scholarship available to the Applicant, if the Applicant elects to attend the Workshop online.

As indicated below, a copy of page 1 of an Applicant’s family’s most recent 1040 Federal Tax return must be provided to Vail Jazz if an Applicant wishes to be considered for a full or partial scholarship. **If you do not wish to apply for any financial aid, you should check the box that indicates that you are declining to seek financial aid and you should disregard the remainder of this section of the application. Under these circumstances, if you are selected, you will be responsible to pay for your transportation and \$2,500 towards the cost of the Workshop.** You may also provide us supporting documentation if there are unusual circumstances that you feel may influence decisions regarding your eligibility for a scholarship. Please refer to the chart below for scholarship eligibility:

TOTAL FAMILY GROSS INCOME:	STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:
<u>Under \$50,000</u>	<u>Nothing (full scholarship)</u>
<u>\$50,000-60,000</u>	<u>Up to \$400 towards transportation</u>
<u>\$60,000-75,000</u>	<u>Transportation + \$250</u>
<u>\$75,000-100,000</u>	<u>Transportation + \$500</u>
<u>\$100,000-125,000</u>	<u>Transportation + \$1,000</u>
<u>\$125,000-150,000</u>	<u>Transportation + \$1,500</u>
<u>\$150,000-175,000</u>	<u>Transportation + \$2,000</u>
<u>Over \$175,000</u>	<u>Transportation + \$2,500</u>

CHAPERONES

Vail Jazz provides chaperones throughout the time students are in Vail in order to assist with and monitor the activities of the students.

WORKSHOP CELL PHONE POLICY

The Workshop is an extremely intense environment that requires each participant’s complete concentration. The use of cell phones is prohibited when the Workshop is in session and during group meals. No texting or calling (inbound or outbound) will be tolerated. Participants may use their cell phones during breaks and when they are not otherwise participating in Workshop activities.

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

Although all efforts will be made to accommodate dietary needs and allergies, the Workshop is not capable of guaranteeing that any or all such restrictions can be met.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

Please use the detailed instructions below as a guide for completing the Personal Statement and Financial Information portions of your application.

BIOGRAPHY

Provide a short biography listing place of birth, hobbies and non-musical activities, community service activities which you have participated in, future educational plans, and any other information which you believe is important.

HISTORY OF MUSICAL STUDIES

List the names of all previous instructors, type of instruction, length of instruction, etc.

LIST THE BANDS/ GROUPS/ ORCHESTRAS YOU HAVE PLAYED IN

List all performance experience you have had, and indicate whether solo, combo or band.

REFERENCE

Provide the name and contact information of a music professional (band director, teacher, etc.) who is familiar with your musicianship and can comment on your level of skill, commitment to your musical studies, performance experience and other relevant information that establishes that you are qualified to attend the Workshop.

LIST OF MUSIC AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, ETC. THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED

List all relevant honors, including the awarding body and date received.

HISTORY OF YOUR JAZZ PLAYING AND LISTENING EXPERIENCES

Indicate what style(s) of jazz you play and describe your jazz listening experiences (it is okay if they vary).

NAMES OF 3 FAVORITE PLAYERS ON YOUR INSTRUMENT

List three of your favorite players on your instrument, what it is about each of their playing that has made them one of your favorites, and how you try to incorporate that into your playing.

YOUR GOALS FOR THE WORKSHOP

Indicate your goals with respect to the Workshop. Describe, in detail, the areas you believe you need help with and what you want to accomplish while at the Workshop.

YOUR PLANS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Vail Jazz's mission is to perpetuate jazz with a focus on young musicians and young audiences. Through the lens of that mission, please indicate what community service activities you have undertaken in the past and your plans for future activities. The Workshop gives students direct access to decades of performance knowledge and Vail Jazz expects each student to pay back his/her "debt" by sharing that information with as many other students as possible.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

As previously stated, check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not you are applying for a scholarship. If you elect to seek a scholarship to the Workshop, you must indicate the level of total family gross income and number of family members in your household in order to determine your eligibility for, and scope of, a scholarship. When sending your signed Application enclose or scan and attach a copy of page 1 of your family's most recent 1040 Federal Tax return if you believe you qualify for a partial or full scholarship. You may also provide us supporting documentation if there are unusual circumstances that you feel may influence decisions regarding your eligibility for a scholarship.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

The following are the requirements for an Applicant's audition. All Applicants must submit an audition video via YouTube.

In some cases below an instructor has made suggestions of minimum preparation required for participation in the Workshop. At a minimum you should be able to meet these requirements and should not apply if you cannot do so.

PLEASE NOTE: All audition videos must be recorded specifically for this Application. Any audition video which appears to be pre-recorded for another purpose will be rejected. This includes audition videos recorded for a previous Vail Jazz Workshop application. At the beginning of your audition video, **before you begin playing, clearly and slowly state: your name; age; school; and instrument. Before each musical selection, state the information required below.**

ALL APPLICANTS-SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

If the instructions for your instrument below requires you to perform a portion of your audition with a rhythm section, and you are unable to assemble one, due to COVID-19 restrictions, you may instead do one of the following:

1. Play a transcription with the video recorder placed between you and the source so that both can be heard; or
2. Play an additional selection solo (unaccompanied); or
3. Play with a "play along" recording; or
4. Play along with the IReal Prop app - program the app to play 3 choruses (1 melody, and 2 improvised on the medium and uptempo tunes) or two choruses (ballads: 1 chorus of melody and 1 improvised).
5. If you are audition on the piano and don't have access to an acoustic piano, you may perform on an electric piano or keyboard.

BASS STUDENTS

1. The audition video is to contain the following: (i) transcriptions (played solo) of two bass lines from bassists such as Ray Brown, Paul Chambers, Sam Jones, Dave Holland, etc.; and (ii) a piece of your choice. This can be accompanied or unaccompanied. It can be a

bass solo, another transcription— perhaps from a trumpet or guitar solo, or just a tune of your choice, etc. Make sure, however, that you are featured. Playing something from the classical repertoire or another style would be welcome here. You do not need to send any written transcription you used.

2. Remember the following: (i) choose pieces that are close to your level and not so challenging that your performance suffers; (ii) write out the bass lines but memorize (do NOT write out) any bass solos; (iii) choose a piece that you will be able to transcribe entirely; and (iv) be sure to play the bass line with the recording, exactly as it was done on the recording.
3. Before each selection state: (i) the bass lines selected; (ii) whose performance you transcribed; (iii) the source material, e.g. title of CD, etc.; and (iv) the name of the piece you selected for 1.
4. While at the Workshop you will need to know and be able to play the following: (i) major scales in all keys, 2 octaves; and (ii) harmonic minor scales in all keys, 2 octaves.

DRUM STUDENTS

1. The audition video should demonstrate your ability to improvise and play with a rhythm section using a live band. Sticks and brushes must be used.
2. The audition video is to contain the following: (i) the piece performed should be the 12-bar blues piece "Billie's Bounce" in medium tempo - include at least four choruses behind a soloist and at least two choruses of drum solo; (ii) perform a medium tempo selection or a ballad demonstrating ability to perform with brushes; and (iii) perform two additional selections in different jazz styles, moods, and tempos. Each selection must include at least three choruses of playing time behind a soloist and at least two choruses of trading fours, eights, and/or soloing.
3. Before each selection state the name of the tune performed.

PIANO STUDENTS

1. Auditions must be performed on an acoustic piano. Auditions performed on electric pianos or keyboards will not be accepted. You do not need to send any written transcriptions you may have used.
2. The audition video is to contain the following: (i) two memorized or written out transcriptions of piano solos. You may select any artists you admire; and (ii) three standards of your choice with your solo on them, at least one should be a ballad. Each transcription should be two or three choruses of the solo, unless it is a blues, in which case you should include four choruses. You do not need to use a rhythm section for the standards, but if you want to use one, it should only be for one tune.
3. Before each selection state: (i) the piano solo selected; (ii) whose performance you transcribed; (iii) the source material, e.g. title of CD, etc.; and (iv) the standards you selected.

SAX STUDENTS

1. The audition video is to contain the following: (i) play the melody of three tunes (standards of your choice) and solo in the form using a rhythm section or a play along recording; and (ii) play transcriptions of two solos without accompaniment (by memory as opposed to writing them down) by notable sax players - Trane, Ball, Dexter, etc.
2. Before each selection state (i) the name of the tune performed; (ii) if applicable, whose performance you transcribed and the source material, e.g. title of CD, etc.

TROMBONE STUDENTS

1. The audition video is to contain the following: (i) ballad (choose one): "Lament," "Misty," or "In A Sentimental Mood" (2 chorus rendition); (ii) medium tempo in "F": "Au Privave" and 4 choruses improv; (iii) up tempo rhythm changes in "Bb": any head ("Antropology") and 3 choruses; (iv) "Blues for Alice" head in 3 keys: F, Ab, and Eb; and (v) "Donna Lee" head in 4 keys: Ab, F, D, and B.
2. It is preferred that you play with a rhythm section, but if necessary you may play with a "play along recording."
3. Before each selection state the name of the tune performed.

TRUMPET STUDENTS

1. The audition video is to contain the following: (i) two memorized transcriptions of standards by noted jazz trumpet masters - you may select any artists you admire; and (ii) improvise over a blues.
2. Before each selection state: (i) the name of the tune performed; (ii) whose performance you transcribed; and (iii) the source material, e.g. title of CD, etc.
3. In an email to Vail Jazz, provide a list of 5 jazz standards that you can perform in all 12 keys, and 5 standards that you will be able to play in all 12 keys by the beginning of the Workshop.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

Please ensure that you carefully follow all steps in the application process before submitting your Application to avoid delay and possible ineligibility. Application for admission to the Workshop will not be deemed complete until you have submitted all necessary materials as described herein. **The deadline for submission is April 30, 2021.** Vail Jazz will confirm receipt of all application materials, and will notify Applicants when the application process is complete. Final selections will be announced on Friday, June 4, 2021.

TO RETURN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION/TAX INFORMATION BY EMAIL:

The Application form is in PDF format and is designed to be edited and saved with Adobe Acrobat Reader (free program, available to download online). The form contains specific instructions on how to download this program, if necessary, and how to name and save your file.

APPLICATION FORM - When you have completed your Application form, email it to workshop@vailjazz.org. A signature is required; please either insert a digital signature or sign the last page and scan and attach it to email. The Application form must be signed by the Applicant, and a parent or guardian if the Applicant is under the age of 18.

SCHOLARSHIP + TAX INFORMATION - If you would like to send tax information via email, please scan and send as a PDF. If scanned documents are illegible, we will ask you to resend via mail. You may black out any sensitive information such as SSNs.

UPLOAD AUDITION VIDEO TO YOUTUBE - Once you have completed your audition video(s), you are to upload it (them) directly to YouTube. Please reach out to Vail Jazz if you have any difficulty uploading your video(s) to Youtube. When you have completed posting your audition video(s), email the link(s) to workshop@vailjazz.org. If you are sending the link(s) separately from your application, state in your email, your name and instrument.

PHOTOGRAPH - At the time you email your completed Application to Vail Jazz you must also email a current **HIGH RESOLUTION** photograph of you (head shot or playing your instrument) that will be used for publicity purposes.

TO RETURN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION/TAX INFORMATION BY MAIL:

The Application must be signed by the Applicant and a parent or guardian if the Applicant is under the age of 18. Please ensure that you have enclosed all application materials: 1) Application form, 2) scholarship and tax information, if applicable, and 3) photograph. All audition videos must be submitted electronically. All mailed application materials must be postmarked no later than April 30, 2021 for the Application to be considered, and mailed to:

VAIL JAZZ FOUNDATION, PO BOX 3035, VAIL, CO 81658