



# 2022 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 2022 Vail Jazz will celebrate the 27<sup>th</sup> 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 that allows them to maximize their learning experience, including jazz-rap sessions that allow the instructors 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 27, 2022, with students returning home on Labor Day, Monday, September 5, 2022.**

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

To be eligible to attend the 2022 Vail Jazz Workshop, all selected Applicants must supply proof of receiving complete COVID vaccination and booster shots at least two weeks prior to the start of the Workshop. While it is anticipated that the Workshop can be organized and presented in compliance with all health regulations and safety protocols in effect at the time the Workshop is held, 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 related issues, the Workshop will be presented virtually. It should be noted that in 2020 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 students can develop their own techniques and voices. The faculty is comprised of:

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

## 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 homeschooled 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 residents 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 5, 2022. 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. 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 Applicants should have a technical command of their instruments, 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) an [online application](#) and 2) a 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, if applicable (as described below). In addition, an Applicant must comply with the audition requirements (also described below). **The deadline for submitting all of the above is Friday, April 4, 2022.**

## **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 the Applicant's musical studies, performance experience and other relevant information that establishes that the Applicant is qualified to attend the Workshop. **Before naming a reference, the Applicant should contact the proposed reference and seek permission to list the individual as the Applicant's reference and request the reference to complete and submit the required [recommendation form](#).**

## **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, all Workshop classes, and 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 one 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. Under these circumstances, if you are selected, you will be responsible for paying for your transportation and \$2,500 towards the cost of the Workshop.** You may also provide us with 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:

<b>TOTAL FAMILY GROSS INCOME:</b>	<b>STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:</b>
<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 ONLINE APPLICATION**

*Please use the detailed instructions below as a guide for completing the [Application](#), which can be found at <https://vailjazz.org/education/vj-workshop/>. Once completed, attach all required files and hit "submit."*

### **BIOGRAPHY**

Provide a short biography (200 words or less) listing place of birth, hobbies and non-musical activities, community service activities you have participated in, future educational plans, and any other information 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 experiences 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 admitted students to payback their "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. You will need to attach to the Application a copy of page one 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 as an attachment to the Application, 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. The audition video may be submitted after submission of the Application, provided it is submitted before the expiration of the deadline.

In some cases below, an instructor has made suggestions of minimum preparation required for participation in the Workshop. At a minimum, you should 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. Before you begin playing at the beginning of your audition video, **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 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 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 three choruses (one melody, and two improvised on the medium and uptempo tunes) or two choruses (ballads: one chorus of melody and one improvised).
5. If you are auditioning 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 one.
4. While at the Workshop, you will need to know and be able to play the following: (i) major scales in all keys, two octaves; and (ii) harmonic minor scales in all keys, two 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 it should only be for one tune if you want to use one.
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": "Autumn Leaves" and four choruses improv; (iii) up-tempo rhythm changes in "Bb": any head ("Anthropology") and three 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 five standards that you will be able to play in all 12 keys by the beginning of the Workshop.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING THE ONLINE 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 4, 2022.** Vail Jazz will confirm receipt of all application materials and notify Applicants when the application process is complete. **Final selections will be announced on Wednesday, June 1, 2022.**

The Application form is a Google form and is designed to be completed online. The form contains specific instructions on how to print out the form so that you may retain a copy for your records.

**APPLICATION FORM** – When you have completed your Application form and submitted it, an email will be generated and sent to whomever you designate as your parent or guardian. The designated parent/guardian **MUST** reply to the email they receive for your Application to be considered. Therefore, the Applicant must enter the complete name and email address of the designated parent/guardian in the Application as requested, and the returned email from the designated parent/guardian must be received as confirmation of approval of the Application. Any questions about the application process or difficulties encountered submitting the Application and/or supporting documents should be sent to [workshop@vailjazz.org](mailto:workshop@vailjazz.org).

**SCHOLARSHIP + TAX INFORMATION** – If you would prefer to send page one of your family’s most recent 1040 Federal Tax return via email, please scan and save it as a PDF file. You may black out any sensitive information such as SS#s, etc. The PDF file should be attached to an email sent to [workshop@vailjazz.org](mailto:workshop@vailjazz.org) and clearly identify the name of the Applicant for which the information is being submitted.

**UPLOAD AUDITION VIDEO TO YOUTUBE** - Once you have completed your audition videos, you are to upload them directly to YouTube. If you have any difficulty uploading your videos to YouTube, please contact Vail Jazz at [workshop@vailjazz.org](mailto:workshop@vailjazz.org). As mentioned above, you can elect to submit your audition videos after you have submitted your Application. If you have completed and uploaded your audition videos to YouTube when you are submitting your Application, attach the link(s) to your Application when prompted. If, instead, you are submitting your audition videos after you have submitted your Application, you may send the file mentioned above to [workshop@vailjazz.org](mailto:workshop@vailjazz.org).

**PHOTOGRAPH** - You are required to attach to your Application a current high-resolution photograph of you (head-shot or playing your instrument) that will be used for publicity purposes if you are admitted to the Workshop.

As mentioned above, if you encounter any difficulties submitting your Application and/or supporting documentation or have questions about any of these instructions, please contact Vail Jazz at [workshop@vailjazz.org](mailto:workshop@vailjazz.org). You can also contact Donna Arnold, Administrative Coordinator, at 970-476-6146.