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3-15-2014

## Jazz at Lincoln Center: "Essentially Ellington" Regional High School Jazz and Band Festival (2014)

Jazz Heritage Orchestra, Cleveland State University

Dennis Reynolds

Black Studies Program, Cleveland State University

Michael R. Williams

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# JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER

## Essentially Ellington Regional High School Jazz Band & Festival



I would like to personally thank you for attending the 3rd Annual “Jazz at Lincoln Center”.

I wish to thank members of the Jazz Heritage Orchestra. Your dedication and loyalty has been a major driving force in keeping the late Dr. Howard A. Mims’ dream alive. He wanted an orchestra that would work to preserve the heritage of jazz. Members of JHO has worked hard to achieve that goal.

I want to thank the CSU Provost Office and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for their assistance in sponsoring this event. Their generous support played a major role in presenting this outstanding program.

I want to thank all the Black Studies Advisory Board volunteers who lent their time and talent. Your support did not go unnoticed. Without you this event would have been much more difficult to manage. Thank you to Ms. Johnstone for the flyer and program design and CSU Duplicating Department for the professional flyers and program booklets.

Finally, I wish to thank each of the bands who participated. Gabriel Horns, True North Big Band, Shaw High Rhythm Teen Band, Jams-Jazz @ Music Settlement I, Jams-Jazz @ Music Settlement II and TRI-C West.

I look forward to seeing you next year!

—Dr. Michael R. Williams, Director, CSU Black Studies Program

# JAZZ HERITAGE ORCHESTRA HISTORY



Mr. Dennis Reynolds  
Artistic Director

On June 11, 1988, the late Dr. Howard A. Mims, Black Studies Program Director, convened a meeting of professional jazz musicians. The meeting included the following individuals: the late Neal Creque, Dennis Bradley Reynolds, Marcus Belgrave and Dr. Larry Simpson and other notable jazz supporters. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the viability of CSU Black Studies Program sponsoring a professional jazz orchestra within its organizational structure.

In subsequent meetings, several actions were taken to establish the orchestra. First, the initial exploratory group was expanded which resulted in the creation of the advisory board. Second, the newly created Advisory Board decided to name the jazz band: The Jazz Heritage Orchestra. Third, JHO's mission was established: to preserve and perpetuate the musical heritage of the great African American jazz masters who were the primary creators and innovators of the art form known as jazz. A special JHO focus would be to target and educate school age African American as well as the general public about the significance of jazz. A fourth step was taken in the naming of Dennis Reynolds to serve as JHO artistic director.

JHO became one of the six instruments that comprise the Black Studies Program. The other five instruments are as follows: 1) Academic Program-Black Studies Bachelor of Arts and minor; 2) Howard A. Mims African American Cultural Center; 3) Lecture, Arts and Media Series; 4) Images Radio Forum and 5) Black Aspirations.

Under the direction of the late Dr. Mims, Dennis Reynolds and current Black Studies Program director Dr. Michael Williams JHO has become one the nation's premier jazz big bands. JHO credits include performing with notable jazz giants Clark Terry, Nancy Wilson, Benny Golson, and Vanessa Rubin. JHO has performed with Maya Angelou and Cleveland celebrities Kia Allen and Evelyn Wright. In addition to the many performances JHO has recorded two cads: "Steppin' Out" and "Bouncy With Benny".



JHO has stayed true to its original mission by conducting master classes for school age children. Prior to each concert JHO band members offer instruction and advice to young musicians. JHO has reached hundreds of young musicians during its existence. Many of the young musicians have gone on to form their own bands, play in/lead other great bands or play with JHO. The young musicians touched by JHO have continued to preserve the culture and history of jazz.

# JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER



Tonight's Jazz at Lincoln: "Essentially Ellington" Jazz Band Festival is part of a nationally sponsored event. Each year Winton Marsalis' Jazz at Lincoln Center conducts a national competition to recognize the nation's best performing youth jazz bands. The competition is designed to preserve and promote the appreciation of jazz among the country young musicians. Bands, from tonight's performances will be recommended to participate in final national competition held at the Jazz at Lincoln Center located in New York City, New York.

Cleveland State University Black Studies Program has been selected to serve as one the four national host sites. The selection was based upon the work that JHO do with region's young musicians. JHO is recognized as having some the nation's finest musicians and educators that freely share instruction, inspiration and guidance with young musicians and teachers.

Mr. Todd Stoll, a former JHO member, now serves as the Jazz at Lincoln Center Director of Education. He serves as both an advisor and evaluator of the CSU efforts. He assists greatly in maintaining the high expectations of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Program. It is through his and JHO efforts that CSU remains in excellent standing with the national program.

# 3RD ANNUAL JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER

## Essentially Ellington Regional High School Jazz Band & Festival

Saturday, March 15, 2014 | 5:00PM - 8:00PM

### PROGRAM

Gabriel Horns.....Director: James May  
True North Big Band.....Director: Eric Dregne  
Shaw High Rhythm Teen Band.....Director: Randy Woods  
Jams-Jazz @ Music Settlement I.....Director: Dennis Reynolds  
Jams-Jazz @ Music Settlement II.....Director: Ken Legrande  
TRI-C West.....Director: Chris Scott

### INTERMISSION

Jazz Heritage Orchestra.....Director: Dennis Reynolds

### BAND MEMBERS

Dennis Bradley Reynolds – Artist Director

Tom First  
Eric Dregne  
Eddie Bayard  
Derrick Gardner  
James Pisano  
James Tinsley  
Chris Burge  
Mike Wade

Earlie Braggs  
Glen Holmes  
Chris Anderson  
Bobby Frarazza  
Sam Blakeslee  
Dennis Mackrel  
Shea Pierre

### 2014 CSU BLACK STUDIES PROGRAM ADVISORY MEMBERS

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# THE RICH LEGACY OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA



## CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY BLACK STUDIES PROGRAM

Dr. Michael R. Williams, Director  
Prester Pickett, MFA, Coordinator  
Jason Moore, MA, MRE, Secretary



## MISSION STATEMENT

To provide Cleveland State University and Cleveland communities with opportunities to acquire greater knowledge and appreciation of the history, life, all aspects of the arts, culture and experiences of peoples of African descent.

**The Black Studies Program carries out its mission  
through the following six instruments:**

### **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

Black Studies Program Major  
Black Studies Program Minor

### **HOWARD A. MIMS AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER**

Bridges to Africa Panel Discussions  
Curtis Wilson Colloquium Series  
Kuumba Arts Exhibits  
Umoja Round-tables

### **BLACK ASPIRATIONS CELEBRATIONS**

Week-long Event of Cultural Arts and Contemporary Issues

### **IMAGES PUBLIC AFFAIRS RADIO FORUM**

WERE 1490 AM - Sunday 10:00 a.m.  
WCSB 89.3 FM - Wednesday 12:00 noon

### **JAZZ HERITAGE ORCHESTRA**

Professional Orchestra In-residence  
Available for Concerts, Master Classes  
Educational Seminars and Clinics

### **HOWARD A. MIMS LECTURE, ARTS & MEDIA SERIES**

Outstanding Speakers, Performing Artists,  
Graphics Artists, Video and Film



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To become a Patron or Sponsor of the Black Studies Program  
please contact 216.687.3655 or [blackstudies@csuohio.edu](mailto:blackstudies@csuohio.edu)

Program booklet designed by CJ  
[Behance.net/Jay\\_Designs](http://Behance.net/Jay_Designs)