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Jazz Heritage Orchestra

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Jazz at Lincoln Center: "Essentially Ellington" Regional High School Jazz and Band Festival (2013)

Jazz Heritage Orchestra, Cleveland State University

Dennis Reynolds

Black Studies Program, Cleveland State University

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Cleveland State University
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Jazz at Lincoln Center

Essentially Ellington Regional High School Jazz Band and Festival

Saturday, March 16, 2013 7:00 p.m.

Cleveland State University Main Classroom Auditorium

Featuring

Jazz Heritage Orchestra

Camden, New Jersey Public Schools

Cleveland Metropolitan School District Jazz Workshop

Cleveland School of the Arts

East Cleveland Public Schools

Music Settlement

Youngstown Public Schools



Sponsored By

Cleveland State University Black Studies Program

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Provost Office

Jazz at Lincoln Center

Jazz Heritage Orchestra History

Howard A. Mims, Ph.D., founder and founding managing director of the Jazz Heritage Orchestra

The Jazz Heritage Orchestra was founded by the late *Dr. Howard A. Mims*, for director of the Black Studies Program. Dr. Mims established the Jazz Heritage Orchestra in residence in the Black Studies Program at Cleveland State University and served as its first Managing Director, overseeing their first recording project “Steppin’ Out.”

On June 11, 1998, Dr. Mims, as director of Cleveland State University’s Black Studies Program, convened a meeting of professional jazz musicians and jazz enthusiasts, including the late *Neal Creque*, *Dennis Bradley Reynolds*, *Marcus Belgrave*, *Dr. Larry Simpson* and others, to discuss the viability of Cleveland State University’s Black Studies Program sponsoring a professional jazz orchestra within its organizational structure. In a subsequent meeting, this exploratory group expanded and evolved into an advisory board. The name, Jazz Heritage Orchestra (JHO), was decided on for this proposed professional jazz orchestra. It was agreed that a major mission of the JHO would be 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 of jazz. A special mission of the JHO would be to target and educate school age African Americans as well as the general public about this music. Later, in the spring of 1998, and using as the model the *Cleveland Chamber Symphony*, a professional orchestra devoted to performing new music, established in residence in the Music Department of Cleveland State University, Dr. Mims established the JHO in residence in the Black Studies Program of Cleveland State University (CSU). With this commitment on his part as a Black Studies Director, the JHO became one of five instruments of the mission of the Black Studies Program at CSU: (1) Academic, (2) African American Cultural Center, (3) Lecture, Arts and Media Series, (4) “Images”, a 30-minute radio show, and (5) the Jazz Heritage Orchestra. Dr. Mims proceeded to write the mission statement of the JHO. As founder JHO and director of the Black Studies Program, he assumed the responsibilities of Managing Director of the JHO and assigned the Black Studies Coordinator of Administrative Services as Assistant Managing Director of the JHO. Dr. Mims invited *Dennis Bradley Reynolds* to serve as Artistic Director of the JHO, a position which he accepted. Thus, was

Jazz Heritage Orchestra History

established the structure for the operation and support of the JHO in the Black Studies Program of CSU. The JHO is unique in being the only professional jazz orchestra in residence in a university Black Studies Program or Department. Its potential for cultural outreach and impact is tremendous within the greater Cleveland community and beyond.

Since its inception, the JHO has performed a series of concerts at CSU, Tri-C Martin Luther King Celebration, the United Black Fund Annual Celebration, Severance Hall's "Day of Music", Playhouse Square's "PALOOZA", and the Tri-C Jazz Fest of 1999. An educational encounter has been funded by United Black Fund for the East Cleveland Public Schools as well as a second workshop/concert funded by the East Cleveland Board of Education. The JHO has performed with such jazz greats as Benny Golston, Clark Terry, Vanessa Rubin and Nancy Wilson.



Late Dr. Howard A. Mims
Founder



Mr. Dennis Reynolds
Artistic Director

Jazz at Lincoln Center

Essentially Ellington Jazz Band and Festival

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

Cleveland State Black Studies Program was selected as one of the five national host sites because of the outstanding work of the Jazz Heritage Orchestra. JHO is considered one of the top big band jazz orchestras in the country. JHO members are rated among the nation's finest jazz educators and musicians.

Under the direction of Dennis Reynolds, JHO has performed with such national jazz greats as Clark Terry, Benny Golson, Nancy Wilson and Vanessa Rubin. They have opened for the legendary poet Maya Angelou. They have also performed with local jazz greats Kia Allen and Evelyn Wright.

JHO has recorded two cds. The first cd is entitled Steppin' Out. The second is entitled "Bouncing with Benny". The latter cd will be released later this year and is the only Benny Golson big band recording. The exclusive rights to this legendary and historical cd belongs to Cleveland State University Black Studies Program.

JHO's work with young musicians is an equally important reason why it was chosen as a host site. JHO band educators takes great pride in working with all young musicians with a special attention paid to inner-city youth. Before each JHO performance, band members conduct at least a day of extensive master classes with young musicians. It is JHO's mission to impart the heritage of jazz music to young people. Jazz at Lincoln Center took note of JHO's work and selected it as a host site in 2012.

2nd Annual Jazz at Lincoln Center

Essentially Ellington Regional High School Jazz Band and Festival
Saturday, March 16, 2013 • 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Program

Cleveland Music Settlement (Jams II)
Band Director: Ken LeGrande

East Cleveland City Schools-Heritage Middle School
Band Director: Rany Woods

Cleveland School of the Arts
Jazz Band-Band Director: Robert Davis

Cleveland Music Settlement (Jams I)
Band Director: Dennis Bradley Reynolds

Camden New Jersey Creative Arts Morgan Village Academy
Band Director Jamal Dickerson



Intermission

Cleveland State University Jazz Heritage Orchestra

Selected Upcoming Events

May 30-June 2, 2013: International Urban Peace, Justice and Empowerment Summit

June 8, 2013: Black History Month in June Parade

June 15-16: Juneteenth Celebration: African Dance and Drum Conference

June 30, 2013: Rhythm and Blues Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Save the Date: November 16, 2013: Treasurers of Jazz

Special Announcement

The Black Studies Program is proud to announce that Jazz Heritage Orchestra will be in Summer Residence at the Northman Grove Art Settlement located in Conneaut, Ohio. JHO will work in collaboration with Mr. Norris Kelly, the Settlement's CEO.

Jazz at Lincoln Center

Essentially Ellington Regional High School Jazz Band and Festival

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

I would like to personally thank you for attending the 2nd 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 Altogether Marketing 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. Cleveland Music Settlement (Jams II), East Cleveland City Schools-Heritage Middle School, Cleveland School of the Arts, Cleveland Music Settlement (Jams I), and the Camden New Jersey Creative Arts Morgan Village Academy

I look forward to seeing you next year!

—*Michael Williams*



2nd Annual Jazz at Lincoln Center

Essentially Ellington Regional High School Jazz and Band Festival

Cleveland State University Black Studies Program

Dr. Michael Williams, Director

Prester Pickett, MFA, Coordinator

Jason Moore, MA, MRE, Secretary

The Rich Legacy of the African Diaspora

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 Roundtables

Black Aspirations Celebration

Weeklong 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

To become a Patron or Sponsor of the Black Studies Program please contact 216.687.3655 or blackstudies@csuohio.edu