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Registration for Virtual 2021 National Jazz Festival is Open; Festival to Return to Philadelphia Convention Center in 2022

PHILADELPHIA — The National Jazz Festival committee officially opened registration for the 2021 National Jazz Festival, the largest East Coast educational high school jazz festival, on Monday.

Unlike the inaugural festival last year, the 2021 Festival will be totally virtual. Band directors should register on the festival's [website](#) by April 1. The deadline for performance submissions is May 1.

High school and middle school musicians will compete in a variety of categories, including instrumental and vocal ensemble, pop-based a cappella, and jazz vocal solo.

The 2021 National Jazz Festival will air live on [YouTube](#) on Saturday, May 22.

For sponsorship and advertising opportunities, contact Addie O'Beirne at addie@nationaljazzfestival.org or (404) 861-1141.

The National Jazz Festival will return to in-person competition in 2022 on Saturday, March 12, at the Philadelphia Convention Center. Sponsorship, exhibitor tables, advertising, and volunteer opportunities are available. For more information, email info@nationaljazzfestival.org.

About the National Jazz Festival

The inaugural National Jazz Festival took place on February 15, 2020, in historic Philadelphia. Hosting 1,200 high school and middle school jazz musicians from 11 states, as well as Puerto Rico, the event was run and organized solely by volunteers and made possible by a grant from the Waterman II Fund of the Philadelphia Foundation and donations from businesses and music lovers alike. Registration fees for schools were kept to a minimum, and admission was free and open to the general public.

The National Jazz Festival was created by instrumental and vocal jazz directors, caring parents, supportive jazz musicians, and avid jazz supporters in an effort to fill the void of a lack of a major national jazz festival with an educational philosophy. Upon the cancellation of other festivals, the National Jazz Festival team saw a need to create an event that allows thousands of students to continue to share their talents and hard work with their peers from around the country.

The festival executive committee is led by President Joe Bongiovi, the director of the Philadelphia Jazz Orchestra and the band director at Princeton (NJ) High School. Amanda Kewley is the Executive Director, and Addie O'Beirne is the Managing Director of Development. The Honorary Board includes [Randy Brecker](#), distinguished jazz trumpeter and composer, a Philadelphia native and brother to the late Michael Brecker, as well as [Marc Dicciani](#), Dean of the College of the Performing Arts at the University of the Arts. The National Jazz Festival is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

More details can be found at <http://www.nationaljazzfestival.org/>

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