



Quality programs that inform, involve and inspire

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**KCTS 9's *Jazz Alive!* series showcases award-winning
Western Washington high school jazz ensembles**

SEATTLE, WA — The formidable talents of six of Western Washington's premier high school jazz ensembles are showcased in the new KCTS 9 series ***Jazz Alive!***, airing Sundays at 10:30 p.m. beginning July 5. Featuring performances taped recently in the KCTS 9 studio, ***Jazz Alive!*** celebrates the impressive achievements that have resulted from the long hours, hard work and team-building effort that each group of young musicians has invested in order to become a great, award-winning jazz band. The series also underscores the important role that music education can play in shaping our youth, and is a continuation of KCTS 9's commitment to providing long-form arts programming to the community.

Each of the ensembles appearing in ***Jazz Alive!*** has participated in Jazz at Lincoln Center's *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival—the ultimate performance event for high school jazz ensembles from across North America. Two of the bands featured in ***Jazz Alive!*** have taken first place, one has earned honorable mention, and three have been named finalists in the prestigious annual contest. In this year's *Essentially Ellington* competition, held May 9–10, two of the ensembles—from Seattle's Garfield and Roosevelt high schools—finished in first and second place, respectively.

The ***Jazz Alive!*** lineup is as follows:

- **Sunday, July 5: Garfield High School, Seattle.** Three-time winners of the *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival (2003, 2004, 2009), with more than a dozen first-place finishes in the Reno Jazz Festival. Director: Clarence Acox
- **Sunday, July 12: Shorewood High School, Shoreline.** First-place winners in the Reno Jazz Festival for four consecutive years (2005–2009); winners of the *DownBeat* Student Music Award in the category of "High School Big Band, Outstanding Performance" (2009); recipients of the Honorable Mention Band award in the *Essentially Ellington* competition (2005, 2008). Director: Paul Harshman
- **Sunday, July 19: Newport High School, Bellevue.** Recognized as First Place AAAA Jazz Band in the Bellevue Jazz Festival (2009); *Essentially Ellington* competition finalists (2006, 2009). Director: Matt Eisenhauer
- **Sunday, July 26: Edmonds-Woodway High School, Edmonds.** *Essentially Ellington* competition finalists (2003, 2007); winners of an Adjudicators' Choice Award in the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival (2009). Director: Jake Bergevin

- **Sunday, August 9: Roosevelt High School, Seattle.** Three-time *Essentially Ellington* competition winners (2002, 2007, 2008); recognized as Outstanding High School Instrumental Ensemble and as first-place winners in the "AA High School Band" category of the Reno Jazz Festival (2009); recipients of Special Recognition for Outstanding Performance in the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival (2009). Director: Scott Brown
- **Sunday, August 16: Mountlake Terrace High School, Mountlake Terrace.** *Essentially Ellington* competition finalists (2000, 2002, 2005, 2008); recipients of an Adjudicators' Special Commendation in the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival (2008). Director: Darin Faul

Featuring performances of numbers ranging from the dreamily romantic "I've Never Been in Love Before" and the Duke Ellington jazz standard "Don't Get Around Much Anymore" to *tango nuevo* composer Astor Piazzolla's "Libertango" and the swinging "Symphony in Riffs," ***Jazz Alive!*** puts the spotlight on a new generation of exceptional jazz musicians. Without a doubt, these talented teens have made the Northwest proud by bringing ***Jazz Alive.***

Following its broadcast on KCTS 9, each episode of ***Jazz Alive!*** will be available online at KCTS9.org, as well as through Comcast on Demand for Comcast digital cable subscribers.

Jazz Alive! is a KCTS 9 Television production. Producer: Dan Dumas. Director: Don LaCombe. Executive Producer: Jay Parikh. Funding for the series is provided by Symetra Financial, KPLU 88.5 and Members of KCTS 9.

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The KCTS 9 mission is to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve by providing meaningful programming on air, online and in the community that informs, involves and inspires.