

51st Morningside Jazz Festival

February 6–9, 2024

Director Information

Please read all information as there have been changes implemented from past festivals.

General Info

- 1A bands will perform Tuesday, February 6
- 2A bands will perform Thursday, February 8
- 3A bands will perform Wednesday, February 7
- 4A bands will perform Friday, February 9

Application & Festival Fees

- If you are bringing multiple groups, please fill out an [application](#) for each. Payments may be submitted together. You will receive an invoice from Kristal Grisgby in our music office.
- Fees and Deadlines:
 - **\$230:** payment received by **11/1/2023**
 - **\$250:** payment received after **11/1/2023** (pending availability)
- *Please note that no refunds will be given after January 12, 2024. Morningside University rarely closes due to inclement weather.*
- Registrations will be processed in the order they are received and based on availability of performance times.
- If you have questions regarding your application, submission, or receipt, please contact Dr. Erik Mahon at mahone@morningside.edu or (712) 274-5239.

Arrival

- Upon arrival, please check in at the table in the Eppley lobby and turn in any remaining paperwork (personnel/soloist forms, music selections).
- A Morningside representative will meet your band and serve as a guide, making sure you and your band get to where they need to be and on time.
- The upstairs lobby area has designated space for cases, backpacks, jackets, etc.
- Bands that arrive early can store large items and rhythm section gear on the main level.

Warm-up Rooms

- Bands will use Room 100 as a warm-up space; see the daily schedules for warm-up timing.
- Equipment provided in warm-up room:
 - Chairs and music stands
 - Power supply for amps, etc...
 - Baby grand piano
 - Vibraphone
 - Note: amps and drum set **not** supplied for warm-up room

Performance Venue

- Eugene C. Eppley Memorial Auditorium will host all the performances throughout the festival, including M Avenue's daily mini concerts and the daily award ceremonies.
- Bands are allotted a *total* of 30 minutes on stage: this includes set-up, performance, and tear down. Most groups play three selections, depending on length – *please plan accordingly and do not attempt to surpass 30 minutes!*
- Equipment provided in Eppley Auditorium for performance:
 - Chairs and music stands (note: only chairs, no stools)
 - 9' concert grand Steinway
 - Risers for trumpets and trombones
 - Vibraphone
- Professional audio production is provided with multiple wireless mics

Clinic

- Directly after your performance, a Morningside representative will guide your band to Room 226 where they will receive a ~25-minute clinic from one of our guest clinicians.
- Equipment provided in clinic room:
 - Chairs and music stands
 - Yamaha Clavinova electric keyboard
 - Bass & guitar amps
 - Drum set
 - Vibraphone

Bands will need to bring their own performance drum set (and cymbals), as well as performance amps. Any auxiliary percussion instruments (other than vibraphone) must be supplied by the attending band. The Morningside Jazz Festival will not supply any additional sound equipment, saxophone fronts, music folders, copying services, and/or instrument parts (reeds, mouthpieces, mutes, oil, etc.).

Awards

- Awards will be presented after the last band in each class has performed and received a clinic:
 - 1A Awards – Tuesday, 5:40pm
 - 2A Awards – Thursday, 6:40pm
 - 3A Awards – Wednesday, 6:40pm
 - 4A Awards – Friday, 5:40pm
- Trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishes within each class.
- One framed Outstanding Musician/Soloist award will be given to a deserving student in each class as determined by the adjudication panel.
- At the conclusion of the awards ceremony, adjudication packets, trophies, and any outstanding soloist or musicianship certificates will be disbursed. Judge and clean recordings will be shared via Google Drive.

M Avenue Mini Concerts

M Avenue Jazz will present a midday mini concert each day. These ~20-minute concerts will feature some of the festival clinicians and adjudicators. Please consider attending these mini concerts when making travel plans.

Scoring

Three qualified adjudicators will score each band (attending for competition) out of 100 points and in the following categories:

- Ensemble (30)
- Rhythm Section (25)
- Style Comprehension (10)
- Improvisation/Solos (25)
- Programming (10)

The Morningside Jazz Festival uses the ordinal points scoring system. At the conclusion of each day, judge's scores are totaled and ordered, and finish place of each band from each judge is added together. For example, a band that was unanimously first place from all three judges (1st place x 3) would receive three (3) ordinal points and thus finish first in that class.

At the conclusion of each day, I will share the top three finishes in each class along with their total ordinal points. I will share individual band placements with ordinal points privately with directors after the conclusion of the festival, if requested. At the conclusion of the festival, the complete results will be sent to the Iowa Jazz Championships for consideration.

The Morningside Jazz Festival and Morningside University are not responsible for any equipment or personal belongings either stolen or lost while left unattended. We will provide designated areas for instrument case storage and rhythm section equipment that will be clearly marked. In the interest of safety and security, please encourage your students to keep valuables either on their person or left on the bus.