

# JAZZ BIG BAND COURSE 2025

## Newpark Academy of Music

**Venue:** The Complex Arts Centre, Dublin City,

21-25 Arran St E, Dublin 7, D07 YY97

**Dates:** June 30<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> 3:00 – 6:00pm daily

*(apart from Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> Rehearsal from 1-5pm )*

### OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

There is a vast musical and social history of jazz music and it's development, The Newpark Academy of Music continues to contribute to this ever changing and exciting musical genre. We are delighted to offer music students from all backgrounds the opportunity to apply for our 2023 Summer Big Band Jazz Camp. Students will establish a strong theoretical and stylistic foundation with regards to improvisation and performance within a Large Jazz Ensemble.

There will be an emphasis on the development of the student's individual expression and creativity. The repertoire covered throughout the week will cover selected pieces from the Big Band era performed by Ellington, Basie and more. Led by the highly experienced Big Band Leader & Saxophonist **Brendan Doyle** the faculty will also include some of the leading exponents of Jazz music from Ireland, such as pianist **Scott Flanigan**, Trombonist **Colm O'Hara &** Trumpeter **Michael Barkley**. The final evening of the camp will culminate with a concert at the Irish Museum of Modern Art in Kilmainham. The NMA Big Band Camp is the only available summer course of its kind in Ireland and will give you the tools to improve your professional performance ability in an ensemble, increase playing opportunities in the future and create a unique networking environment within the music community.

## DETAILS ON THE NMA BIG BAND SUMMER CAMP

- From Monday to Thursday sessions will run for 3 hours from 3-6pm. On Friday there will be a full-band rehearsal also from 3-6pm, finishing with a 3 hour rehearsal on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> of July from 1-5pm. On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> of July The NMA Big Band will perform an outdoor concert at the Irish Museum of Modern Art in Kilmmainham. The Concert will commence at 3pm for 1-hour and is Free to the public to attend.
- Good musical fundamentals will be taught involving listening to your section and across the ensemble.
- Musical Instruction will address lead playing, section playing, improvising, and understanding the “mapping” of a big band composition/arrangement.
- The goal is to have fun, work hard, improve a great deal, acquire new skills, and give you the opportunity to network and improve your performance abilities within a jazz orchestra/large jazz ensemble.
- **Course Fee:** The cost for the weeklong Camp is €355. The fee must be paid in full before the start date of the course. All charts, rhythm backline, music stands will be supplied by the Complex Arts Centre.

## **APPLYING TO THE BIG BAND SUMMER CAMP**

The NMA Jazz Summer Camp is open to juniors from age 15 and adults. Applicants must have the appropriate background and performance experience, and be committed to the schedule and timetable set out for the duration of the course. The number of students on the program will be limited due to the nature of instrumentation required for a Large Ensemble. Placement on the course is by audition. This will be a highly competitive process. Preparation is integral to success.

## **AUDITIONS & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

- Due to the limited spaces available we ask that each student interested in participating attends Newpark Academy of Music on Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> between 1.30pm & 6pm, your audition time will be assigned to you in advance.
- For those unable to attend, a recording of yourself playing is also acceptable. Your application must also include a current music CV giving detail on experience. The audition materials required are listed below and can be emailed to: [jazz@newparkmusic.ie](mailto:jazz@newparkmusic.ie)
- Recordings can be done by making a simple “voice memos” recording from your iPhone or android phone. In many cases the “voice memos” app is already included on the phone.

- You can often email the recording file directly from your phone or send to your computer and then attach it to an email. You can choose to use background tracks or play unaccompanied when making your recordings.
- **Recordings must be submitted by 5pm on April 5<sup>th</sup>.**
- Each musician will be asked to demonstrate their reading skills, awareness of jazz styles, comping skill (rhythm section) and improvising skill (optional).
- A short interview will be conducted with the adjudicating panel on completion of your performance.

### **Saxophones, Trumpets, Trombones, Guitar, Piano.**

- **Play the melody:** A jazz standard of your choice. Preferably with a 32 bar form. Blues Heads are also accepted.
- **Improvising** : record a one chorus solo on the standard of your choosing and perform the melody once again afterwards. You can play unaccompanied or use a background track.
- In addition to the above feel free to demonstrate any Latin and/or  $\frac{3}{4}$  tunes you wish. (*optional*)

## RHYTHM SECTION

- Play “time” with a swing feel for 2 chorus’ of a blues (12 bar form) at  $1/4\text{note} = 160$ . You can play/record unaccompanied or use a bass track.
- Play “time” in a Bossa Nova style for 32 bars at  $1/4\text{note} = 132$ . You can play/record unaccompanied or use a background track.
- Using a 12-bar blues form, record 2 chorus’ as follows:
  - Chorus 1: time 4 bars/solo 4 bars/time 4 bars
  - Chorus 2: solo 4 bars/time 4 bars/solo 4 bars
- In addition to the above feel free to demonstrate any Latin and/or  $3/4$  grooves you wish. (optional)

## **COURSE TIMETABLE**

To facilitate the best learning experience individual sections will rehearse on different nights. The following is a provisional timetable for the week:

### **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> of June 3-6pm**

Horn Section Rehearsal with Tutor – Brendan Doyle

(parts will be supplied in advance of the rehearsals/workshops).

### **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> of July 3-6pm**

Rhythm Section rehearsal with Tutor Scott Flanigan

### **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 3-6pm**

Horn Section rehearsal with Tutor Brendan Doyle.

### **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 3-6pm**

Rhythm Section rehearsal with Tutor Scott Flanigan

### **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> of July 3-6pm**

Full Band Rehearsal with Big Band Leader Brendan Doyle

### **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> of July 1-5pm**

Full Band Rehearsal with Brendan Doyle

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> of July Soundcheck 1pm - Concert 3pm**

Concert Performance at The Irish Museum of Modern Art in Kilmainham with other notable professional Jazz Musicians such as Trumpeter Michael Barkley and Trombonist Colm O'Hara.