



## 2025 Monterey Jazz Festival HBCU Jazz Combo Challenge Guidelines

### 1. Eligibility:

- a. HBCU jazz combo groups only: A HBCU combo group means a group of **three to ten** college jazz musicians who currently attend Historically Black Colleges or Universities (HBCU)
- b. All jazz band members must represent a HBCU school and be actively enrolled in the school at the time of competition.
- c. Jazz combos must be under the supervision of their schools' jazz faculty members

### 2. Registration:

- a. A link to the registration/application form will be available on the MJF website. The band director of each participating jazz ensemble will be required to sign up and provide required information. Please provide social media tags for your school (Instagram, Twitter, Facebook...etc) when you fill out the registration form.
- b. Registered jazz combos will need to **submit a video of their performance as well as a completed personnel list and set list by December 13,2024**
- c. **Performance videos must be uploaded via the following file upload request link:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/HT2jobXawV8ouvm0EF1U>



### 3. Performance Standards:

- a. Performance length/time: Each registered ensemble must submit a recorded video of their performance. **The length of the video cannot exceed 15 minutes. Please submit one video file.**
- b. Please do NOT submit any 4K videos or any files with ultra-HD resolution as those will be too large.
- c. **We will only accept MP4 files.**
- d. Groups are encouraged to perform 2-3 charts. Selections should include swing, Latin or contemporary styles.
- e. MJF will upload all the submitted videos to the MJF YouTube Channel for audience voting through a YouTube poll.
- f. Top three bands will be selected based on the results of the poll.
- g. MJF adjudicators will review the three selected videos and select the winner and two "honorable mention ensembles". The three bands will be asked to provide the digital charts of the music that they play in the recorded performances.

### 4. Awards

- a. The winner and the honorable mention ensembles will be announced on MJF's website and all of its social media platforms.
- b. All three bands will receive critiques/feedback from the adjudicators
- c. The winner (only) will be invited to the 68<sup>th</sup> annual Monterey Jazz Festival in September 2025.
- d. The winner will perform for 30 minutes at one of the festival stages.



- e. The winner will also be invited to various special events and activities such as workshops and master classes during the 68<sup>th</sup> annual Monterey Jazz Festival.

**Note: The winning HBCU ensemble will be responsible for travel costs to participate in the 68th Monterey Jazz Festival. This includes roundtrip airfare, ground transportation, meals and hotel accommodations.**