



2026 Triton Jazz Festival General Information

Please take a moment to read through this carefully as some information has changed from last year.

Schedule

The festival schedule will be posted on the festival website as soon as possible following the registration deadline. **Deadline for registering for the 2026 Triton Jazz Festival is December 8, 2025.**

Rules

The Triton Jazz Festival is sanctioned by IHSMA, and complete results will be confidentially provided to the Iowa Jazz Championships following completion of the contest for wildcard considerations.

You will have a **maximum of 25 minutes to set up, perform, and tear down**. Please plan your performance accordingly.

Adjudication will take place by three judges. Rankings will be determined judge's determined ordinal. Ordinal ties will be broken by ballot score totals.

Arrival/Equipment

The Hodges Fieldhouse lobby will be used as staging and storage room for band equipment. Do not block the gym entry doors, and please keep a safe distance from the trophy case. Overflow storage, if necessary, will be allowed in the Decker Auditorium lobby in front of the balcony stair cases. (The balcony will be closed for participants and spectators.) **To minimize the number of bands in the staging room, please do not unload into the staging room any earlier than 90 minutes prior to your performance time.** If you wish to arrive earlier than that, please leave equipment in your vehicles and bring in closer to your performance.

Unloading of equipment takes place just outside the Hodges Fieldhouse entrance. **For safety recommendation, please instruct your bus drivers to arrive to the unloading area facing south while you unload.** This can be achieved by entering the east side of the parking lot (L2), proceeding north along the apartments to turn back south in front of the gym and auditorium. As this will be an active passageway with spectators using the nearby auditorium entrance, please do not park for an extended period of time near the entrance. **Once your group has unloaded, please instruct your drivers and equipment vehicles to immediately move to one of the recommended parking areas for school vehicles. Parking for buses and equipment vehicles is NOT available in the auditorium lot.**

Upon entering the Hodges lobby, **as multiple bands will be utilizing this room, please have your students place their instruments, cases, and belongings together using as minimal floor space as possible.** We may have as many as 4 or 5 bands in the room at the same time, and need to allow for

traffic flow in and out of the room. In the event the staging room is full, please ask as we may have you use an overflow area in the Decker lobby.

As many instruments look similar, please have all of your equipment labeled to avoid confusion of ownership. Please instruct your students to be mindful of other groups utilizing these spaces and the traffic flow areas between rooms. Our student hosts will assist in the movement of bands between areas. Do not leave valuables unattended.

For courtesy of the bands in the warm-up, performance, and clinic rooms, there is NO warming up/instruments to be played in the staging room, Decker lobby or hallway around the auditorium. Please also help us keep conversation volume levels to a minimum.

A general rule to allow for a more efficient traffic flow: please allow bands departing warm-up, performance, or clinic rooms to complete their movements before entering.

Upon arrival, please bring your Personnel Sheets, Soloist Sheets, Stage Diagram, Meal Purchase form and any other forms to the check-in hosts located in the Decker lobby. If you so desire, a student host will conduct a walkthrough of the venue and room layout with you. **CFPA 131** is a director's reception/break room. Utilize the director's room to grab a donut, granola bar and coffee and clear your mind.

Warm-up, Performance and Clinic Locations

CFPA 125 will be used as the warm-up location. Minimal equipment will be available for your use in the warm-up location (stands, chairs, piano, power strip). No drum rug is provided, but the room is carpeted. Groups will be allowed to use the warm-up room starting 30 (thirty) minutes prior to performance time. Please complete departing the warm-up room before 5 (five) minutes prior to your scheduled performance time.

Decker Auditorium will be used as the performance location. Minimal equipment will be available for your use in the performance location (stands, chairs, piano, drum rug, power strip). Stage will be set with two tiers of risers. Please submit a Stage Diagram when you check in. Three wireless solo microphones will be available at the performance location, and the piano will also have a microphone in it. **Solo microphones will utilize Ultimate One-Handed Height Adjustment – just squeeze to easily raise or lower the microphone.** Please allow only Iowa Central designated stage crew to operate auditorium sound equipment.

**** Again this year, we will have ONE set of vibes (Musser M55 3 octave, no motor) to use in the performance area if you would like to not have to bring yours! This will save you room packing, and save us room in the staging room. We will allow for it to be moved to the warm-up room IF the band prior to yours is not using it in performance. Please let us know any questions, and inform us when you arrive if you choose to us it. ****

CFPA 121 will be used as the clinic location. Immediately following your performance, please lead your students from the stage to the clinic location. The traffic flow from the stage performance to the clinic location may intersect with other bands going to warm-up. **Please bring all of your instruments from the performance area to the clinic room.** Like the warm-up room, the clinic room will have stands, chairs, piano, and power strip). No drum rug is provided, but the room is carpeted.

Prior to and following your clinic

We encourage you to and your students to attend other performances. We strive to maintain a professional concert atmosphere for each band, and will not tolerate disruptive behavior in the crowd. Please visit with your students about this expectation. Balcony seating is **closed** for band performances.

As multiple bands will be sharing the staging room, **please pack your cases and other equipment immediately following your clinic.** Even if you are choosing to stay to watch other bands, we ask of you to **load your equipment and instruments back to school vehicles before becoming spectators.**

When choosing to load your vehicles, please instruct your drivers not pull up to the loading/unloading area until your band is ready to load.

Again, a general rule to allow for a more efficient traffic flow: please allow bands departing warm-up, performance, or clinic rooms to complete their movements before entering.

Awards

The Triton Jazz Festival will award 1st – 3rd place trophies for performance in each classification. Outstanding Soloist certificates to individuals will be awarded.

Awards for all classes will be provided 30 minutes after completion of the last band in each class. Adjudication packets will be distributed at this time. Adjudicator recordings will be shared to a Google Drive folder for you to access.

Spectator Parking

Please advise parents and fans to arrive early and to park in the nearest available parking spots. Limited handicapped parking is available immediately outside of the auditorium entrance and nearby buildings. Because classes are in session, the nearest parking will likely be found in the parking ramp, L1, L3 and L10, depending on the time of day, once the auditorium lot is filled. Cars parked not in a parking space or blocking entrances potentially will be ticked/towed.

Restrooms

Men's and women's restrooms for festival spectators can be found in the Decker lobby. **Please advise students wanting to change clothes to use the bathrooms found in the Hodges Fieldhouse lobby, not the Decker lobby.** We recommend that your band members arrive in uniform if at all possible.

Thank you for taking part in our educational event.