

Concert Attendance Requirements

Students are required to attend and review **at least one** live jazz performances this semester. You can choose from the list of suggested on-campus events on the next page. (**FREE rush tickets to most of these events are available for Rutgers students with a valid ID starting 30 minutes prior to the scheduled performance time.**) And if you hear of an event off campus that you would like to attend to satisfy this requirement let me know so I can approve it in advance.

The intended goals of performance attendance include:

- Developing critical listening skills
- Becoming better acquainted with the conventions and practices of live jazz performance
- Observing the ways that jazz performers interact with each other and with their audience

Students are required to write a concert review after the performance. The reviews are intended to foster critical thinking about various elements of the presentation. These can include, but are not limited to:

- Musical Selections – Was there sufficient variety in the program or should there have been more? Did you enjoy the selections you heard or would you have preferred to hear other selections? (If so, what kind of selections?) If the concert had a theme, what relevance did the music that was performed have to that theme?
- Instrumentation – What instruments were used? Would you say that was a traditional or standard grouping of instruments for that style? Were there any interesting or unusual additions or subtractions? Would you have wanted any additions or subtractions?
- Performers - What was the level of musicianship, in your opinion? Did any of the personnel stand out, either positively or negatively? Did they perform cohesively and cooperatively, or competitively and individualistically? Did the musicians attempt to “connect” with the audience and how successful were they in doing that? What do you feel could have been changed to improve the performance?
- Blues, Jazz, and Beyond - In what ways, if any, did the selections and/or the overall performance reflect the blues tradition and the African-American aesthetic? Did the musicians draw upon any “non-jazz” musical forms or genres in their performance? If so, how successfully were these incorporated?
- Overall Atmosphere – Was the concert environment conducive to a pleasurable listening experience? Did the sound, sightlines, lighting, etc. enhance or hinder your enjoyment of the performance? Were there any other significant distractions?

Your reviews should include your thoughts and personal viewpoints about the performance. (*It is highly recommended that you write your reviews soon after you attend the performances, while your impressions about it are still fresh in your memory.*) Reviews must be **no less than 300 words, typed only in word.doc format** and can be submitted to me either in class or by email as soon as possible after the performance.

Here are some on-campus events that will satisfy this requirement:

Rutgers Jazz Ensemble I A night of original music, including selections from Ed Neumeister's <i>Wake Up Call</i> , featuring guest pianist Dave Berkman.	Friday, March 2, 7:30 Nicholas Music Center student tickets \$5
Rutgers Jazz Ensemble II Selections honoring baritone saxophone icons, including original compositions and arrangements by guest saxophonist Brian Landrus.	Monday, March 5, 7:30 Nicholas Music Center student tickets \$5
Rutgers Jazz Ensemble I Saxophonist Ted Nash's <i>The Presidential Suite</i> , featuring the composer as a guest soloist.	Monday, April 16, 7:30 Nicholas Music Center student tickets \$5
Rutgers Chamber Jazz Ensembles Small-ensemble jazz featuring selections by Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, and Dave Brubeck.	Saturday, April 21, 2:00 Shindell Choral Hall Mortensen Hall FREE
Rutgers Chamber Jazz Ensembles Small-ensemble jazz featuring selections by Gary Burton, Bill Evans, and Dexter Gordon.	Sunday, April 22, 7:30 Shindell Choral Hall Mortensen Hall FREE
Rutgers Jazz Ensemble II: Drummer and professor Robby Ameen honors the legacy of Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers.	Monday, April 23, 7:30 Nicholas Music Center student tickets \$5
Rutgers Chamber Jazz Ensembles Small-ensemble jazz featuring selections by Thad Jones, Bud Powell, and Sonny Stitt.	Sunday, April 29, 5:00 Shindell Choral Hall Mortensen Hall FREE

The **New Brunswick Jazz Project** regularly offers jazz performances at numerous venues around town. You can see their upcoming events schedule at <http://nbjp.org/events/list/>.