

January 4, 2009

Dear Director,

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you and your students to participate in the **Northwest Jazz Festival** featuring jazz vocalist Kathleen Holeman (sponsored by the Upsilon Chi chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia music fraternity) scheduled on our campus **Saturday, March 14, 2009**.

Enclosed please find the entry form for you to fill out to enter your ensemble(s) in our festival. Please make duplicate copies for each ensemble entered. **The deadline for all entries is Friday, February 13, 2009**.

In addition to traditional large jazz ensembles, we will continue to offer performance opportunities for jazz combos. A combo may consist of a maximum of nine (9) performers. As always, junior high/middle school jazz groups are encouraged and welcome to participate. This year's Festival will be sanctioned by the State High School Activities Associations of Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri. **PLEASE NOTE THE MISSOURI CLASSIFICATIONS (Classes 1 – 5) ON THE ENTRY FORM!**

We are again offering clinics to each group this year. **If time remains after your performance, one of the adjudicators will work with your group if you simply stay on the stage.**

There will be a noon concert featuring Kathleen Holeman with Northwest Jazz Ensemble followed by clinics at 1 p.m. The **Awards Concert** featuring Kathleen Holeman and the Northwest Jazz will begin at 5 p.m. All events and concerts are free and open to all Northwest Jazz Festival participants (as well as the general public).

We are looking forward to seeing and hearing everyone's group(s) in March. Please do not hesitate to contact me via phone or e-mail if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

William S. Richardson, D.M.A.  
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