

MORTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

JAZZ BAND



JC and THE REDEMPTION

PRESENT



"STOP, COLLABORATE, AND LISTEN"

Successfully navigating collaboration between middle or high school ensembles and professional musicians.

The Midwest Clinic

Thursday, December 21, 2017 ♦ 8:15am-9:15am ♦ Meeting Room W192

Katrina Fitzpatrick, Band Director, Morton Junior High School

Jeremy Clark, Band Leader, JC and The Redemption

Ruth Clark, Band Manager, JC and The Redemption

Dr. Todd Kelly, Professor of Jazz, Bradley University

Plan

Inspire

Educate

Perform

Our Collaborative Relationship—Katrina Fitzpatrick

Morton Junior High School Jazz Band first partnered with JC and The Redemption in 2013 to perform a fundraiser concert. The initial goal was to yield better audience attendance by performing with a professional group, therefore making it a more lucrative endeavor. We were amazed to see the benefits were much more extensive than just one night of fundraising.

Practicing and rehearsing with a professional ensemble changed the way the middle school students approached rehearsal. These professional musicians were firsthand role models and the students strived to behave and perform in the same manner. Now there wasn't just one teacher in the room, there were twelve. Shortly after the collaboration, professional rehearsal etiquette became habit for the younger students yielding greater and faster growth. Sitting next to a professional encouraged the students to take musical risks while soloing. The student's musical vocabulary was forever growing and the individual accountability was through the roof!

The collaborative work done with the MJHS Jazz Band and JC and The Redemption is meant to enrich the jazz curriculum which is already in place. The skills and habits learned in our joint rehearsals and performances directly apply to our syllabus and expedite our musical development.

Getting Started—Katrina Fitzpatrick

- 1. Research local and regional professional ensembles.** What is their reputation? Have you heard them live? Do they fit the caliber of musician you want your students to emulate? Is their style appropriate for a school setting?
- 2. Confirm the budget** with the school district and/or boosters for the guest ensemble or individual. Take into consideration possible travel, food, and lodging expenses.
- 3. Select two or three possible dates for the potential collaboration.**
 - a. Check to be sure the performance and rehearsal venues are available.
 - b. Check the school calendar to avoid potential conflicts with other extra-curricular events (sporting events, testing, etc.).
 - c. The most important item to think through but most commonly overlooked: does the date fit **your** curriculum?
- 4. Talk to your administration** and explain what your students will gain through this exciting opportunity.
 - a. Energize your music program.
 - b. Opportunity for recruiting (consider collaborating with another school in your district for the event)
 - c. Opportunity for students to learn the methods of the pros during practice, rehearsal, and performance.

MJHS Jazz Band with JC and The Redemption

The Chicken.....*Alfred Ellis/arr. Clark*

Inspiring Rehearsals—Dr. Todd Kelly

- 1. Set the standard for ensemble articulations and style**
 - a. Listen
 - b. Inspire
 - c. Application
 - d. Repetition
- 2. Lay the groundwork for successful improvisation**
 - a. Listen and emulate
 - b. Build on an idea
 - c. Trade with the pros

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Fat Cakes.....*Jimmy McGriff /arr. Clark*

Sample Event Layouts for Collaboration—Ruth Clark

1. Option 1: Joint Concert

- a. Bring in a professional ensemble to perform a set on your concert. If possible, let the pros sit in on a few of the student’s tunes. No rehearsals or clinics, just the concert.

2. Option 2: Mini Clinic and Collaboration Concert

- a. The leader of the professional ensemble works with the students ahead of the concert for one or two clinic rehearsals. You work together to find or create collaboration arrangements that fit your ensemble’s needs. During the concert each group plays a set, and the collaboration is presented at the final set.

3. Option 3: Full Clinic Day or Festival

- a. Sectionals
- b. Full band rehearsal
- c. Improv masterclass
- d. Improv with the pros
- e. Q & A session
- f. Dinner with the band
- g. Collaboration concert

Event Planning—Ruth Clark

1. Be prepared with the main details
2. Think through the logistics
3. Set the schedule
4. Discuss equipment
5. Discuss advertising
6. Coordinate parent and community volunteers
7. Troubleshooting issues

If I Ain’t Got You.....Alicia Keys/arr. Clark

Curriculum Enriching Arrangements—Jeremy Clark

1. Discuss musical selections and arrangements.

- a. Do you have specific needs for your instrumentation or vocal ranges?
- b. Do you have preferences of genre or grade level music to be performed?
- c. Is the professional ensemble leader able/willing to arrange specifically for your group if needed?
- d. Do you have any student soloists you’d like to feature?
- e. Discuss obtaining permissions to arrange your selections.

2. Craft the arrangement to “bridge the gap.”

- a. Appropriate key and range
- b. Rhythms are within musical vocabulary of the curriculum

Closing Program

Superstition.....Stevie Wonder/arr. Clark

Play That Funky Music.....Robert Parissi/arr. Clark

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Personnel

Katrina Fitzpatrick is the fine arts department head and band director at Morton Junior High School. She received her bachelor of music education from Bradley University and masters in music education from Illinois State University. In 2010, she directed the MJHS Jazz Band at the ILMEA All State Convention, and in 2014, her concert band presented at the ILMEA All State Convention. Under her direction in 2017, the MJHS Jazz Band presented a joint clinic with JC and The Redemption at the ILMEA All State Convention. Her article on “Ten Ways to Use TonalEnergy” was published in the Illinois Music Educators Journal and the Kansas Music Educators Journal. She is honored to have served as the guest conductor in both concert and jazz festivals throughout Illinois including ILMEA district festival bands in districts 2, 3, and 5. She is the president and a flutist in the Prairie Wind Ensemble. In 2016, she was honored with the “Master Potter - Excellence in Education Award.” She is a member of Phi Beta Mu. Katrina is the flute instructor for the Music for All Summer Symposium Marching Band Track and woodwind instructor for the Morton High School Marching Band. When she is not at band rehearsals or events, she enjoys spending her time with her husband, Craig.

Jeremy Clark is a professional percussionist native to Peoria, IL. He obtained his Associate in Arts from Illinois Central College, and attended Bradley University, studying percussion under Ms. Peggy Bonner. He has toured throughout the United States with various groups including Jack Morgan and the Russ Morgan Orchestra and the world-famous Dallas Brass. Early career ventures led him to Europe to play at the Montreux and Brienz Jazz Festivals in Switzerland, the Umbria Jazz Festival in Italy, and the Vienne Jazz Festival in France. While residing in St. Louis, Missouri, Clark performed with the St. Louis Brass Band, St. Charles Municipal Band, St. Charles Big Band, Gateway City Big Band, and the Blue Knights of Swing. Clark resides in Central Illinois where he has formed “JC and The Redemption,” his 11-piece funk/soul/stax band. He currently performs with the Central Illinois Jazz Orchestra, the Central Illinois Jazz Train, the Central Illinois Jazz Society House Band, the Grace Presbyterian Church Praise Band, and the Peoria Municipal Band, among others. He teaches private lessons at Kidder Music and is the drumline instructor at Dunlap High School. Besides playing regularly, Clark also has several arrangements published with Alfred Music and enjoys freelance arranging in his spare time. Clark is a licensed foster care parent with his wife Ruth.

JC and The Redemption is an eleven-piece band that formed in 2012 under the direction of drummer and bandleader Jeremy Clark. They are a high-caliber funk band featuring a professional-grade hornline that plays all the classic funk, soul and stax charts. The band is influenced by Tower of Power, Blues Brothers, Earth Wind and Fire, Sam and Dave, Stevie Wonder, Otis Redding, James Brown, Ray Charles, and Hornheads, among others. This “musician’s band” is the one of the most educated funk bands you’ll ever see, boasting over twenty music degrees between the members. Nothing but years of experience and pure passion can accomplish this tight-knit, in the pocket, and downright funky groove. Audiences all over Central Illinois are awed by JCR’s killer vocals, jaw-dropping instrumental solos, and horn moves expertly executed by the hornline (fondly known as “The Redemption”). You can find your next funk fix by searching for JC and The Redemption on Facebook or by heading over to the website: www.jcandtheredemption.com.

Ruth Clark is a professional musician and private lesson instructor from Central Illinois. She received her Bachelor of Music from Bradley University in Peoria, IL. She teaches private clarinet and saxophone lessons at Washington Community High School in Washington, IL and in her home studio. Ruth has instructed the woodwind sections in marching bands at both Washington Community High School and Dunlap High School. She has performed in a variety of ensembles including the Peoria Symphony Orchestra, the Bradley University Symphony Orchestra, the Prairie Wind Ensemble, the Saint Louis Wind Symphony, and the Peoria Municipal Band. Ruth has also enjoyed singing in the Peoria Bach Festival Choir, the Bradley University Community Chorus, the Saint Louis Chamber Chorus, and the Webster University Choral Society. In addition to being the band manager for the funk/soul/stax band JC and The Redemption (based out of Peoria, IL), Ruth is also a licensed foster care parent with her husband Jeremy.

Dr. Todd Kelly is Professor of Trumpet and Director of Jazz Ensembles at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. He maintains a busy performing schedule in the Central Illinois area with the Brazilionaires, the Todd Kelly Jazz Quintet, the Central Illinois Jazz Orchestra, Four Other Brothers, JC and the Redemption, Inner Light, and as a freelance jazz and classical musician. He has toured throughout the United States with Indian tabla artist Sandip Burman. He has also performed with Wayne Newton, Jerry Lewis, Charo, the Fifth Dimension, Lesley Gore, Steve Lippia, Mannheim Steamroller, and the national touring companies of *Hairspray*, *Wicked*, *Mary Poppins*, *The Rat Pack is Back*, *Billy Elliot*, *Chicago*, *White Christmas*, *Kinky Boots*, *The Book of Mormon*, and *La La Land*. Dr. Kelly has been published in *Band World*, *Downbeat*, *JAZZed*, and *The Instrumentalist*. His book, “Chet Baker: 21 Selected Solos” is available through Jamey Aebersold Jazz and ejazzlines.com, and he is a contributing author to *The Jazzer’s Cookbook*, published by Meredith Music, and *Teaching Music Through Performance in Jazz for Beginning Ensembles*, published by GIA Music. In the spring of 2013, Dr. Kelly received the Slane College of Fine Arts Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Teaching. Todd Kelly is an artist/clinician for Conn/Selmer in Elkhart, Indiana. He and his wife Kirsten are the proud parents of Connor and Maren.

Morton Junior High Jazz Band

JC and The Redemption

Samantha Barnhill, *alto saxophone*
Sierra Bailey, *alto saxophone*
Daniel Wefer, *tenor saxophone*
Becca Saxma, *tenor saxophone*
Emma Neavor, *bari saxophone*

Jared Taylor, *trumpet*
Ellee Hayes, *trumpet*
Kyler Hartter, *trumpet*
Cameron Shook, *trumpet*
Caroline Potts, *trumpet*

Emma Fonseca, *trombone*
Sarah Wefer, *trombone*

Logan Tripp, *trombone*
Tyler Newman, *bass trombone*

Wyatt Knepp, *piano*
Hailee Richmond, *guitar*
Seth Salyers, *drum set*
Conner McMullen, *aux percussion*
Ryle Holcombe, *bass*

Kiara Wolland, *flute*
Elyse Heinold, *flute*
Cadence Hornsby, *clarinet*
Olivia Vicary, *vocals*
Claire Hawks, *vocals*

Carmen McCarthy, *vocals*
Anthony Hendricks, *vocals*

Toby Thomas, *saxophone*
Jeff Arbisi, *saxophone*
Todd Kelly, *trumpet*
Justin Bainter, *trumpet*
Carl Anderson, *trombone*

David Sulzberger, *keys*
Scott Anderson, *guitar*
Jason Shea, *bass*
Jeremy Clark, *drum set*

Contact Information

Katrina Fitzpatrick, *Band Director*
Fine Arts Department Head
Morton Junior High School
309.266.6522
katrina.fitzpatrick@mcusd709.org

Jeremy Clark, *Band Leader*
JC and The Redemption
Private Lesson Instructor
309.369.9018
jscdrum@gmail.com

Ruth Clark, *Band Manager*
JC and The Redemption
Private Lesson Instructor
309.256.9719
jcandtheredemption@gmail.com

Dr. Todd Kelly, *Professor*
of Jazz and Trumpet
Bradley University
309.677.2597
tkelly@bradley.edu

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