



GENERATIONS IN JAZZ

Competition Rules

2026

Version 9th September 2025

GENERAL INFORMATION

Adjudication

Nationally renowned adjudicators will provide positive, detailed recorded comments targeting specific growth opportunities for each ensemble.

Participants are asked to show respect towards their adjudicators. The adjudicators' decision in accordance with the rules is final.

All bands and ensembles will receive a constructive assessment of their performance with suggestions on how to rectify any problem areas. They will also be provided with a recording of their performance at the end of the festival via Drop Box link on Sunday.

The adjudications and awards are not meant for the comparison of ensembles within a section but are an educational tool to be used by teachers to guide the further musical development of their ensemble.

If schools have tied for an award or placing the best score given for the set piece will determine the winner.

Adjudication will be made up of the following:

VOCAL ENSEMBLE AWARDS	SET PIECE	100
	OWN CHOICE	100
	TOTAL	200 POINTS
STAGE BAND AWARDS	SET PIECE	100
	BALLAD	100
	OWN CHOICE	100
	TOTAL	300 POINTS
SMALL JAZZ COMBO	SET PIECE	100
	OWN CHOICE	100
	OWN CHOICE	100
	TOTAL	300 POINTS

Eligibility

1. The Generations in Jazz Festival is open to students who are currently attending any primary or secondary school, and who are participating in a school, college or community jazz band or ensemble.
2. Requests for any variation to this must be in writing to the GIJ Board for consideration.
3. Players are eligible to perform in the festival if they are full-time students of the participating

school/s and are under 19 years of age, or whose 19th birthday occurs during the year of the festival.

4. Combined school groups may participate if that ensemble rehearses on a regular basis.
5. Two or more schools may join to form an ensemble, provided they stipulate this at the time of registration. In this instance, only one entry form needs to be submitted.
6. All school groups must provide the necessary ratio of staff supervision to the number students attending the festival. It is not the responsibility of Generations in Jazz Inc or its volunteers to monitor students attending the festival.
7. Students can only be registered/entered with one school. Exceptions maybe made in order for pieces to be performed as per the arrangement. All combined groups must seek approval from the GIJ Board. (admin@generationsinjazz.com.au)

Performance Requirements

Each band entering the STAGE BAND AWARDS must perform three (3) pieces which includes the GIJ set piece, Ballad of Own Choice and own choice.

Each choir entering the VOCAL ENSEMBLE AWARDS must perform two (2) pieces which includes the GIJ set piece and own choice.

Each SMALL JAZZ COMBO entering will be required to perform a maximum of three (3) pieces which includes the GIJ set piece, two own choice pieces.

Performance Times

As indicated for each section, performance times must be strictly adhered to. Bands and ensembles do not need to prepare enough music to reach the time limit; however, performances must not run overtime.

VOCAL ENSEMBLE AWARDS

- Division 1 (Large), 15 minutes
- Division 1 (Small), 15 minutes
- Division 2 (Large), 10 minutes
- Division 2 (Small), 10 minutes
- Division 3 (Large), 10 minutes
- Division 3 (Small), 10 minutes
- Division 4, 10 minutes

STAGE BAND AWARDS

- Division 1 - 30 minutes
- Division 2 - 25 minutes
- Division 3, 4, 4+ & 5 - 20 minutes

SMALL JAZZ COMBO AWARDS

- Division 1 - 20 minutes

Division 2 – 20 minutes

Division 3 - 20 minutes

Set up and quick tuning on stage is included in each band's allocated time.

No teacher, parent or designated supervisor (unless an accompanist or conductor) will be allowed on stage at any time.

Note: Please do not exceed the performance time listed for your ensemble.

Any performance that exceeds the specified time limit will incur an adjudication penalty; **10 points for every minute overtime on stage**, which will be deducted from the overall final score. This rule is implemented to ensure fairness and adherence to competition guidelines.

Rehearsal & Warm Up

Some accommodation providers will have rehearsal areas. If there is a problem finding a suitable rehearsal area, we will endeavour to organise a venue for you.

At each competition venue a band/vocal ensemble warm up areas will be provided prior to your scheduled performance time. Each band will be allocated a specific time to use the warm up room prior to moving into the green room/holding room before going on stage.

Warm up and Green Room times will be provided to you via email.

No entrants may rehearse in competition venues during the period of the festival except in official rehearsals arranged by Generations in Jazz.

The only entrants permitted to warm up on stage is the first band/ensemble scheduled on the day.

Set up and quick tuning on stage is included in each band's allocated time and we would ask that all Music Directors respect this request, to be fair to all participants.

There will be backstage assistance to move bands on and off stage as quickly as possible. We would ask the assistance of all Music Directors to affect this transition period.

No teacher, parent or designated supervisor (unless an

accompanist or conductor) will be allowed on stage at any time.

In consideration of others performing, students must be extremely quiet in the final waiting area and respond promptly to backstage crew requests.

Music Scores

1. The onus of choosing the correct material rests with the individual schools and Music Directors.
2. Ensembles must provide one (1) adjudication score each for all pieces on their program. These should each be labelled with the school, ensemble name, and order in performance program.
3. Copies of scores must be presented on the day of the event by a representative of the participating group, prior to their performance. These are to be handed to the green room upon arrival; these will then be collected by a Stage Manager who will pass them on to the adjudicators.
4. If any alterations are made to any piece, Music Directors must provide this score as well with changes clearly marked for the adjudicators to understand.
5. Individual schools are responsible for adhering to the relevant copyright laws – Generations in Jazz Inc. accepts no responsibility for any copyright infringements.

Musical Instruments & Equipment

Backline for all stages will be supplied and sponsored by **Billy Hyde Music**.

No equipment is supplied in the warmup rooms; however, Vocal Ensemble warmup rooms will have a basic keyboard supplied.

Please refer to the relevant section for instruments and stage setup provided for each Division.

Vocal Ensembles

Overview and Rules

Each ensemble must enter the stage, perform their two pieces, and exit the stage within the allocated time. A short sound-check for each choir will be included in the time limit. An adjudication penalty will occur when a vocal ensemble's performance time exceeds the limit and will be deducted from the overall score.

Division 1 (Large), 15 minutes
Division 1 (Small), 15 minutes
Division 2 (Large), 10 minutes
Division 2 (Small), 10 minutes
Division 3 (Large), 10 minutes
Division 3 (Small), 10 minutes
Division 4, 10 minutes

Set Piece

In general, the composer's intent should be respected, and the set piece adhered to as notated. **Small** changes, such as dynamics and vocal inflections relating to interpretation may be used, provided this is clearly noted on the score, and provided to the adjudicator. Additional instrumentation including percussion instrumentations, and/or rewritten parts are **not permitted**. TTBB or TTB voicings may make small adjustments to octaves or voicings, according to the vocal range and capabilities of your students, provided this is clearly noted on score and provided to the adjudicator.

Own Choice

Songs must be sufficiently 'jazzy' to be considered appropriate entries. This should include arrangements which use jazz harmony and *may* include open sections (optional) which allow for vocal improvisation and creativity. Own choice pieces may be acapella or accompanied. (Please refer to your specific division for further detail on accompaniment).

Warm Up

Vocal ensemble warm up areas will be provided prior to performance time.

Adjudication And Feedback

All ensembles will receive a constructive assessment of their performance with suggestions on how to rectify any problem areas.

Each ensemble must enter the stage, perform their two pieces, and exit the stage within the allocated time. Adjudication penalty for any vocal ensemble's

performance time exceeding the time limit will be marked down on your overall score.

Copies of scores must be presented on the day of the event by a representative of the participating group, prior to their performance. These are to be handed to the GREEN ROOM Manager upon arrival; these will then be collected by a Stage Manager who will pass them on to the adjudicators.

Any changes to the set piece scores must be marked on your score and provided to the adjudicators. Any changes to the own choice scores must be clearly marked on the scores provided to the adjudicators.

Any students who feature in the performance must be noted on the score.

Adjudication will be made up of the following:

SET PIECE	/100
OWN CHOICE	/100
TOTAL AVERAGE SCORE	/200 POINTS

Technical Information

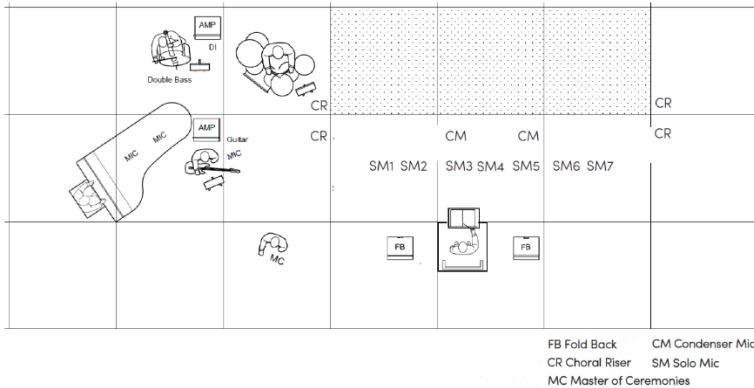
- For Division 1 – Small there will be seven solo microphones (wireless, on stand) and 4 condensers to pick up the choir.
- For Division 1 – Large there will be seven solo microphones (wireless on stand) and 4 condensers to pick up the choir.
- For Division 2 – 4, there will be seven solo microphones (with cable, not UHF) and 4 condensers to pick up the choir.
- The mixers and sound technician will be located near the adjudicators' table.
- All set piece backing tracks will be provided and operated by the adjudicators. A short balance check will take place when your ensemble first appears on stage.
- All warmup rooms will be supplied with a keyboard and heating.

Division 1 Vocal (Large & Small)

Division 1 will have the use of seven (7) solo mics, four (4) overhead condensers and two (2) foldback wedges. You may adjust the positioning of these before you begin your performance, but these changes will be included in your allocated time

A digital piano, bass amp, guitar amp and drum kit will be provided for your Own Choice piece.

Division 1 VEA Stage Plot



Division 2 Vocal (Large & Small)

On stage you will be provided with the use of seven (7) solo mics (corded), four (4) overhead condensers and two (2) foldback wedges. You may adjust the positioning of these before you begin your performance, these changes will be included in your performance time.

A keyboard will be provided for those who wish to use for your own choice piece however you will be required to provide your own accompanist if needed.

If you use your own backing track accompaniment, you will need to upload as part of your Manifest submission prior to the day of your performance, so the tracks can be lined up ready to go on the day.

Division 3 & 4 Vocal (Large & Small)

Division 3 will have the use of seven (7) solo mics (corded) solo mics, four (4) overhead condensers and two (2) foldback wedges.

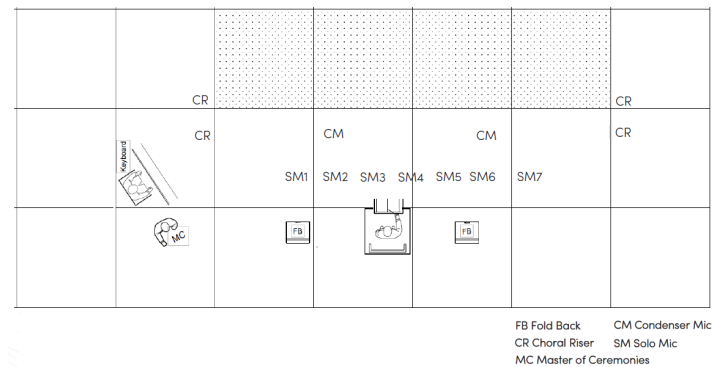
You may adjust the positioning of these before you begin your performance, these changes will be included in your performance time.

The set piece has a pre-recorded rhythm section backing that will be used by every ensemble on the day.

A keyboard will be provided for those who wish to use for your own choice piece however you will be required to provide your own accompanist if needed.

If using your own backing track accompaniment, you will need to upload as part of your Manifest submission prior to the day of your performance, so the tracks can be lined up ready to go on the day.

Division 2 - 4 VEA Stage Plot



Division 1 (Large)

8+ Members

Division 1 (Small)

4-7 members

Standard:

This division is intended for experienced singers comfortable in close four-part vocal harmony and a relatively high level of jazz understanding and experience. They should be comfortable both performing a cappella and with a rhythm section. Ensembles at this level are confident executing rhythmic styles within the jazz genre (swing, latin and ballads) at an advanced level.

Division 1 performers are expected to be able to connect with the audience in an authentic and sophisticated way to truly convey the message of a song. For Small ensembles In line with the regulations regarding common members, students within larger ensembles are permitted and encouraged to form groups of 4-7 voices.

Performance Requirements:

Each ensemble must perform two (2) pieces which will include:

- GIJ Set Piece acapella
- Own Choice Piece – acapella, piano accompaniment, rhythm section accompaniment or backing track

Schools opting to use an accompanist or rhythm section for their *own choice* piece are required to provide their own accompanist or rhythm section. GIJ will not be providing an in-house rhythm section or accompanist for schools to use. It is also permissible to use a backing

track which must be provided to GIJ well in advance of the competition.

Performance Time: 15 Minutes

- Each ensemble has a total of 15 minutes in which to enter the stage, perform their two pieces, and exit the stage.
- Set up and quick sound check on stage is included in each ensemble's allocated time.
- Changes to microphone placement will be included in each ensemble's allocated time
- Ensemble warm up areas will be provided prior to performance time.

Numbers on Stage:

LARGE: This section requires a *minimum* of 8 singers. As a guide, the recommended number of vocalists in a large jazz vocal ensemble is up to 20, however a school can enter a larger ensemble if they choose.

SMALL: The requirement for Division 1 Small Ensemble is 4 -7 vocalists.

Division 2 (Large) **8+ Members**
Division 2 Small) **4-7 members**

Standard:

This division is intended for intermediate jazz harmony singers who are growing comfortable with four-part harmony, in both the accompanied and a cappella realms. They should be developing a sound understanding of differing jazz styles, and an awareness of the communication aspect of performance.

Performance Requirements

Each ensemble must perform two (2) pieces which will include:

- GIJ Set Piece- acapella
- Own Choice Piece – acapella, *piano* accompaniment, or backing track. (no rhythm section)

Please note it is the school's responsibility to provide an accompanist. Rhythm section is not used in division 2. Where a backing track is needed, this must be provided by the school to GIJ well in advance of the competition.

Performance Time: 10 Minutes

- Each ensemble has a total of 10 minutes in which to enter the stage, perform their two pieces, and exit the stage.

- Set up and quick tuning on stage is included in each ensemble's allocated time.
- Changes to microphone placement will be included in each ensemble's allocated time.
- Ensemble warm up areas will be provided prior to performance time.

Numbers on Stage:

LARGE: This section requires a *minimum* of 8 singers. As a guide, the maximum recommended number of vocalists in a large jazz vocal ensemble is up to 20, however a school can enter a larger ensemble if they choose.

SMALL: The maximum number for Division 2 Small Ensemble members on stage at any one time is seven (7).

Division 3 (Large) **8+ Members**
Division 3 (Small) **4-7 members**

Standard:

This division is for ensembles within the beginner to intermediate realm who are starting to immerse themselves in jazz harmony. These ensembles should be able to sing in two to three-part harmony and display some understanding of the varying styles of jazz vocal performance.

Each ensemble must perform two (2) pieces which will include the GIJ Set Piece – accompanied (rhythm section backing track), and an Own Choice piece – accompanied or a cappella

Performance Requirements:

Each ensemble must perform two (2) pieces which will include:

- GIJ Set Piece backing track will be provided by GIJ
- Own Choice Piece – acapella, backing track or piano accompaniment (no rhythm section)

Please note it is the school's responsibility to provide an accompanist. Where a backing track is used, this must be provided by the school via the manifest portal to GIJ in advance of the competition.

Performance Time: 10 Minutes

- Each ensemble has a total of 10 minutes in which to enter the stage, perform their two pieces, and exit the stage.
- Set up and quick tuning on stage is included in each ensemble's allocated time.
- Changes to microphone placement will be included in each ensemble's allocated time.

- Ensemble warm up areas will be provided prior to performance time.

Numbers on Stage:

LARGE: This section requires a *minimum* of 8 singers. As a guide each, the recommended number of vocalists in a large jazz vocal ensemble is up to 20, however a school can enter a larger ensemble if they choose.

SMALL: The maximum number for Division 3 Small Ensemble members on stage at any one time is seven (7).

Division 4 (no member number limitations)

Standard

This division is for beginning ensembles who have just started their journey in exploring jazz harmony and style. This division allows student participation at any level and is non-competitive. Encouraging feedback will be provided for all choirs participating.

Performance Requirements

Each ensemble must perform two (2) pieces which will include:

- GIJ Set Piece – Backing track will be provided by GIJ
- Own Choice Piece – acapella, backing track or piano accompaniment (no rhythm section)

Please note it is the school's responsibility to provide an accompanist. Where a backing track is used, this must be provided by the school to GIJ well in advance of the competition.

Performance Time: 10 Minutes

- Each ensemble has a total of *10 minutes* in which to enter the stage, perform their two pieces, and exit the stage.
- Set up and quick sound check on stage is included in each ensemble's allocated time.
- Changes to microphone placement will be included in each ensemble's allocated time.
- Ensemble warm up areas will be provided prior to performance time.

Numbers on Stage

No restrictions

Repertoire

Songs should exhibit jazz characteristics. This *may* include the use of written scat

Stage Band Awards

Rules for Participating Stage Bands

1. In the SBA Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 4+, each band must perform three (3) pieces:
 - the set piece
 - an own-choice ballad
 - an own-choice piece.
 The three pieces can be performed in any order.
2. Division 5 is a non-competitive division. Bands must perform three (3) own choice pieces:
3. It is advised that own-choice repertoire be contrasting in style and tempo to the set piece and to other own-choice selections, to best demonstrate the band's versatility.
4. Band warm up areas will be provided prior to performance time.
5. Band performance times:
 - Division 1 - 30 minutes
 - Division 2 - 25 minutes
 - Division 3, 4, 4+ & 5 - 20 minutes
 Allocated times include a quick set up and tune up only. The allocated time does not include warm-up.
6. Penalties for exceeding the allocated performance time will be 10 points. This will be deducted immediately once time limit is exceeded.
7. A copy of the OWN CHOICE arrangements must be supplied to the GREEN ROOM MANAGER upon arrival to the GREEN ROOM.
8. The musical director and players of each band must not change any notation by pitch or rhythm of the set piece. Individual notated solos (not improvised) may be interpreted at the discretion of the performer.
9. All dynamic markings must remain as originally scored.
10. Bands may demonstrate individual and group stylistic interpretation during the own choice performance only.
11. Adjudicators will pay particular attention to correct articulation and phrasing, intonation, ensemble balance and blend, soloists and rhythm section groove. The main objective is for each ensemble to perform each piece in the correct style it has been written and as directed by the performance notes from the composer.
12. The adjudicators will be selecting outstanding players from Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4 for the creation of the Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4 Superbands.
13. Adjudicators will be selecting outstanding players from Division 1 for Future Finalists to perform at the Sunday Awards Concert.

14. Bands will receive constructive assessment on their performance in the form of a verbal commentary with suggestions for addressing problem areas. Bands will also be provided with a recording of their performance after the competition.
15. There are to be no more than 20 musicians on stage at any given time for Division 1, Division 2, Division 3 and Division 4 bands and no more than 25 musicians on stage for Division 4+ and Division 5.
16. The only permissible interchange of band members between divisions is from a lower division band to a higher division band. An exception to this rule (meaning a member from a higher division band allowed to perform in a lower division band) may be made if approval is reached by a majority of Music Directors involved in the participating division.
17. Students can only be registered/entered with one school, community band or combined school group.
18. Adjudicators scoring will be marked as follows:

SET PIECE	/100
BALLAD	/100
OWN CHOICE	/100
TOTAL AVERAGE SCORE /300 POINT	

Divisions Overview

Division 1 - National Stage Band Awards

Standard:

This division is intended for bands playing at the highest level of secondary school big bands. Bands should be comfortable with executing a very high level of stylistic interpretation, technique, and tone colour, with rhythm sections having an exceptional understanding and delivery of different feels and grooves. Bands should be performing professional level (Grade 5 and above) material. The set piece for Division 1 will be a professional chart, or chart of a professional standard.

Players Band Instrumentation:

The instrumentation of bands entering Division 1 is to consist of:

- 5 Saxophones
- 5 Trumpets (up to)
- 4 Trombones Rhythm Section
- 1 Piano
- 1 Drums
- 1 Bass
- 1 Guitar
- Optional
- Percussion (vibes, bongos, congas)

Alternative instruments are allowed if they are required by the specific chart selection eg: woodwind doubles, flugelhorns, tuba, additional percussion, etc. Any member of the band may play any of the above instruments and bands may change their personnel and instrumentation during performance provided that no extra players are introduced to the stage that exceed the twenty (20) on stage at any one time. Vocalists may be included in their own choice repertoire.

Performance Requirements

Each band must perform three pieces which will include:

- GIJ Set Piece
- Ballad of Own Choice &
- Own Choice

Performance Time: 30 Minutes

Set up and quick tuning on stage is included in each band's allocated time and we would ask that all Music Directors respect this request, to be fair to all participants.

The only band permitted to warm up on stage is the first band scheduled on this day.

Band warm up areas will be provided for use prior to performance time.

Players On Stage:

There must be no more than 20 musicians on stage for Division 1 at any one time.

No teacher, parent or designated supervisor (unless acting as an accompanist or conductor) will be allowed on stage at any time.

Division 2 - National Stage Band Awards

Standard:

This division is for bands at an advanced level, or bands or who are transitioning from the intermediate level up to an advanced level. Bands should have a high level of understanding towards style and interpretation and should be performing with good technique and definition of articulation. The test piece for division 2 will be of a lower advanced to advanced level (grade 4, to 4 and a half).

Band Instrumentation:

The instrumentation of bands entering Division 2 is to consist of:

- 5 Saxophones
- 5 Trumpets (up to)
- 4 Trombones Rhythm Section
- 1 Piano
- 1 Drums
- 1 Bass
- 1 Guitar
- Optional
- Percussion (vibes, bongos, congas)

Any member of the band may play any of the above instruments and bands may change their personnel and instrumentation during performance provided that no extra players are introduced to the stage that exceed the twenty (20) on stage at any one time. Vocalists may be included in their own choice repertoire.

Subtle size and instrumentation variations will be accepted (eg: Tuba instead of bass trombone, only 4 saxes, etc...). For severely reduced line-ups or ensembles with odd instrumentation, see Div 4 + (Mixed instrumentation) and Div 5 (non-competitive)."

Performance Requirements:

Each band must perform three pieces which will include:

- GIJ Set Piece
- Ballad of own choice
- Own Choice

Performance Time: 25 Minutes

Set up and quick tuning on stage is included in each band's allocated time and we would ask that all Music Directors respect this request, to be fair to all participants.

The only band permitted to warm up on stage is the first band scheduled on this day. Band warm up areas will be provided for use prior to performance time.

Players on stage:

There must be no more than 20 musicians on stage for Division 2 at any one time.

No teacher, parent or designated supervisor (unless acting as an accompanist or conductor) will be allowed on stage at any time.

Division 3 - National Stage Band Awards

Standard:

This division is for bands at an intermediate level. Bands should have a good level of understanding towards style and interpretation and should be performing with sound technique and definition of articulation. The test piece for division 3 will be of an intermediate level (grade 3, to 3 and a half).

Band Instrumentation:

The instrumentation of bands entering Division 3 is to consist of:

- 5 Saxophones
- 5 Trumpets (up to)
- 4 Trombones Rhythm Section
- 1 Piano
- 1 Drums
- 1 Bass
- 1 Guitar
- Percussion (vibes, bongos, congas)

Any member of the band may play any of the above instruments and bands may change their personnel and instrumentation during performance provided that no extra players are introduced to the stage that exceed the twenty (20) on stage at any one time. Vocalists may be included in their own choice repertoire.

Subtle size and instrumentation variations will be accepted (eg: Tuba instead of bass trombone, only 4 saxes, etc...).

For severely reduced line-ups or ensembles with odd instrumentation, see Div 4 + (Mixed instrumentation) and Div 5 (non-competitive)."

Performance Requirements:

Each band must perform three pieces which will include:

- GIJ Set Piece
- Ballad of Own Choice
- Own Choice

Band Performance Times: 20 Minutes

Set up and quick tuning on stage is included in each band's allocated time and we would ask that all Music Directors respect this request, to be fair to all participants.

Band warm up areas will be provided prior to performance time.

The only band permitted to warm up on stage is the first band scheduled on this day.

Players on Stage:

There must be no more than 20 musicians on stage for Division 3 at any one time. No teacher, parent or designated supervisor (unless acting as an accompanist or conductor) will be allowed on stage at any time.

Division 4 - National Stage Band Awards

Standard:

This division is for bands at an upper junior/lower intermediate level. Bands should have a good level of understanding towards style and interpretation and should be performing with sound technique and definition of articulation within their chosen material. The test piece will be of an upper junior level (grade 2, to 2 and a half).

Band Instrumentation:

The instrumentation of bands entering Division 4 is to consist of:

- 5 Saxophones (up to)
- 5 Trumpets (up to)
- 4 Trombones Rhythm Section
- 1 Piano
- 1 Drums
- 1 Bass
- 1 Guitar
- Percussion (vibes, bongos, congas)

Any member of the band may play any of the above instruments and bands may change their personnel and instrumentation during performance provided that no extra players are introduced to the stage that exceed the twenty (20) on stage at any one time. Vocalists may be included in their own choice repertoire.

Subtle size and instrumentation variations will be accepted (eg: Tuba instead of bass trombone, only 4 saxes, etc). For severely reduced line-ups or ensembles with odd instrumentation, see Div 4 + (Mixed instrumentation) and Div 5 (non-competitive)."

Performance Requirements

Each band must perform three pieces which will include:

- GIJ Set Piece
- Ballad of Own Choice
- Own Choice

Band Performance Times: 20 Minutes

Set up and quick tuning on stage is included in each band's allocated time and we would ask that all Music Directors respect this request, to be fair to all participants.

Band warm up areas will be provided prior to performance time.
The only band permitted to warm up on stage is the first band scheduled on this day.

Players on Stage:

There must be no more than 20 musicians on stage for Division 4 at any one time. No teacher, parent or designated supervisor (unless acting as an accompanist or conductor) will be allowed on stage at any time.

Division 4+ (Mixed Instrumentation) - National Stage Band Awards

Standard:

This division is for bands at an upper junior/lower intermediate level, but who have unusual instrumentation, or very reduced or inflated line-ups. Bands should have a good level of understanding towards style and interpretation and should be performing with sound technique and definition of articulation within their chosen material. The test piece will be of an upper junior level (grade 2, to 2 and a half).

Note: It is the job of each school's Music/Band Director to re-orchestrate the Division 4 Set Piece for their specific instrumentation.

Band Instrumentation:

Substitution of any instrument is permitted. Any member of the band may play any instruments and bands may change their personnel and instrumentation during performance provided that no extra players are introduced to the stage that exceed the twenty-five (25) on stage at any one time. Vocalists may be included in their own choice repertoire.

Performance Requirements:

Each band must perform three pieces which will include:

- GIJ Set Piece
- Ballad of Own Choice
- Own Choice

Please Note:

It is individual schools' responsibility to re-orchestrate the Division 4+ Set Piece for their specific line-up.

Band Performance Time: 20 Minutes

Set up and quick tuning on stage is included in each band's allocated time and we would ask that all Music Directors respect this request, to be fair to all participants.

Band warm up areas will be provided prior to performance time.
The only band permitted to warm up on stage is the first band scheduled on this day.

Players on Stage

There must be no more than twenty-five (25) musicians on stage for Division 4+ at any one time. No teacher, parent or designated supervisor (unless acting as an accompanist or conductor) will be allowed on stage at any time.

Division 5 (Non-Competitive) - National Stage Band Awards

Standard:

This Division is for young/junior ensembles, ensembles with unusual instrumentation, ensembles with heavily reduced or inflated line-ups, or ensembles who simply want to perform in a non-competitive environment. Each ensemble will receive constructive comments and encouragements from an adjudicator but will not be ranked in any order. The players for division 5 will be of a junior level (grade 2 and lower) and will have optional instrumentation variations for schools with varied line-ups. If required teachers or students competing in other divisions can fill a position at the discretion of the GIJ Board (admin@generationsinjazz.com.au)

Band Instrumentation:

Substitution of any instrument is permitted

Any member of the band may play any instruments and bands may change their personnel and instrumentation during performance provided that no extra players are introduced to the stage that exceed the twenty-five (25) on stage at any one time. Vocalists may be included.

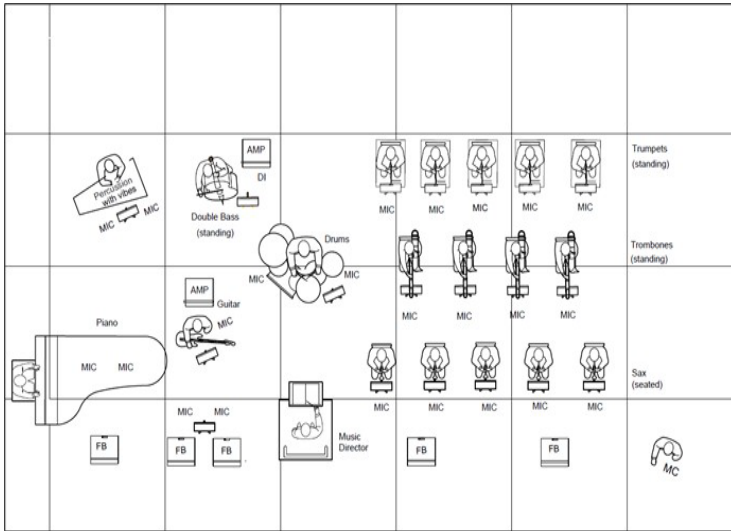
Performance Requirements:

Each band must perform three pieces (Own Choice) which will include:

Band Performance Time: 20 Minutes

Set up and quick tuning on stage is included in each band's allocated time and we would ask that all Music Directors respect this request, to be fair to all participants.

Band warm up areas will be provided prior to performance time.



The only band permitted to warm up on stage is the first band scheduled on this day.

Players on Stage:

There must be no more than twenty-five (25) musicians on stage for Division 5 at any one time.

No teacher, parent or designated supervisor (unless acting as an accompanist or conductor) will be allowed on stage at any time.

Stage Band Supplied Equipment

Division 1 SBA

Division 1 is in the James Morrison Pavilion. Given the size of this Pavilion, Division 1 performances will be fully amplified, with all instruments having individual microphones.

Fold back wedges will be provided for the rhythm section, each horn section and the soloist.

Minimal volume will be put in all fold back wedges, so the band can play largely acoustically on stage to obtain their own balance, as the purpose of the amplification is mainly to allow the adjudicators and audience to hear the band properly.

Each player is responsible for making sure they are playing into their microphone. About 40cm from the microphone for sax and trombone and 50cm from the microphone for trumpets is ideal.

The following equipment will be supplied for your use.

- Twenty (20) Music stands (if you require more

than this number, please supply your own extras)

- Six (6) Chairs
- One (1) bass amp (bass players need to provide their own cable)
- One (1) guitar amp with single channel input only (guitarists need to provide their own guitar cable)
- Five (5) piece drum kit complete with ride, crash, hi hats and stool (drummers need to provide their own sticks)
- A grand piano or digital grand piano will be provided which will run through the main PA system.
- Vibraphone
- Basic percussion, including Congas and Bongos

Division 2-5 SBA

For Stage Bands Divisions 2-5 each band is to perform acoustically. This includes stages that have a digital piano. This provides a "level playing field" for all bands and avoids many of the complications associated with changing over the groups.

Two microphones will be available for vocalists and soloists positioned at the front of the stage with a foldback speaker.

The director or performers may move these microphones anywhere on the stage during performance to cover solos or featured performers as they wish.

The volume of the microphones will be adjusted from the adjudicator's table. The following equipment will be provided for your use.

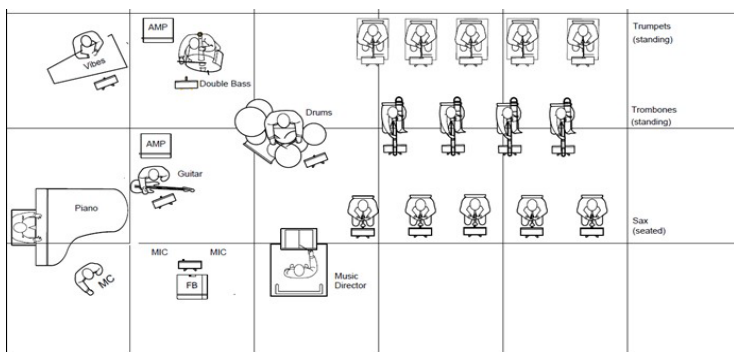
- Twenty (20) Music stands (twenty-five for Div 4+ & Div 5)
- Six (6) chairs
- One (1) bass amp (bass players need to provide their own cable)
- One (1) guitar amp with single channel input only (guitarists need to provide their own guitar cable)
- 5-piece drum kit complete with ride, crash, hi hats and stool (drummers need to provide their own sticks)
- Vibraphone

- Digital piano with an external amplifier will be provided.

NOTE:

Latin percussion (congas, bongos, timbales, shakers) will **not** be provided for Div 2-5 and schools will need to bring their own supply if required.

No additional keyboards/synthesizers or keyboard amps will be supplied. If you wish to use a keyboard in addition to the digital piano or grand piano provided, you must provide your own, along with a keyboard amp. You will also need to bring a power board and power leads to accommodate any additional electronic keyboards or instruments and amps that you wish to use. If the bass part is played by a digital keyboard rather than a bass, this keyboard may of course use the bass amp.



Small Jazz Combo Rules

Generations in Jazz is excited to announce a new three-division format for the Small Jazz Combo Awards in 2026, designed to provide performance opportunities and fair, inspiring competition for ensembles at all stages of their musical journey.

1. Divisions

The competition is divided into three skill-based divisions:

- Division 1 – Set Piece: *A Night in Tunisia* (Dizzy Gillespie)
- For more experienced student ensembles, this division features more challenging repertoire and a higher level of improvisational and ensemble skill
- Division 2 – Set Piece: *Autumn Leaves* (Joseph Kosma / Johnny Mercer)
- For developing combos demonstrating solid fundamentals, growing confidence, and emerging stylistic understanding.
- Division 3 – Set Piece: *Blue Bossa* (Kenny Dorham)
- For less experienced ensembles focusing on foundational skills, ensemble cohesion, and early improvisation techniques

2. Repertoire Requirements

- Each combo must perform **three pieces** in total:
- The set Piece for their division (as listed above).
- Two own-choice pieces, which may be a standard, original composition, or arrangement.
- The own-choice pieces must be in a contrasting style or tempo to the set piece.
- Tempos can be decided at the director's discretion.
- The set piece and own choice piece can be arranged, meaning fully notated with horn voicings, individual parts, introductions, endings etc.
- Completely arranged tunes will not be favoured over more spontaneous performances (and visa-versa) as the focus of the small jazz combo section is on ensemble playing including evidence of an understanding of instrumental roles, interaction, blend, balance, harmonic and rhythmic cohesion and improvisation.
- Total performance time (including stage entry/exit) must not exceed **20 minutes**.
- Division 2 set piece Autumn Leaves may be performed as a ballad, therefore the own choice piece must be contrasting in tempo.

3. Improvisation Requirements

- Students are expected to either:
 - Perform improvised solos, or
 - Demonstrate skills that showcase the development of improvisational ability (e.g., call-and-response, pre-composed lines with improvised elements).
- Students are encouraged to build their jazz vocabulary by transcribing improvised solos from recordings of leading jazz artists. Incorporating phrases or ideas from these solos into their own performances is supported. However, performing an entire solo (whether memorised or read from notation) in place of improvising is discouraged.
- Rhythm section players (piano, guitar, bass, drums, percussion) are expected to demonstrate their instrument's typical ensemble role, including:
 - Piano/Guitar: comping, harmonic support, stylistic variation.
 - Bass: walking bass lines, time feel, appropriate note choice.
 - Drums/Percussion: maintaining groove, dynamic control, interaction with soloists.

4. Group Size

- Combos must have a minimum of 3 performers and a maximum of 9 performers at any time (this includes vocalists)
- Students may perform in only one combo per division.

5. Eligibility

- Division placement is at the discretion of the school's music director, ensuring that students are entered in the most appropriate division for their ability.
- Noting that a SBA Div 1 student can only play in a SJC Div 1, SBA Div 2 can only play in SJC Div 2 or higher and Div 3, Div4 and Div 5 can play in SJC Div 3 or higher.
- Any breaches of repertoire requirements or time limits will result in a penalty.

6. Stage & Equipment

The following equipment will be provided for your use

Nine (9) Music stands

Nine (9) chairs

One (1) bass amp (bass players need to provide their own cable)

One (1) guitar amp with single channel input only (guitarists need to provide their own guitar cable)

5-piece drum kit complete with ride, crash, hi hats and stool (drummers need to provide their own sticks)

A digital piano or keyboard

2 vocal solo mics

Vibraphone

- For Small Jazz Combo's performing notated or published arrangements, copies of the scores must be supplied to the GREEN ROOM MANAGER upon arrival to the GREEN ROOM.

NOTE: Latin percussion (congas, bongos, timbales, shakers) will not be provided, schools will need to bring own supply if required.

7. Adjudication

- Performances will be adjudicated by experienced jazz musicians and educators.
- The decision of the adjudication panel is final.
- Recorded feedback will be provided to each ensemble.

In the interest of efficient SJC change overs, rhythm section instruments and amplifiers are to remain in their allocated positions on stage while more portable instruments may be positioned as necessary.