

JAZZ STUDIES

AT

BUTLER UNIVERSITY

Why Study Jazz at Butler?

Jazz studies at Butler University is designed for instrumental and vocal music majors as well as those majoring in other fields. A student of Business might learn about the political and economic forces that have shaped jazz. A law student might learn about intellectual property rights of improvised solos. A student of dance can study how the 1930s and 40s Swing Movement combined music and dance in such a way that it captured the heart and soul of an entire nation. All of the students will explore culture with focus on nationality, race, sexuality, gender, economics and politics.



Choosing a Concentration in Jazz Studies

The concentration in jazz studies is designed for the music major who has a high interest and ability in instrumental or vocal jazz. The student completing a bachelor of arts with the jazz studies concentration will be a very diversified performer, having experience as a soloist, a member of a band, choir or orchestra as well as experience playing in large and small jazz ensembles. The jazz concentration graduate will be prepared to work in a variety of traditional and non-traditional music arenas. Above all, the concentration in jazz studies is designed to prepare students to be well-prepared and flexible improvisers in a world of constant change and possibilities.

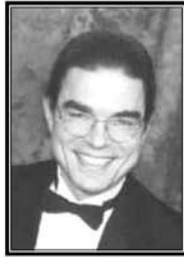


Choosing a Minor in Jazz Studies (for Non-Music Majors)

A student who is not a music major at Butler University can pursue a minor in jazz studies. This is a 24 credit hour minor, of which 16 credit hours are specified and the remaining courses are electives in the jazz program.



Gary Walters
Jazz and Popular Piano
gawalters@mw.net



Gary teaches applied jazz and popular piano at Butler, and works with a wide variety of artists performing jazz, R&B, fusion, straight ahead, bebop, country, southern gospel, and rock n' roll oldies. Recordings and performances include charts with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Pops Series, Carrie Newcomer, Nancy Davis Booth, the Buselli-Wallarab Jazz Orchestra, Cathy Morris, Charlie Smith, Steven Stollen, Jack Gilfoy, Mark Buselli, Paul Berns, Martha Reeves, The Crystals, The Coasters, and the late Bobby Helms. Other work includes the Gaither Studios, Hal Leonard Publishing, Bennett Innovations, and touring Broadway Shows. Gary has written, arranged or transcribed for the late J.J. Johnson, Simon Malls, Bobby Helms, Sandy Patti, and the 1991 World Gymnastics Games. Mr. Walters is a member of the International Association of Jazz Educators, American Federation of Musicians Union Local 3, the Fine Arts Society, founding member and past president of the Indianapolis Jazz Foundation.

Tim Brimmer
Vocal Jazz, Music Ed & Tech
tbrimmer@butler.edu



Dr. Tim Brimmer is Director of Vocal Jazz Studies at Butler, which includes conducting *Jordan Jazz*, the *Butler Summer Jazz Institutes* and the *Butler Vocal Jazz Festivals*. At Butler, Dr. Brimmer has hosted workshops and concerts with Bobby McFerrin, Rockapella, New York Voices, The Manhattan Transfer, Take 6, The Real Group, The Four Freshmen, Clio Lane, John Dankworth, Dr. Russ Robinson, Dr. Steve Zegree, Bobby McFerrin, and others. His ensembles have performed throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, South America and the West Indies. Dr. Brimmer is an active member of the International Association of Jazz Educators, Music Educators National Conference, the American Choral Directors Association, and serves on the board of the Technology Institute for Music Educators. Dr. Brimmer is the director of the Jordan College of Fine Arts' Multisensory Learning Facility and director of the Butler University Music Leadership Institute.

Required Jazz Courses

- Jazz Improvisation I-II
- Jazz History
- Jazz Pedagogy
- Jazz Theory
- Evolution and Analysis of Jazz Styles
- Jazz Composition and Arranging
- Jazz Piano

Choose Your Advantages

- Optimal student-to-faculty ratio in classes and performing ensembles.
- Flexible minors and concentrations in vocal and instrumental jazz.
- Excellent private instruction with Butler University faculty.
- Plethora of on-campus and community activities for jazz enthusiasts, students and artists.
- Spectacular performance venue (Clowes Hall), hosting artists such as Michael Brecker, Wynton Marsalis, Bobby McFerrin, Billy Taylor, Manhattan Transfer, Take 6, and many others.
- Beautiful campus in the heart of a historical jazz-rich city.

Jazz Ensembles at Butler

Butler Jazz Ensemble is by audition only. Past guest artists include Bobby McFerrin and David Baker. The ensemble has performed at the Elmhurst Jazz festival in Chicago and will perform in St. Petersburg, Russia in the Spring of 2005. A wide range of music is explored from Fletcher Henderson and Duke Ellington (*Nutcracker Suite*) to contemporary composers like Maria Schneider and Gordon Goodwin. Student compositions are always featured.

Butler Jazz Combo is open by audition only. The combo explores the art of small group playing, specifically improvisation. Works from some of the best writers such as Slide Hampton, Cedar Walton, Benny Golson, and Mulgrew Miller are explored. The combo maintains an active performing schedule.

Jordan Jazz is open to all Butler students through annual spring auditions. This 16-voice vocal ensemble and rhythm section has worked with The Four Freshmen (who are Butler alumni!), The Real Group, Take 6, Rockapella, New York Voices, and Bobby McFerrin, to name a few. Jordan Jazz has performed in the Ocho Rios International Jazz Festival in Jamaica, and is touring the West Indies in June before joining Dr. Brimmer, IMEA, ISSMA and Musical Arts in the Fourth Annual Butler Jazz Institute (August 1-3, 2005) with guest clinician Dr. Kirby Shaw.

