



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### About FAME

FAME - Foundation for the Advancement of Music & Education is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit serving the Greater Washington Metropolitan Region. Its mission is to give every youth musician the best opportunity to succeed in life by providing music instruction and academic support. Our programs enhance young lives through quality musical experiences and inspires young minds to take charge of their lives. FAME's programs include: **FAME Jazz Band Program** (Read more below); **Summer Music Program** (200 youth) provides safe places and structured activities for students during summer months through fun music workshops that incorporate STEM learning, exposure to the college environment, and music industry related majors and career opportunities. The workshops include Music Technology Workshop, Vocal Workshop, Songwriting Workshop, and a Jazz Band Summer Music Intensive. **Music is Central** (approximately 2000 students) supports school-day and after school music programs in local elementary, middle, and high schools by providing supplemental music instructors, materials, supplies, instruments and opportunities to share a performance stage with FAME Jazz Band and professional musicians. Additionally, FAME provides scholarships to public school teachers to purchase items for their classrooms or address student needs.

**What is the FAME Jazz Band Program?** The FAME Jazz Band Program (FJBP), is a tuition-free community-based year-round program that improves students' musicianship and appreciation for Jazz, and provides opportunities for students to showcase their talents, increase their academic skills, and learn the discipline for college and career success. The FJBP includes the **FAME Jazz Band**, **FAME Jazz Ensemble**, and **Musicians in Training**—a new component designed to build musical skills among less experienced young musicians. The FJBP was founded by FAME's

CEO, Ms. A. Toni Lewis. Visit [FAMEmusic.org](http://FAMEmusic.org) for more information.

**Who are the FJBP music directors?** The Artistic Director is renowned music educator and performer, [Dr. Clarence E. Knight, Jr.](#), and the Associate Artistic Director is educator and musician, **Alphonso Jiles, ED. S.** The Founding FAME Jazz Band Artistic Director was [Nat Adderley, Jr.](#), scion of the famed jazz family and international jazz pianist best known for his award-winning work as musical director, composer, and arranger for music icon Luther Vandross

[Langson Hughes, II](#), is the music director for the FAME Jazz Ensemble; and [Dr. Matt Rynes](#) is music director for the Musicians In Training.

**APPLICATION PROCESS.** Musicians apply for membership online and the auditions are conducted by a panel of judges. Register online at [FAMEmusic.org](http://FAMEmusic.org).

## INSTRUMENTATION

Alto Saxophone  
Tenor Saxophone  
Baritone Saxophone  
Trumpet  
Trombone  
Guitar  
Bass (electric/upright)  
Piano  
Drums/Percussion

**Fees.** There is a non-refundable \$50 application fee required of all applicants due when your application is submitted. An annual \$200 program fee is due the first quarter of each Season. A few scholarships are available for those who present a significant financial need. Inquire at [info@famejazzband.org](mailto:info@famejazzband.org) or 301-805-5358. Payments may be made via major credit card, PayPal or check. Checks must be received or postmarked by the closing date.

**How is the FAME Jazz Band Program Funded?** Funding is made possible by monetary donations from individuals and in-kind donations and grants from the Prince George's County Government, University of Maryland College Park School of Music, United Parcel Service (UPS), PEPCO, Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission, foundations, and other corporate sponsors.

**Practice Session.** Rehearsals or sectionals are held weekly on Monday's after school. During the pandemic activities will be conducted through distance learning via our **FAME Online Learning** Portal and at various venues such as FAME-Bowie, University of Maryland College Park School of Music, Prince George's County Public Schools, and MNCPPC Park & Recreation facilities. All activities will comply with the State of Maryland and the Center for Disease Control recommendations to ensure the safety of all students and staff!

**STEM TUTORING.** Tutoring sessions are held on Tuesday and/or Wednesday after school. Our academic partner is Innovative Study Techniques (IST)

**Performances.** Students participate in concerts and festivals at numerous venues throughout the year as the schedule and Federal and State rules permit.

**Parental Commitment** Parents are required to attend and participate in parent-student meetings and support annual FAME programs and activities.