



FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF MUSIC & EDUCATION

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## **FAME Names Tracey Cutler Interim Artistic Director of the FAME Jazz Band Program**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

FAME-Foundation for the Advancement of Music & Education, is pleased to announce that veteran saxophonist and educator Tracey Cutler has been named Interim Artistic Director of the FAME Jazz Band Program (FJBP). Mr. Cutler holds a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of the District of Columbia, and a master's degree in School Administration and Supervision from Bowie State University. Tracey is in his 35th year of teaching, having served as Director of Bands and the Creative and Performing Arts Coordinator for Prince George's County, MD, and he currently serves as Assistant Professor Instrumental Music and Applied Woodwinds at the University of the District of Columbia. In addition to his academic responsibilities, Tracey has recorded and performed nationally and internationally with a host of artists including Stanley Turrentine, Jackie McLean, Yolanda Adams, Lalah Hathaway, Johnnie Gill, Spyro Gyra, Peabo Bryson, Pieces of A Dream, and the late great Phyllis Hyman. He has recently been an instructor for FAME, and says "*As Interim Artistic Director, my vision is to nurture the next generation of extraordinary jazz talent by thoughtfully evolving our curriculum and opportunities while preserving the artistic and educational excellence that has defined the FAME Foundation's legacy*". The FJBP inaugural Artistic Director is Nat Adderley, Jr., former Music Director for Luther Vandross; and the Artistic Director Emeritus is Dr. Clarence Knight, Jr.

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FAME, tax exempt nonprofit based in Bowie, Maryland, was founded by Arethia Toni Lewis in 2004 to give every young musician in the Greater Washington Region the best opportunity to succeed in life by providing music training and academic support. FAME believes that children, teens, and young adults, regardless of social and economic need, should have access to quality music and education as part of their journey to adulthood. The FAME Jazz Band Program (FJBP) was established in 2015 as a community-based, year-round program that improves students' musicianship and appreciation for Jazz and expanded the organizational vision of Ms. Lewis. FAME provides opportunities for students to showcase their talents, increase their academic skills, and learn the discipline needed for college and career success.