



November Newsletter

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Visit the *EE* website at www.EssentiallyEllington.org

If you're having problems viewing this message or would like to read previous *EE* newsletters, please visit the [resources](#) page on our website.

Sign Up Now to Attend an *Essentially Ellington* Regional Festival!

Announcing the 2008-09 *Essentially Ellington* Regional High School Jazz Band Festivals, in four different locations this spring! The noncompetitive regional festivals offer an opportunity to perform Ellington's music and receive professional feedback from Jazz at Lincoln Center clinicians and other jazz professionals in your area. Sign up to participate now by visiting our website or contacting us for more information.

All *EE* members are eligible to take part in the regional festivals. Participating bands play at least one tune from the [*Essentially Ellington* library](#) and receive a post-performance workshop, soloist awards and written or taped adjudicator feedback.

Essentially Ellington Regional High School Jazz Band Festivals:

February 26, 2009

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

March 11, 2009

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

March 28, 2009

Greenwich High School, Greenwich, CT

April 18, 2009

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

For more information about registering to participate in an *EE* Regional Festival, click [here](#). Feel free to contact us with any questions!

New Rehearsal Guide for "Perdido" Online

We've just added a brand new *EE* 08-09 rehearsal guide for "Perdido" to the Resource page on www.EssentiallyEllington.org. Written by Reggie Thomas, *EE* consultant, Band Director Academy faculty member and professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, the rehearsal guide offers step-by-step teaching strategies for working with your band.

Check back for more teaching guides, rehearsal videos and information about Benny Carter. We'll also be adding a new guide to charts in the *Essentially Ellington* library from Ron Carter soon - a valuable tool for selecting repertoire for your band.

To visit the *EE* resources page, click [here](#).

New *EE* Series Featured on Sirius XM Radio!

Sirius XM Radio will feature *Essentially Ellington* in a new six-week series beginning Sunday, November 30th. The hour-long shows, hosted by Wynton Marsalis, feature recordings of the Duke Ellington and Benny Carter Orchestras, as well as the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, high school performances from the *EE* Competition & Festival and interviews with Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra members.

It will broadcast weekly on Sundays at 8pm (ET) / 5pm (PT) and Saturdays at 12 midnight (ET) / 9pm (PT) on Sirius channel 72 and XM channel 70.

Register Now to Attend the Minnesota Orchestra Jazz Festival Featuring the JLCO!

The Minnesota Orchestra is accepting applications for high school jazz ensembles interested in participating in a non-competitive festival featuring guest artists from the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra on **Friday, March 6, 2009**.

Each group will perform on stage at Orchestra Hall and be adjudicated by members of the JLCO. Immediately following their performance, bands will receive a workshop with one of the clinicians. Participants will also have the opportunity to watch the other groups perform. The festival concludes with group sectionals for each instrument family.

Participating groups can also purchase discounted tickets for the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis concerts at Orchestra Hall on March 6 & 7, 2009.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Wynton Marsalis names EE band director on CNN's "Heroes"

Wynton Marsalis recently appeared on a CNN segment of "Heroes" and recognized *EE* band director Davey Yarborough at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington D.C. Yarborough is a longtime *EE* member and founded the Washington Jazz Arts Institute as well as a summer-school program to offer free music instruction.

To read the article and view the segment on CNN's website, click [here](#).

Essentially Ellington Q&A with David Berger and Phil Schaap

In each month's newsletter we include a question and answer section featuring a topic and a panelist for the month. Send us your questions and we'll publish a response in the following month's newsletter. The Q&A will feature *EE* musicians, educators, arrangers, and consultants.

Question from last month for David Berger:

"One of my students has worked on transcribing the opening soli to Perdido from 'The Great Paris Concert.' I'm wondering if this soli can be appropriately inserted as an introduction to the *Essentially Ellington* 1959 version of the piece?"
- Steven Scott, Wellesley High School, Wellesley, MA

Answer from David Berger:

"I think that going right from Jimmy and Clark's line to the head would lack continuity. When Duke put it in front of Gerald Wilson's chart, Gerald's intro separated the line from the head of Perdido. I would recommend inserting an intro between the line and the head--possibly Gerald's intro or Duke's piano intro from the 1942 recording (or some variation)."

This month's panelist is **Phil Schaap**, jazz historian and curator for Jazz at Lincoln Center, who specializes in the research of jazz recordings and musician biographies. Send us your questions for Phil and we'll include his responses in the *EE* December newsletter.

Send your questions to ee@jalc.org

For more information on *Essentially Ellington*:

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