



January Newsletter

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Visit the *EE* website at

www.EssentiallyEllington.org

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Deadline extended for the *EE* Essay Contest!

We've extended the application deadline for the Eighth Annual *Essentially Ellington* Essay Contest - and added prizes of \$500, \$300 and \$200 for the top three winners!

This year's theme is **Jazz and Democracy**. Students from all *Essentially Ellington* member schools are encouraged to submit an 800-word essay exploring the connections between the American art form of jazz and our American way of life. Submissions will be reviewed by Wynton Marsalis, and the winning essayist wins a trip to New York City to share their essay at the *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival in May. The three top-placing essayists also receive a collection of prizes - including awards of up to \$500, CDs, subscription to a jazz publication, Jazz at Lincoln Center gear, books and scores for their school band directors!

The extended application deadline is **Friday, February 13th**. Late entries will not be considered.

Click [here](#) to download a PDF flyer with the details for the 2008-09 *Essentially Ellington* Essay Contest!

Announcing the 10th Anniversary Band Director Academy: June 26-28, 2009!

In celebration of the **10th anniversary of Band Director Academy (BDA)**, Jazz at Lincoln Center will present a three-day professional development workshop on **the essentials of teaching jazz** - including improvisation, rhythm section and big band rehearsal techniques. Featuring an integration of performance, jazz pedagogy and demonstration of best practices, BDA emphasizes hands-on learning and techniques to be applied directly in the classroom. It is led by some of the foremost jazz educators in the country and also includes jam sessions, lunchtime topic discussions and a faculty concert.

June 26-28, 2009 - Frederick P. Rose Hall, New York, NY

Faculty includes: BDA Director Ron Carter, Alvin Atkinson, Wycliffe Gordon, Stephen Massey, Reggie Thomas, Rodney Whitaker and more!

EE members are eligible for a \$50 tuition discount and we also have travel scholarships to help get you to New York.

Registration begins in February. For more information click [here](#) or contact us at bda@jalc.org

Competition & Festival recordings due January 30th!

Don't forget - recordings and applications for the Fourteenth Annual *EE* Competition & Festival are due by Friday, January 30th! All bands are invited to submit!

Click [here](#) for more information or to download the application. Good luck!

Essentially Ellington Q&A with Loren Schoenberg!

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.

This month's panelist is **Loren Schoenberg**; EE consultant, adjudicator, and Ellington expert. Send in your questions about what the judges will be listening for in the *EE* recording submissions: Mr. Schoenberg is happy to answer questions about style, soloists, repertoire choices or anything else that may come up when putting together an *EE* recording. Email us your questions and we'll include the responses in the *EE* February newsletter.

Send your questions to ee@jalc.org

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