

15TH ANNUAL CHARLES MINGUS HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION & FESTIVAL

Feb 17 - 19, 2023 charlesmingus.org



"A great experience for our students and insight into the impact Charles Mingus music has made in the jazz world and music in general."

—Philippe Crettien, *The Rivers School*

"It has been amazing to see the growth and sophistication that student groups have achieved over the last five years. It's a tribute to the music of Mingus and to your hard

work in making this music accessible to students."

—Julius Tolentino, *Newark Academy & Jazz House Kids*

"It was an honor to play this music and it was deeply gratifying. We had a great time!"

—Patrick Donaher, *Lexington High School*

Photo: Gulnara Khamatova



Dear Students, Band Directors, Parents,

Let My Children Hear Music (The Charles Mingus Institute) and Dr. Keller Coker of the School of Jazz & Contemporary Music at The New School are excited to announce the **in-person** return for the fifteenth annual **Charles Mingus Festival**, as we continue to celebrate the Centennial Year of Great American Composer and Bassist, **Charles Mingus**.

The Competition/Festival weekend includes a day of workshops at The New School, run by veteran Mingus repertory musicians and educators, a full day of Competition performances, special Mingus Big Band concerts, and numerous opportunities to immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of New York City. Don't miss a visit to the Charles Mingus room at The New School where his Steinway grand piano resides, and check out the legendary Mingus basses.

Past adjudicators and clinicians have included **Dr. Keller Coker**, trombonist/Dean of The New School of Jazz; **Justin DiCioccio**, former Chair of the Jazz Arts Program at Manhattan School of Music; **Wayne Escoffery**, tenor saxophonist/Professor Yale University; **Robin Eubanks**, trombonist/Professor Oberlin College; **Tatum Greenblatt**, trumpet/Professor The Juilliard School; **Conrad Herwig**, trombonist/Director of Jazz Studies Rutgers University; **Andrew Homzy**, Professor Concordia University, Montreal; **Sy Johnson**, Mingus and Mingus Big Band composer/arranger; **Boris Kozlov**, bassist/arranger/Musical Director of Mingus Repertory Bands/Professor Syracuse University; **Christian McBride**, bassist/Creative Chair for Jazz LA Philharmonic; **Eric Mingus**, vocalist/bassist/poet; **James Newton**, flutist/ Professor UCLA; **Dr. Alexander Pope Norris**, trumpet/Professor Rutgers; **Gunther Schuller**, conductor/Pulitzer-winning composer/educator; **Lauren Sevian**, baritone saxophonist/Professor Berklee College of Music; **Helen Sung**, pianist/Professor Columbia University; **Reggie Workman**, bassist/2020 NEA Jazz Master; and many more.

In addition, one \$25,000 tuition scholarship to The New School will be awarded in the name of Charles Mingus, to a graduating senior participating in the Mingus Festival. Award will be based on Competition performance, and application and acceptance to The New School's Jazz & Contemporary Music program.

Thank you for your heart, spirit, and dedication. You are an important part of the music community and the legacy of Charles and Sue Mingus.

100 years later... Mingus Lives!

Let My Children Hear Music, Inc. 291 Broadway #1405, New York, NY 10007
212-736-4749 / EDUCATION@CHARLESMINGUS.ORG

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Who can participate?

Combos and big bands from high schools nationwide. Combos and big bands are subdivided into a) nonspecialized high schools and b) specialized schools and programs.

What are the definitions of Combo and Big Band?

Combo: 2–9 musicians. Big Band: 10–17 or 20 musicians, depending on the arrangement. The Mingus Big Band arrangements typically have 14 parts; the Simply Mingus arrangements have 17. You may not double parts, but you may include 3 additional instruments. You may alternate performers as long as there are no more than 17 performing at one time for those using Mingus Big Band charts, no more than 20 for Simply Mingus charts, and 9 for Combos.

How do we participate?

Each combo and each big band selects three Mingus charts to perform and submits a pre-screening recording. They will receive detailed individual feedback from the adjudicators and compete for a spot in the Competition.

Can we enter as both combo and big band?

Yes, but you must submit two separate entries.

Can a student perform in two bands?

Yes, a student may perform in two bands as long as they are not competing in the same category.

What is the fee?

For \$200, each group will receive music charts, feedback on their submission, and may attend the Competition and clinics, even if they are not finalists. Fee increases to \$250 after Nov 15, 2022.

What if we can't afford the fee or travel to NYC?

In an effort to increase participation and diversity, we are pleased to announce the Sue Mingus Memorial Fund. Entry fee waivers and travel stipends are available on a limited basis. Please contact us for consideration.

What charts will we receive for our entry fee?

Combos will receive a digital packet of Mingus lead sheets from which they will select three to arrange. Big bands will select three fully-arranged Mingus Big Band or Simply Mingus charts. **You may not repeat selections you performed in the prior year.**

What additional support will we receive?

Videos, sound files, and other educational materials will be available on the website. Our office is available to answer any of your questions.

How many will make it to the finals?

12 total, 3 from each category: Combos, Specialized Combos, Big Bands, and Specialized Big Bands.

What if we are not finalists? All applicants, whether finalists or not, will receive adjudication feedback and may come to NYC to participate in clinics, concerts, and special events in New York City.

What if we can't travel to New York? You can still participate! You will receive charts, guidance and expert feedback on your submitted recording and access to any livestreams and online materials.

What if my school doesn't have a big band?

You may assemble a combo with other high school students and submit. You just need adult approval, as specified on the application.

What are the prizes?

There will be trophies and certificates, including Outstanding Combos and Big Bands (specialized and non-specialized), Outstanding Soloists, Outstanding Section Players, Student Arrangers, Individual Sections, and a "Mingus Spirit" award.

Can the same group win year after year?

Best Big Bands and Best Combo winners for two consecutive years may not compete for one year. They may, however, submit a recording for comment and attend the Competition weekend.

How long is our performance time?

If your ensemble is selected as a finalist, you will have 30 minutes of stage time during the Competition: 5 minutes on, 20 minutes of music, and 5 minutes off. Please take this into consideration when selecting your program.

Can vocalists participate?

Yes! Vocalists can participate with big bands or combos. Lyrics have been written by Charles Mingus, Joni Mitchell, Elvis Costello, and Sue Mingus. See page 5 for selections.

What do I need to know about the New School scholarship?

Please let us know if you have seniors applying to The New School's Jazz and Contemporary Music program and we'll connect you with New School for details.

What if I have other questions?

Call or email: education@charlesmingus.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT:

212-736-4749

education@charlesmingus.org

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Schedule and Deadlines

- Friday, Oct 7, 2022 Application registration forms available on the Mingus website. Music sent as soon as application is received. Application fee is \$200
- Tues, Nov 15, 2022 Application fee increases to \$250
- Sat Dec 17, 2022 Recorded submissions must be uploaded by this date. Pre-screening adjudication begins.
- Fri, Jan 6, 2023 Finalists will be announced.
- Sat, Feb 18, 2023 Full day of clinics and jam sessions at the School of Jazz at The New School. FREE. OPEN TO PUBLIC.
The New School Arnhold Hall, 55 W 13th St, New York, NY 10011
- Sun, Feb 19, 2023 MINGUS HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION PERFORMANCES. FREE. OPEN TO PUBLIC.
The New School Tishman Auditorium, 63 5th Ave, New York, NY 10003
- Mingus Big Band performance at location to be announced.
Outstanding soloists invited to sit in with the Mingus Big Band.

2023 Charles Mingus High School Competition is produced by Let My Children Hear Music (The Charles Mingus Institute) and Dr. Keller Coker of the School of Jazz at The New School.

Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation and Jazz Workshop, Inc. provide the charts.
<http://www.halleonard.com>



"I don't know any other composer in jazz of such wide-ranging stylistic, harmonic, rhythmic invention. And it goes all the way from the most soulful beautiful, simple, music to the most extremely chaotic, powerful music, and poetic in between."

—Gunther Schuller, conductor/ Pulitzer Prize-winning composer/educator

LET MY CHILDREN HEAR MUSIC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law.

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PART 1: APPLICATION REGISTRATION FORM

SEND PAGE 4 & 5 AND ENTRY FEE. (COMBOS CAN SKIP PAGE 5.) IF BOTH COMBO AND BIG BAND, YOU WILL NEED TO SEND TWO ENTRY FEES. CHECK PAYABLE TO "LET MY CHILDREN HEAR MUSIC, INC." USE ADDRESS BELOW. Fee increases after Nov 15, 2022

Paypal: paypal.me/mingusinstitute Zelle: education@charlesmingus.org

How did you hear about us?

Band Director

Name of Band

School Name

School Address

City/State/Zip

School Phone

E-mail address (IMPORTANT!)

School Principal's Name

Director's Work Phone

Director's Cell Phone

CIRCLE ONE: THIS IS / THIS IS NOT a SPECIALIZED school or program.

I would like to register a COMBO _____. Number of students _____. (2-9 students)

I would like to register a BIG BAND _____. Number of students _____. (10-17)

Combos: you will receive a packet of Mingus lead sheets, from which you will select 3 to arrange and perform.

Big Bands: please select 3 arrangements from the list on Page 5.

Please vary your selections by tempo, key, and mood, to demonstrate your ensemble's range, and for a more balanced and rewarding experience for musicians and audience.

More guidance in chart selection is available at CharlesMingus.org

Notes: (Tell us a little bit about your program!)

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BIG BANDS ONLY

Select 3 charts.

Brief descriptions and audio versions of charts are available at:

charlesmingus.org

Please vary your selections by tempo, key, and mood, to demonstrate your ensemble's range, and make a more balanced and rewarding experience for your players and audience.

The popular Simply Mingus charts are slightly modified from the original Mingus Big Band and are suitable for the Competition. More guidance in musical selection is available on the website, including various audio files. You may not repeat any selections you performed in the prior year's competition.

INSTRUMENTATION:

Mingus Big Band: 3 trumpets, 3 trombones, 5 saxophones, piano, bass, and drums. You may add 3 optional instruments (charts not included), for a maximum of 17.

Simply Mingus: 4 trumpets, 4 trombones, 5 saxophones, piano, bass, drums, guitar. You may add 3 optional instruments (charts included for french horn, clarinet, and flute), for a maximum of 20.

You may not double parts, but you may alternate the students who are performing.

Mingus Big Band in Bold

Simply Mingus not bold

Where it says (PDF) you will receive the unpublished Mingus Big Band digital files.

Band Name: _____

- All the Things You Could Be By Now if Sigmund Freud's Wife was your Mother (PDF)
- Bemoanable Lady – Mingus Big Band (PDF) NO SCORE
- Better Get Hit in Your Soul – Simply Mingus
- Bird Calls – Mingus Big Band (PDF) (reeds only) NO SCORE
- Blue Cee – Mingus Big Band (PDF) NO SCORE
- Boogie Stop Shuffle – Simply Mingus
- Boogie Stop Shuffle – Mingus Big Band
- Chair in the Sky – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Chair in the Sky, Vocal Arr. – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Children's Hour Of Dream – Mingus Big Band
- Diane – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Dizzy Profile, Vocal Arr. – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Don't Let It Happen Here – Mingus Big Band (PDF) – with lyrics
- Duke Ellington's Sound of Love – Simply Mingus
- Duke Ellington's Sound of Love – Mingus Big Band with optional lyrics by Charles Mingus
- Ecclesiastics – Mingus Big Band
- Eclipse, Vocal Arrangement – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Eh's Flat Ah's Flat Too (aka Hora Decubitus) – Mingus Big Band with optional lyrics by Elvis Costello
- Fables of Faubus – Simply Mingus
- Fables of Faubus – Mingus Big Band
- GG Train – Mingus Big Band
- Goodbye Pork Pie Hat – Simply Mingus
- Goodbye Pork Pie Hat – Mingus Big Band with optional lyrics by Joni Mitchell
- Gunslinging Bird – Mingus Big Band
- Haitian Fight Song – Simply Mingus
- Haitian Fight Song – Mingus Big Band
- Invisible Lady – Mingus Big Band (PDF) NO SCORE – with optional lyrics by Elvis Costello
- Jelly Roll – Simply Mingus
- Jelly Roll, Vocal Arrangement – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Love Chant – Mingus Big Band
- Meditation for Moses – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Moanin' – Simply Mingus
- Moanin' – Mingus Big Band

continued on next page

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(continued)

BIG BANDS ONLY

Select 3 charts.

Mingus Big Band in Bold
Simply Mingus not bold

Where it says (PDF) you will receive the unpublished Mingus Big Band digital files.

***If you are interested in a Mingus Composition that is not listed here, please check with our office to see if there is an arrangement available!



Band Name: _____

- New York Sketchbook – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Nobody Knows the Bradley I Know (PDF)
- Noonlight, Vocal Arrangement – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
NEWLY DISCOVERED PIECE with lyrics by Sue Mingus
- Nostalgia in Times Square – Simply Mingus
- Nostalgia in Times Square – Mingus Big Band
- O. P. – Simply Mingus
- Oh Lord, Don't Let Them Drop That Atomic Bomb on Me –
Mingus Big Band (PDF) NO SCORE
- Open Letter to Duke – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Opus 4 – Mingus Big Band
- Passions of a Woman Loved (PDF)
- Pedal Point Blues – Mingus Big Band
- Peggy's Blue Skylight – Mingus Big Band (PDF) NO SCORE
- Pithecanthropus Erectus – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Portrait – Mingus Big Band (PDF) NO SCORE
- Portrait, Vocal Arrangement – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Profile of Jackie – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Self Portrait in Three Colors – Simply Mingus
- She's Just Miss Popular Hybrid (PDF) – Mingus Big Band
- Slippers – Simply Mingus (PDF)
- Song with Orange – Mingus Big Band
- Sue's Changes – Mingus Big Band
- Sweet Sucker Dance, Instrumental – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Sweet Sucker Dance, Vocal arr. – MBB (PDF) NO SCORE
- Tensions – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- This Subdues My Passion – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Tijuana Gift Shop – Mingus Big Band
- Tonight at Noon – Mingus Big Band (PDF) NO SCORE
- Us is Two – Mingus Big Band (PDF) NO SCORE
- Wednesday Night Prayer (PDF) NO SCORE
- Weird Nightmare, Vocal Arr. – Mingus Big Band (PDF)
- Work Song – Mingus Big Band
- Ysabel's Table Dance – Mingus Big Band (PDF)

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PART 2: RECORDING SUBMISSION FORM

Deadline: December 17, 2022

SUBMIT PAGES 7 & 8 WITH PRE-SCREENING TRACKS CONTAINING YOUR 3 MINGUS COMPOSITION SELECTIONS.

Submit tracks to education@charlesmingus.org via email using Dropbox or Google Drive. You must record live, all playing together, as that will most mirror the live performance of the competition. There is no length limit for the recording. (There will be 20 minute limit at the Competition performance.) Please note if your recording has been cut intentionally, you will not be judged for recording technique, but please make the best possible recording you can- tune pianos, etc.)

Band Director

Name of Band

School Name

CIRCLE ONE: THIS IS / THIS IS NOT a SPECIALIZED school or program.

School Address

City/State/Zip

School Phone

E-mail address

School Principal's Name

Director's Work Phone

Director's Cell Phone

Band Personnel: Must be the same players as on the entry recording. Substitutes must be approved by LMCHM.

| Name | Instrument | Grade | Name | Instrument | Grade |
|------|------------|-------|------|------------|-------|
|------|------------|-------|------|------------|-------|

PLEASE TYPE into BODY OF AN EMAIL AND SUBMIT to education@charlesmingus.org

(If selected as a finalist ensemble, this is your program information)

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MINGUS COMPOSITION SELECTION

Please list the three Mingus charts performed for the recording and any soloists (name, instrument). Also list arranger's name (for Hal Leonard big band arrangements, specify "Mingus Big Band" or "Simply Mingus.") Student arrangers will be considered for Best Arrangement award.

1.

PLEASE TYPE AND SUBMIT IN THE BODY OF AN EMAIL TO EDUCATION@CHARLESMINGUS.ORG

2.

3.

NOTES:

This application is submitted with the full approval of the school administration and in compliance with all policies set forth. The signatures below indicate that the directors and administration understand and agree to all the requirements outlined in the Application form, and that all information therein is accurate and truthful. The signatures also indicate that the recording submitted has been made according to the requirements. The application indicates that the band must be the same personnel as listed on Application form, and if selected, will attend and perform at the Charles Mingus Festival & High School Competition.

We hereby irrevocably grant to Let My Children Hear Music, Inc., its agents, licensees and assigns, the right to use in any and all media and in any and all forms this applicant's and its members' name, likeness, photographic prints and any reproduction of their sounds, performance or appearance while attending the Charles Mingus Festival & High School Competition, for any purpose including promotion, advertising, or otherwise. With the use of the rights, we hereby release Let My Children Hear Music, Inc. and its agents, licensees and assigns from all claims, liabilities and/or damages which now or in the future may arise from such use.

Signature of Band Director

Date

Signature of Principal

Date