



# 16TH ANNUAL CHARLES MINGUS

## HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION & FESTIVAL WEEKEND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 16, 2024

The New School Arnhold Hall - 55 W 13th St, New York, NY 10011

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM - MINGUS BIG BAND OPEN REHEARSAL/MASTERCLASS

Arnhold Hall: Jazz Performance Space/Room 531 | FREE and Open to the Public

### SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 17, 2024

The New School Arnhold Hall - 55 W 13th St, New York, NY 10011

9:00AM - 11:30AM - HIGH SCHOOL BAND REHEARSALS / LUNCH	Assigned rehearsal rooms
11:30 AM - MINGUS FILM CLIPS	Room 202 (Lang Center)
12:00 PM - WELCOME CEREMONY MINGUS DYNASTY PERFORMANCE	Room 202 (Lang Center) FREE/Open to the Public
1:15 PM - 3:00 PM - RHYTHM SECTION CLINIC	Room 531 (Jazz Performance Space)
1:15 PM - 3:00 PM - WOODWIND CLINIC	Room 750
1:15 PM - 3:00 PM - BRASS CLINIC	Room 202 (Lang Center)
1:15 PM - 3:00 PM - THE ARTISTRY AND HUMANITY OF CHARLES MINGUS	Room 613 (The Charles Mingus Room)
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM - BREAK	
3:30 PM - 5:30 PM - DISCUSSION: TEACHING MINGUS	Room 203 (Hirshon Suite)
3:30 PM - 5:30 PM - STUDENT JAM SESSIONS	Room 202 (Lang Center), Room 531 (Jazz Performance Space), Room 750
<b>7:00 PM &amp; 9:00 PM - MINGUS BIG BAND at DROM NYC - TICKETED</b> DROM 85 Avenue A New York, NY 10009	

### SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 18, 2024

The New School Tishman Auditorium - 63 5th Ave, New York, NY 10003

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM - HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION: COMBO & BIG BAND CATEGORIES

5:15 PM - MINGUS ALUMNI AND BAND DIRECTORS' JAM

5:45 PM - CLOSING CEREMONY AND AWARDS

**7:30 PM & 9:30 PM - MINGUS BIG BAND at DROM NYC - TICKETED**  
OUTSTANDING SOLOISTS FROM HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION SIT IN!  
DROM 85 Avenue A New York, NY 10009

### MONDAY | FEBRUARY 19, 2024

**7:30 PM & 9:30 PM - MINGUS BIG BAND at DROM NYC - TICKETED**  
DROM 85 Avenue A, New York, NY 10009

LET MY CHILDREN HEAR MUSIC, INC.  
(THE CHARLES MINGUS INSTITUTE)  
CHARLESMINGUS.ORG

THE NEW SCHOOL

JAZZ



## LET MY CHILDREN HEAR MUSIC

# 16TH ANNUAL CHARLES MINGUS FESTIVAL & HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION FEB 16 - 19, 2024 CHARLESMINGUS.ORG

Let My Children Hear Music (The Charles Mingus Institute), and Dr. Keller Coker, Dean of The New School of Jazz, are pleased to present the finalists in the 2024 Charles Mingus Festival and High School Competition. The goal of the Competition is to provide an opportunity for high school music students to explore the wide-ranging works of Charles Mingus—the legendary bassist who left one of the largest and most personal legacies in twentieth-century American composition—and to find their own individual voices within the music.

The finalists were chosen from high school jazz bands across the country. Our adjudicators were impressed by the high quality of the submissions and thrilled to hear Mingus's music played with such heart and commitment.

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Outstanding Combo, Outstanding Specialized Combo, Outstanding Big Band, Outstanding Specialized Big Band; Outstanding Big Band Section, Outstanding Soloists, Outstanding Student Arrangement, and the Mingus Spirit Award. Participating students are eligible for scholarship to The New School.

Please visit [charlesmingus.org](https://charlesmingus.org) and follow us on social media to find out about future Mingus educational events.

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**FEB 16 | FRI** The New School Arnhold Hall 55 W. 13th St.

12:00 PM-4:00 PM | Jazz Performance Space/Room 531

[LIVESTREAM](https://charlesmingus.org) <https://charlesmingus.org>

## MINGUS BIG BAND OPEN REHEARSAL

**CHARLES MINGUS FESTIVAL**  
**MINGUS**  
**BIG BAND**  
**MASTERCLASS**  
+  
**OPEN REHEARSAL**  
FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 16, 2024  
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
THE NEW SCHOOL - ARNHOLD HALL  
JAZZ PERFORMANCE SPACE/ROOM 531  
55 W 13TH ST, NEW YORK, NY 10011  
REHEARSAL, MASTERCLASS, Q + A  
LET MY CHILDREN HEAR MUSIC  
THE CHARLES MINGUS INSTITUTE  
SCHOOL OF JAZZ: THE NEW SCHOOL  
[CHARLESMINGUS.ORG](https://charlesmingus.org)

TRUMPETS Alex Norris, Dave Adewumi, Philip Harper

SAXOPHONES Sarah Hanahan, David Lee Jones, Wayne Escoffery, Abraham Burton, Jason Marshall

TROMBONES Joe Fiedler, Adam Machaskee, Earl McIntyre

PIANO Manuel Valera

BASS Boris Kozlov

DRUMS Jimmy Macbride/Adam Cruz

**FEB 18 | SAT** The New School Arnhold Hall 55 W. 13th St.

11:30 AM | Lang Center/Room 202

## **MINGUS FILM CLIPS**

12:00 PM | Lang Center/Room 202

## **WELCOME**

Dr. Keller Coker, Roberto Ungaro & LMCHM team, Eric Mingus, Boris Kozlov

## **MINGUS DYNASTY**

Philip Harper, trumpet; Mark Gross, alto saxophone; Abraham Burton, tenor saxophone; Lauren Sevian, baritone saxophone; Conrad Herwig, trombone; David Gilmore, guitar; Miki Yamanaka, piano; Boris Kozlov, bass; Donald Edwards, drums

1:15 PM – 3:00 PM | Jazz Performance Space/Room 531

## **RHYTHM SECTION CLINIC**

Boris Kozlov, David Gilmore, Miki Yamanaka, Donald Edwards

1:15 PM – 3:00 PM | Room 750

## **WOODWIND CLINIC**

Abraham Burton, Lauren Sevian, Mark Gross

1:15 PM – 3:00 PM | Lang Center/Room 202

## **BRASS CLINIC**

Conrad Herwig, Philip Harper

1:15 PM – 3:00 PM | Room 613 (The Charles Mingus Room)

## **The Artistry and Humanity of Charles Mingus w/Eric Mingus**

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM

## **BREAK**

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM | Arnhold Hall: Hirshon Suite/Room 203

## **Band Directors' Round Table: "TEACHING MINGUS"**

Dr. Keller Coker, Wayne Escoffery, Conrad Herwig, Boris Kozlov, Eric Mingus

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM | Lang Center: Room 202, Jazz Performance Space: Room 531, Room 750

## **STUDENT JAM SESSIONS**

Moderators: Lauren Sevian, Abraham Burton, Donald Edwards, Philip Harper, Miki Yamanaka

7:00 PM & 9:00 PM - MINGUS BIG BAND at DROM

Feb 19 | SUN

The New School Tishman Auditorium 63 5th Ave.

[Livestream](https://charlesmingus.org) at <https://charlesmingus.org>

## 2024 CHARLES MINGUS HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION

*All compositions by Charles Mingus*

*Emcee Eric Mingus*

### Combo Adjudicators:

Ingrid Jensen, Mark Gross, Jason Marshall, Andy McKee

### Big Band Adjudicators:

Boris Kozlov, Wayne Escoffery, Conrad Herwig, Earl McIntyre

## COMBO CATEGORY

9:30 AM

### Rio Americano Combo 1

Rio Americano High School, Sacramento, California

Director: **Josh Murray**

“Haitian Fight Song”

Soloists: Miles Rothman, Bass; Salome Ospina, Piano; Colin Thowtho, Trombone

“Invisible Lady”

Soloists: Zack Long, Drums; Livia Bacchi, Trumpet; Salome Ospina, Piano

“Peggy’s Blue Skylight”

Soloists: Aidan Barnes, Tenor Saxophone; Colin Thowtho, Trombone; Zack Long, Drums

**Aidan Barnes**, Tenor Saxophone, 12th

**Livia Bacchi**, Trumpet, 12th

**Colin Thowtho**, Trombone, 12th

**Salome Ospina**, Piano, 11th

**Miles Rothman**, Bass, 12th

**Zack Long**, Drums, 12th

10:00 AM

### The Rivers Select 1 Combo

The Rivers School, Weston, Massachusetts

Director: **Philippe Crettien**

“Remember Rockefeller at Attica”

Soloists: Ethan Kasparian Weisman, Alto Saxophone; Jack Benson, Trumpet;

Arianna Martinez, Violin; Jack Willard, Piano; Nathan Manasseh, Bass

“Dizzy Moods”

Soloists: Jack Benson, Trumpet; Arianna Martinez, Violin; Ethan Kasparian Weisman, Alto Saxophone; Noah Springhorn, Piano; Gavin Bollar, Drums

“Orange Was the Color of Her Dress, Then Blue Silk”

Soloists: Noah Springhorn, Piano; Arianna Martinez, Violin; Jack Benson, Trumpet; Ethan Kasparian Weisman, Alto Saxophone

**Ethan Kasparian**, Alto Saxophone, Clarinet, 12th

**Arianna Martinez Cavero**, Violin, 12th

**Jack Benson**, Trumpet, 12th

**Jack Willard**, Piano, 12th

**Noah Springhorn**, Piano, 12th

**Nathan Manasseh**, Bass, 12th

**Gabe Manasseh**, Drums, 10th

**Gavin Bollar**, Drums, 9th

10:30 AM

## Enloe Jazz Ambassadors Combo

William G. Enloe High School, Raleigh, North Carolina

Director: **Robert C. Hunter**

“Jelly Roll”

Soloists: Sean McCoy, Clarinet; Connor Lee, Clarinet; Luka Ison, Clarinet; Jaden Evans, Piano; Dominic Kilgore, Bass

“Weird Nightmare” arr. Luke Ramee

Soloists: Dominic Kilgore, Bass; Jonathan Ross, Piano; Sean McCoy, Tenor Saxophone

“Tijuana Gift Shop” arr. Connor Lee

Soloists: Connor Lee, Alto Saxophone; Luke Ramee, Trombone; Luka Ison, Tenor Saxophone; Brody Benedetti, Drums

**Sean McCoy**, Soprano Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Clarinet, 12th

**Connor Lee**, Alto Saxophone, Clarinet, 12th

**Luka Ison**, Tenor Saxophone, Clarinet, 12th

**Luke Ramee**, Trombone, 12th

**Jonathan Ross**, Piano, 11th

**Jaden Evans**, Piano, 10th

**Dominic Kilgore**, Bass, 12th

**Brody Benedetti**, Drums, 11th

## SPECIALIZED COMBO CATEGORY

11:15 AM

### Jazz at Lincoln Center Thelonious Monk Combo

High School Jazz Academy, New York, New York

Director: **Willerm Delisfort**

“Monk, Bunk, and Vice Versa” arr. Thelonious Monk Combo

Soloists: Ezra Moran, Guitar; Sebastian Mesadieu, Trumpet; Samien Mesadieu, Alto Saxophone; Jaela Deas, Trombone

“Eclipse” arr. Thelonious Monk Combo

Soloist: Charles Ruble, Bass

“Boogie Stop Shuffle” arr. Thelonious Monk Combo

Soloists: Domenic Rigazzi, Tenor Saxophone; Bix Cole, Piano; Noah Buckner, Drums

**Samien Mesadieu**, Alto Saxophone, 12th

**Domenic Rigazzi**, Tenor Saxophone, 12th

**Sebastian Mesadieu**, Trumpet, 12th

**Jaela Deas**, Trombone, Vocals, 12th

**Ezra Moran**, Guitar, Vocals, 11th

**Bix Cole**, Piano, 12th

**Charles Ruble**, Bass, 12th

**Noah Buckner**, Drums, 12th

11:45 AM

### Jazz House Ambassadors Combo

Jazz House Kids, Montclair, New Jersey

Director: **Mike Lee**

“Dizzy Moods”

Soloists: Zuri McCune, Vocals; Kristian Greene, Tenor Saxophone; James Pakhomou, Piano

“Eclipse”

Soloists: Zuri McCune, Vocals; Sam Konin, Bass; Ben Sherman, Tenor Saxophone

“East Coasting”

Soloists: Ben Collins-Siegel, Piano; Ben Sherman, Tenor Saxophone; Sam Konin, Bass

**Zuri McCune**, Vocals, 10th

**Ben Sherman**, Tenor Saxophone, 11th

**Kristian Greene**, Tenor Saxophone, 11th

**Ben Collins-Siegel**, Piano, 11th

**James Pakhomou**, Piano, 11th

**Sam Konin**, Bass, 9th

**Ben Schwartz**, Drums, 12th  
**Alex Kavlakian**, Drums, 11th

12:15 PM

## **Jazz at Lincoln Center Mary Lou Williams Combo**

High School Jazz Academy, New York, New York

Director: **Timothy Norton**

“So Long Eric” arr. Timothy Norton

Soloists: Ellis Feder, Guitar; Chloe Madrak, Tenor Saxophone; Israel Stahl,  
Trumpet; Jeremy Baun, Drums

“Duke Ellington's Sound of Love” arr. Timothy Norton

Soloist: Carter Bryan, Piano

“Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting” arr. Timothy Norton

Soloists: Josh Quddus, Alto Saxophone; Pri Magavi, Trombone

**Josh Quddus**, Alto Saxophone, 10th

**Chloe Madrak**, Tenor Saxophone, 11th

**Israel Stahl**, Trumpet, 12th

**Pri Magavi**, Trombone, 12th

**Ellis Feder**, Guitar, 12th

**Carter Bryan**, Piano, 12th

**Catherine Zehr**, Bass, 11th

**Jeremy Baun**, Drums, 12th

12:45PM

## **BREAK FOR LUNCH**

### **BIG BAND CATEGORY**

1:45 PM

## **Hall Concert Jazz Band**

William H. Hall High School, West Hartford, Connecticut

Director: **James Antonucci**

“Invisible Lady” arr. Jack Walrath

Soloists: Pri Magavi, Trombone; Chloe Madrak, Tenor Saxophone

“Slippers” arr. Chico O’Farrill

Soloists: Adam Ward, Tenor Saxophone; Alex Hyams, Piano; Chloe Madrak,  
Tenor Saxophone; Jeremy Baun, Drums/Percussion; Nathan Ben Ari,  
Drum/Percussion

“Ecclusiastics” arr. Sy Johnson

Soloists: Alex Hyams, Piano; Adam Ward, Tenor Saxophone; Chloe Madrak,  
Tenor Saxophone; Maddie Makarewicz, Trombone; Bradley Crocker, trombone



**Sophie Mulready**, Alto Saxophone, 11th  
**Rachel Foxman**, Flute, 11th  
**Nora Kingwell**, Flute, 12th  
**Mabel Cook**, Tenor Saxophone, 11th  
**Chloe Madrak**, Tenor Saxophone, 11th  
**Adam Ward**, Tenor Saxophone, 12th  
**Sarah Jane Mielcarek**, Baritone Saxophone, 12th  
**Britton Housum**, Trumpet, 12th  
**Bennett Johnson**, Trumpet, 11th  
**Jack Neff**, Trumpet, 12th  
**Kyriakos Papasavas**, Trumpet, 12th  
**Ethan Shamshtein**, Trumpet, 11th  
**Bradley Crocker**, Trombone, 11th  
**Wigner Ma**, Trombone, 12th  
**Priyanka Magavi**, Trombone, 12th  
**Maddie Makarewicz**, Trombone, 12th  
**Matt Zeman**, Bass Trombone, 12th  
**Josh Mayer**, Guitar, 12th  
**Alex Hyams**, Piano, 12th  
**Owen Wang**, Piano, 11th  
**Myles Berman**, Bass, 10th  
**Jeremy Baun**, Drums, 12th  
**Nathan Ben Ari**, Drums, 10th

2:15 PM

## **Enloe Jazz Ambassadors Big Band**

William G. Enloe High School, Raleigh, North Carolina

Director: **Robert C. Hunter**

“Peggy’s Blue Skylight” arr. Connor Lee

Soloists: Nico Orazi, Baritone Saxophone; Killian Hagis, Trumpet; Connor Lee, Alto Saxophone; Luke Ramee, Trombone;

“Invisible Lady” arr. Jack Walrath

Soloists: Luke Ramee, Trombone; Patrick Donahue, Trumpet; Jaden Evans, Piano; Brody Benedetti, Drums

“Ecclusiastics” arr. Sy Johnson

Soloists: Jonathan Ross, Piano; Sean McCoy, Tenor; Luka Ison, Tenor

**Max Culbreth**, Alto Saxophone, 10th

**Connor Lee**, Alto Saxophone, 12th

**Luka Ison**, Tenor Saxophone, 12th

**Sean McCoy**, Tenor Saxophone, 12th

**Idan Ronen**, Tenor Saxophone, 9th

**Nico Orazi**, Baritone Saxophone, 11th

**Akshay Balasubramanian**, Trumpet, 12th

**Patrick Donahue**, Trumpet, 12th

**James Erwin-Wilde**, Trumpet, 12th

**Killian Hagis**, Trumpet, 11th

**Aidan Hale**, Trumpet, 10th  
**Sam Bingham**, Trombone, 12th  
**Aaron Brooks**, Trombone, 12th  
**Campbell Haygood**, Trombone, 12th  
**Luke Ramee**, Trombone, 12th  
**Zara Tekmen**, Trombone, 12th  
**Thanush Patlolla**, Guitar, 11th  
**Jonathan Ross**, Piano, 11th  
**Jaden Evans**, Piano, 10th  
**Dominic Kilgore**, Bass, 12th  
**Elijah Kinard**, Bass, 12th  
**Brody Benedetti**, Drums, 11th

2:45 PM

## **Newton South High School Jazz Ensemble**

Newton South High School, Newton, Massachusetts

Director: **Lisa Linde**

“Work Song” arr. Sy Johnson

Soloists: Adam Sheena, Trumpet; Gabe Lieberman, Guitar; Jared Wang,  
Soprano Saxophone

“Noonlight” arr. Sy Johnson

Soloists: Jared Wang, Tenor Saxophone; Freya Munshi, Vocals; Nate Scharf,  
Vocals

“O.P.” arr. Sy Johnson

Soloists: Jared Wang, Tenor Saxophone; Gabe Lieberman, Guitar

**Freya Munshi**, Vocals, 12th

**Silas Schenker**, Alto Saxophone, 11th

**Julia Lee**, Alto Saxophone, 11th

**Nate Scharf**, Tenor Saxophone, Vocals, 12th

**Jared Wang**, Tenor Saxophone, Soprano Saxophone, 12th

**Mehmet Evrenk**, Tenor Saxophone, 11th

**Oliver Malagodi**, Baritone Saxophone, 11th

**Gordon Wei**, Trumpet, 11th

**Cameron Garrett**, Trumpet, 11th

**Adam Sheena**, Trumpet, 11th

**Elijah Kosto**, Trumpet, 10th

**Tadhg O’Donoghue**, Trumpet, 9th (alt)

**Toby Schenker**, Trumpet, 9th (alt)

**Leon Huang**, Trombone, 11th

**Catherine Chung**, Trombone, 11th

**Eli Scharf**, Trombone, 10th

**Oxford Huang**, Trombone, 9th (alt)

**Adrian Camacho-Diaz**, Trombone, 9th (alt)

**Gabe Lieberman**, Guitar, 12th

**Matthew Quisel**, Guitar, 11th

**Juliana Gomez**, Piano, 11th

**Asher Navisky**, Piano, 11th

**Diego Mobarak**, Bass, 12th

**Nikhil Hiatt**, Bass, 10th

**Bennett Frost**, Drums, 10th

**Eli Rybnikova**, Drums, 12th

## SPECIALIZED BIG BAND CATEGORY

3:30 PM

### Jazz House Big Band

Jazz House Kids, Montclair, New Jersey

Director: **Nathan Eklund**

“Tensions” arr. Boris Kozlov

Soloists: Sam Konin, Bass; Desmond Diehl, Guitar; Zohar Cabo, Piano; Kristian Greene, Tenor Saxophone; Cole Rosenberg, Drums

“Goodbye Pork Pie Hat” arr. Sy Johnson

Soloists: Zuri McCune, Vocals; Spencer Chambers, Bass; Ben Sherman, Tenor Saxophone

“Passions of a Woman Loved” arr. Sy Johnson

Soloists: Ming-Lang Qin, Trombone; James Pakhomou, Piano; Mark Ricco, Soprano Sax

**Zuri McCune**, Vocals, 10th

**Daisy Yao**, Alto Saxophone, 12th

**Zach Wolpov**, Alto Saxophone, 12th

**Kurt Rehm**, Alto Saxophone, 12th

**Mark Ricco**, Tenor Saxophone, 12th

**Ben Sherman**, Tenor Saxophone, 11th

**Kristian Greene**, Tenor Saxophone, 11th

**Henry Yip**, Baritone Saxophone, 10th

**Hadassah Jackson**, Trumpet, 12th

**Roberto Cisnero**, Trumpet, 12th

**Evan Abraham**, Trumpet, 11th

**Marc-Evans Calixte**, Trumpet, 11th

**Ming-Lang Qin**, Trombone, 12th

**Nitin Raj**, Trombone, 12th

**Alexander Marichal**, Trombone, 10th

**Desmond Diehl**, Guitar, 10th

**Jake Lopez**, Guitar, 10th

**James Pakhomou**, Piano, 11th

**Zohar Cabo**, Piano, 11th

**Sam Konin**, Bass, 9th

**Spencer Chambers**, Bass, 9th

**Alex Kavlakian**, Drums, 12th

**Cole Rosenberg**, Drums, 10th

4:00 PM

# Jazz at Lincoln Center Youth Orchestra

High School Jazz Academy, New York, New York

Director: **Tatum Greenblatt**

“Love Chant” arr. Steve Slagle

Soloists: Catherine Zehr, Bass; Priyanka Magavi, Trombone; Shai Geballe, Tenor Saxophone; Diogo Feldman, Trumpet

“Diane/Alice's Wonderland” arr. Steve Slagle

Soloists: Charles Ruble, Bass; Samien Mesadieu, Alto Saxophone; Sebastian Mesadieu, Trumpet; Bix Cole, Piano

“Gunslinging Bird” arr. Steve Slagle

Soloists: Javin Ganewattage, Bass Trombone; Ezra Moran, Guitar; Domenic Rigazzi, Tenor Saxophone; Israel Stahl, Trumpet; Mason Pia, Alto Saxophone; Carter Bryan, Piano; Noah Buckner, Drums

**Mason Pia**, Alto Saxophone, 12th

**Samien Mesadieu**, Alto Saxophone, 12th

**Domenic Rigazzi**, Tenor Saxophone, 12th

**Shai Geballe**, Tenor Saxophone, 12th

**Chloe Madrak**, Tenor Saxophone, 11th

**Lorenzo Jose**, Baritone Saxophone, 12th

**Max Yousaf**, Trumpet, 12th

**Dujon Hayden**, Trumpet, 12th

**Israel Stahl**, Trumpet, 12th

**Diogo Feldman**, Trumpet, 11th

**Sebastian Mesadieu**, Trumpet, 12th

**Aravind Bhola**, Trumpet, 12th

**Priyanka Magavi**, Trombone, 12th

**Jaela Deas**, Trombone, 12th

**Evan Lee**, Trombone, 10th

**Javin Ganewattage**, Bass Trombone, 12th

**Ezra Moran**, Guitar, 11th

**Ellis Feder**, Guitar, 12th

**Bix Cole**, Piano, 12th

**Carter Bryan**, Piano, 12th

**Charles Ruble**, Bass, 12th

**Catherine Zehr**, Bass, 11th

**Jeremy Baun**, Drums, 12th

**Noah Buckner**, Drums, 12th

# SELF-DIRECTED COMBO CATEGORY

4:30 PM

## BC Quintet

Seattle, Washington

**Self-Directed**

“Boogie Stop Shuffle”

“Celia”

“Ecclusiastics”

**Akash Singh**, Alto Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, 12th

**Carissa Allik**, Trumpet, 11th

**Vai Taya**, Guitar, 11th

**Olivia McVicker**, Double Bass, 11th

**Axel Peterson**, Drums, 12th

## CLOSING CONCERT & AWARDS CEREMONY

5:15 PM

## Mingus Alumni & Band Directors’ Jam Session

Program to be announced from the stage

5:45 PM

## Awards Ceremony

7:30pm and 9:30pm MINGUS BIG BAND AT DROM. OUTSTANDING SOLOISTS SIT IN!

**CHARLES MINGUS FESTIVAL**  
**MINGUS**  
**BIG BAND**  
**FEB 17 - 19, 2024**  
**DROM NYC**  
85 AVENUE A NEW YORK, NY 10009

TWO SETS EACH NIGHT - SIX SHOWS!

SATURDAY - 7:00PM & 9:00PM  
SUNDAY - 7:30PM & 9:30PM  
MONDAY - 7:30PM & 9:30PM

LET MY CHILDREN HEAR MUSIC  
THE CHARLES MINGUS INSTITUTE

[CHARLESMINGUS.ORG](http://CHARLESMINGUS.ORG)  
[DROMNYC.COM](http://DROMNYC.COM)

# CHARLES MINGUS



*"Like Walt Whitman's "Song of Myself," Charles Mingus music contains multitudes. His compositions are among the most personal and most varied in music, sweeping across the country gathering in their wake the sounds of Dixieland, bebop, Latin rhythms, swing, romantic ballads, west coast jazz, European classical forms, African folklore, all of it rich with melody, all of it steeped in the blues, ranging from the most tumultuous emotions to the deepest privacy of the soul."*

— Sue Mingus

*"Making the complicated simple— awesomely simple— that's creativity."*

— Charles Mingus

Charles Mingus — one of the most important figures in twentieth-century American music — wrote music that is still far ahead of its time. A virtuoso bass player, accomplished pianist, bandleader and composer, Mingus recorded over a hundred albums and wrote over three hundred compositions, leaving the second-largest legacy in American music after Ellington. Mingus received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, The Smithsonian Institute, and the Guggenheim Foundation.

Following his death in 1979 from ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), the Library of Congress acquired his entire catalog of work including original scores, recording tapes, and personal effects. An NEH grant enabled the cataloging of all his compositions. Microfilm copies were donated to the New York Public Library. He has also been honored with a US Postage stamp.

The critical and popular success of the Mingus repertory bands testify to the enduring power of Mingus composition. The availability of his music through published arrangements, educational books, school courses, and workshops, coupled with the hugely successful Charles Mingus High School Competition, have extended the reach of his legacy. Students, musicians, scholars, and fans are exploring and embracing Mingus in ever-increasing numbers.

*"For sheer melodic and rhythmic and structural originality, his compositions may equal anything written in western music in the twentieth century." — THE NEW YORKER*

# MINGUS DYNASTY



*David Kikoski, Wayne Escoffery, Boris Kozlov, David Lee Jones, Alex Norris, Conrad Herwig*

MINGUS DYNASTY was the first band Sue Mingus organized after Charles Mingus' death in 1979, collaborating with his own sidemen to honor his life and work. Although Mingus was an iconic and trailblazing bassist, he always said he was first and foremost a composer, and left behind over 300 compositions that deserved to be played, so a band carrying on his music became a natural, if unanticipated, mission. Today, four decades later, the powerful legacy of Mingus Music ignites bandstands while new generations of musicians add their individual voices and continue to celebrate and explore this rich and varied musical legacy. Mingus Dynasty is flexible in size, from the quintet tradition of Mingus Jazz Workshop-style to the more typical septet or octet, with arrangements by Jack Walrath, Jimmy Knepper, and current Mingus Big Band members who use their decades of experience playing in Mingus repertory bands to collectively arrange on the bandstand and express their unique musical personalities, for an exciting and authentically Mingus experience.



*“Charles Mingus would be very proud of this band.” – Charles McPherson*

# MINGUS BIG BAND



*David Kikoski, Boris Kozlov, Wayne Escoffery, Mark Gross, Brandon Wright, Craig Handy, Jason Marshall*

The Mingus Big Band celebrates the music of composer/bassist Charles Mingus, who celebrated his Centennial year in 2022. Under the artistic direction of Sue Mingus, and building off the Mingus Dynasty septet that she formed after Mingus' death in 1979, this 14-piece band features new arrangements of Mingus compositions in a larger band format that Mingus was not always able to organize in his lifetime. The dynamic structure encourages deep explorations and ever-evolving ideations of Mingus Music and provides a platform for individual artistic expression.

Drawing from a rotation of the best established and rising musicians, the Mingus Big Band is highly sought-after by festivals and prestigious venues around the world. The band has eleven recordings to its credit, six nominated for Grammys, and one win in 2011 with *Live at Jazz Standard*. A new album, *The Charles Mingus Centennial Sessions*, was released in October 2022 and nominated for a Grammy. The second volume from that session will be released in 2024.

The band has become a New York institution for locals and tourists alike, with a weekly residency now in its fourth decade. From Thursday nights at Fez under Time Cafe, to Joe's Pub, Iridium, and landing finally at Mingus Mondays at Jazz Standard until its pandemic closure. Please join us at our new home DROM, moving to Wednesdays in March.

*The hippest big band in the universe - robust, earthy, sanctified.”  
— Time Out New York*



# DEDICATED TO SUE MINGUS

## April 2, 1930 - September 24, 2022



“When I asked Charles if he ever was going to come back after he died—if anyone would figure it out, Charles would—he said, ‘I’m never going to leave.’ Charles’s footprints are still walking the earth with his music; he’s very much alive.”

Sue Mingus was a journalist, writer, and publisher, who met Charles Mingus in New York in 1964. She published a literary, arts, and music magazine called *Changes* and began acting as Mingus’ manager,

and shortly thereafter, as his partner in running *Jazz Workshop*, a music publishing company he had created to maintain control over his music.

After Charles Mingus’ death in 1979, Sue Mingus created and directed repertory ensembles that carry on the music of her late husband. The most well known is the Mingus Big Band, a New York institution, which since 1991 has performed weekly at Fez Under Time Cafe and Jazz Standard, with the Mingus Dynasty and the Mingus Orchestra in the rotation. In 1989, she produced Mingus’ monumental *Epitaph* in its premiere at Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall. She has produced numerous Grammy-nominated recordings with Mingus repertory bands, the 2011 Grammy-winning *Mingus Big Band Live at Jazz Standard*, and several unreleased Charles Mingus recordings.

Mingus’ documentation of her husband’s body of work resulted in a sizable archive, the Charles Mingus Collection, now housed at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC. Sue Mingus has published educational books including *Charles Mingus: More than a Fake Book*, and several *Charles Mingus: More than a Play Alongs*, distributed by Hal Leonard Publishers. Other publications include *Mingus Big Band charts*, a book of guitar charts, and a special series for students called “Simply Mingus.” In 2008, she founded the annual Charles Mingus High School Competition and Festival, at the Manhattan School of Music and currently at the New School.

In 2002, Pantheon (Random House) released Sue’s memoir of her life with Mingus entitled *Tonight At Noon: A Love Story*, which was a *New York Times* Notable Book and a *Los Angeles Times* Best Book of the Year. It was released in paperback by DaCapo press and has been translated into several languages.

Sue Mingus was the recipient of the 2023 A.B. Spellman NEA Jazz Masters Fellowship for Jazz Advocacy honoring her contributions to the appreciation, knowledge, and advancement of the American jazz art form. She was celebrated at a public concert by Mingus Dynasty in Washington, DC, on Saturday, April 1, 2023, in collaboration with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

# ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF JAZZ AND CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

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The School of Jazz and Contemporary Music is renowned across the globe as a center for progressive, ground-breaking artists. Considered the most innovative school of its kind, it offers students an artist-as-mentor approach to learning. The world's leading contemporary and jazz musicians, like Reggie Workman, Matt Wilson, Brandee Younger, Mary Halvorson, Linda May Han Oh, Jane Ira Bloom, and more, work with students one-on-one to hone their craft and create groundbreaking music.

This is a rare place where students can pursue what makes their artistic voice unique. We encourage students to explore their own talents and reach across disciplines to construct new rhythms, inventive compositions, and original means of expression. There are nearly 80 ensembles students can play in each semester.

Outside the classroom, New York City becomes a performance hall. Play in clubs, concert halls, and venues throughout New York and in festivals and exchange programs around the world. Students can start their professional performance career right away through our Gig Office; we have the largest music internship program in New York. There is opportunity to work with producers, editors, and recording artists of the highest caliber. Students will be immersed not only in the newest music but also in the nuances of the music industry.

Our curriculum allows students to infuse their music education with elements of design, literature, history, journalism and more. Students can take courses offered at the Mannes School of Music, Parsons School of Design, and Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts. In addition, we have created a number of project-based interdisciplinary classes, such as an exploration of sound-image relationships in early 20th-century multimedia art, offered by Parsons and Jazz. The results of this university-wide interconnectivity can be seen in the success of our alumni in a range of genres and categories of creative work, both in and outside of music.

**THE NEW SCHOOL**  
**JAZZ**



*Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation is a sponsor of the Charles Mingus High School Competition.*

# ABOUT LET MY CHILDREN HEAR MUSIC

*“Let my children have music. Let them hear live music. Not noise. My children! You do what you want with your own!”*

–Charles Mingus (from the album *Let My Children Hear Music*)



Let My Children Hear Music, Inc The Charles Mingus Institute is a nonprofit organization created in 1986 to

promote the compositional legacy of musician and

composer Charles Mingus through publishing, education, archival preservation, and performance. When Mingus died in 1979 at age 56, he had written over 300 compositions, one of the largest bodies of work in 20th-century American music.

Let My Children Hear Music, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, and contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law.

## Administrative Staff

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Shannon Manning, Director of Operations, Jazz Workshop, Inc.

Eric Mingus, Consultant, Jazz Workshop, Inc.

Zach Kirsimae, Program Manager, Jazz Workshop, Inc.

Theodore Davis, Librarian, Jazz Workshop, Inc.

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## Special thanks

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**LET MY CHILDREN HEAR MUSIC, INC.**  
**(THE CHARLES MINGUS INSTITUTE)**  
**CHARLESMINGUS.ORG**

16TH ANNUAL

# CHARLES MINGUS

HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION & FESTIVAL

## COMPETITION SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024**

The New School Tishman Auditorium - 63 5th Ave, New York, NY 10003

9:00 AM - WELCOME

### COMBO CATEGORY

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM - Rio Americano Combo 1, Sacramento, CA. Dir. Josh Murray

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM - The Rivers Select 1 Combo, Weston, MA. Dir. Philippe Crettien

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM - Enloe Jazz Ambassadors Combo, Raleigh, NC. Dir. Robert C. Hunter

### SPECIALIZED COMBO CATEGORY

11:15 AM - 11:45 AM - Jazz at Lincoln Center Thelonious Monk Combo, NYC. Dir. Willerm Delisfort

11:45 AM - 12:15 PM - Jazz House Ambassadors Combo, Montclair, NJ. Dir. Mike Lee

12:15 PM - 12:45 PM - Jazz at Lincoln Center Mary Lou Williams Combo, NYC. Dir. Timothy Norton

**BREAK // 12:45 PM - 1:45 PM**

### BIG BAND CATEGORY

1:45 PM - 2:15 PM - Hall Concert Jazz Band, West Hartford, CT. Dir. James Antonucci

2:15 PM - 2:45 PM - Enloe Jazz Ambassadors Big Band, Raleigh, NC. Dir. Robert C. Hunter

2:45 PM - 3:15 PM - Newton South High School Jazz Ensemble, Newton, MA. Dir. Lisa Linde

### SPECIALIZED BIG BAND CATEGORY

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM - Jazz House Big Band, Montclair, NJ. Dir. Nathan Eklund

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM - Jazz at Lincoln Center Youth Orchestra, NYC. Dir. Tatum Greenblatt

### SELF-DIRECTED COMBO CATEGORY

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM - BC Quintet, Seattle, WA. Self-Directed

5:15 PM - 5:45 PM - Mingus Alumni and Band Directors' Jam

5:45 PM - 6:00 PM - Closing Ceremony & Awards

**7:30 PM & 9:30 PM - MINGUS BIG BAND at DROM NYC**

**OUTSTANDING SOLOISTS SIT IN!**

DROM 85 Avenue A, New York, NY 10009

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**JAZZ**