

# LET MY CHILDREN HEAR MUSIC THE CHARLES MINGUS INSTITUTE



## CHARLES MINGUS HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION & FESTIVAL Friday, February 17 - Monday, February 20, 2017

### HIGH SCHOOL FINALISTS ANNOUNCED!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 5, 2017 - New York, NY

Sue Mingus, Let My Children Hear Music/The Charles Mingus Institute and Manhattan School of Music announce finalists (see attached) and an exciting lineup for the Charles Mingus High School Competition and Festival Weekend, February 17-20, 2017. Entries to this year's Competition include big bands and combos from across the nation, showcasing the results of their hard work and dedication to the music. The 2017 Festival will include events produced by Let My Children Hear Music as well as events presented together with Manhattan School of Music. The Mingus Big Band will perform all weekend at Jazz Standard. On Sunday night, in one of the most exciting programs of the weekend, "outstanding soloists" from the Competition will have an opportunity to sit in with the band.

On Saturday, finalists will participate in a full day of master classes for instruments and sections, including lectures, films, and clinics that explore aspects of Mingus music, followed by a student Mingus jam. Prominent educators and musicians will participate in Saturday's clinics and adjudicate the Competition on Sunday. These events take place at Manhattan School of Music (122nd Street & Broadway).

Please note the various locations for other events. All events are open to the public. More details to be announced at <http://www.CharlesMingus.org>

#### SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

**FRIDAY, FEB 17-SUNDAY, FEB 19 MINGUS BIG BAND** at Jazz Standard 116 E. 27th btw Park & Lex <http://jazzstandard.com>. Sets at 7:30pm/9:30pm. Fri & Sat third set at 11:30pm. Fri/Sat: \$30/\$15 students, Sunday \$25/\$12.50 students.

#### **SATURDAY, FEB 18**

-FULL DAY OF CLINICS, MASTER CLASSES, JAMS and performances by Mingus Dynasty for Student Finalists at Manhattan School of Music 122nd Street & Broadway <http://www.msmnyc.edu>. 10:00am - 5:00pm

#### **SUNDAY, FEB 19**

-Mingus High School COMPETITION at Manhattan School of Music. 122nd Street & Broadway. MSM Mingus Ensemble performs. Free and open to the public.

-MINGUS BIG BAND at Jazz Standard. Sets 7:30 & 9:30 with Outstanding Soloists from the Competition sitting in. \$25/\$12.50 students

**MONDAY, FEB 20 MINGUS ORCHESTRA** at Jazz Standard 116 E. 27th btw Park & Lex. Sets at 7:30/9:30. \$25/\$12.50 students

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## 2017 MINGUS HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION FINALISTS

The finalists are:

### **BIG BAND CATEGORY**

Boston Latin High School Big Band, Boston, MA. Band Director: Paul J. Pitts  
Lexington High School Jazz Ensemble, Lexington, MA. Band Director: Patrick Donaher  
Medfield High School Jazz Band, Medfield, MA. Band Director: Douglas Olsen

### **COMBO CATEGORY**

Berkeley High School Combo A, Berkeley, CA. Band Director: Sarah Cline  
Rio Americano High School Jazz Combo, Sacramento, CA. Band Director: Max Kiesner  
Newark Academy Combo, Livingston, NJ. Band Director: Julius Tolentino

### **BIG BAND CATEGORY - Specialized Schools and Programs**

Jazz at Lincoln Center Youth Studio Ensemble, New York, NY. Band Director: Kenny Rampton  
Jazz House Big Band, Jazz House Kids. Montclair, NJ. Band Director: Julius Tolentino  
SFJAZZ High School All Stars Big Band, San Francisco, CA. Band Director: Paul Contos

### **COMBO CATEGORY - Specialized Schools and Program**

Tulsa Jambassadors, Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame, Tulsa, OK. Band Director: Doug Styers  
Jazz House Ambassadors, Jazz House Kids, Montclair, NJ. Band Director: Mike Lee  
SFJAZZ High School All Stars Combo, San Francisco, CA. Band Director: Dann Zinn

“You are guaranteed a great and profound experience when you perform music by this giant of jazz composition.”

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

“The deep study of this music has affected our lives. It’s changed us as people and players.”

—Jeffery Leonard, band director



The Charles Mingus High School Competition is supported in part by Hal Leonard Corporation.

**LET MY CHILDREN HEAR MUSIC (THE CHARLES MINGUS INSTITUTE), a 501c(3) Incorporated in New York November 26, 1986, is devoted to expanding and promoting the legacy of composer Charles Mingus through performance, education, publishing, and archival preservation.**

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