KANSAS CITY AREA YOUTH JAZZ · 2027 FELLOWSHIP CYCLE

Join Our Sponsors

Professional mentorship, performance and recording for the next generation of jazz artists.

Kansas City Area Youth Jazz, Inc. (KCAYJ) is a 501(c)(3) public charity serving the Kansas City metro. We award merit-based, no-cost tuition fellowships to high school and college musicians. Fellows learn alongside working professionals in rehearsal, performance and the studio, and each season culminates in a commercially distributed album. Sponsors make every chair in the band, every masterclass and every studio hour possible, starting with the audition that opens the door.

SPONSOR THE SEASON OPENER

2027 Fellowship Auditions

DATE
Sun., Feb. 21, 2027

TIME
2:00 – 8:00 p.m.

A brief 15-minute audition per candidate.

LOCATION
Kansas City Kansas Community College
7250 State Ave, Kansas City, KS 66112

WHAT YOUR SUPPORT MAKES POSSIBLE

The Audition

01 Performing all 12 major scales in 60 seconds or less

02 Improvising over a 12-bar jazz blues in the key of F

03 Performing a Real Book standard with improvisation

04 Drum set: all grooves, including bossa, samba, funk, swing and ballad

05 Candidate interview

06 Accompaniment provided with the iReal app as applicable

Every candidate who walks in is evaluated on merit alone. Fellows selected from this audition pay no tuition, because sponsors cover the cost of mentorship, masterclasses, new works and recording.

YOUR SUPPORT

Is Vital

At Kansas City Area Youth Jazz, we are the missing link in the music industry infrastructure. We provide the next generation of artists with a unique, merit-based fellowship that turns music education into a professional career launchpad. Through “real-world learning” among exceptional peers, high school and college students get the clarity they need to navigate their futures. Donor support makes it possible to challenge, educate, and motivate these students through enriching musical journeys. The results are visible every season, as a growing network of Youth Jazz alumni perform professionally as leaders and side musicians across the Kansas City jazz community.

4	8th	$0
Named ensemble programs	Album recorded in 2026	Tuition for every Fellow

BECOME A SPONSOR

Sponsorship Levels

LEVEL 01

Kansas City Jazz Fellow

$10,000+

LEVEL 02

Watson

$5,000 to $9,999

LEVEL 03

Crain

$2,500 to $4,999

LEVEL 04

Brady

$2,000 to $2,499

SPONSORSHIPS, ADVERTISING AND PARTNERSHIPS

To learn more about sponsorships, advertising, or ways that you or your company can support Kansas City Area Youth Jazz, please contact our development consultant firm:

Midnight Blue Jazz LLC

Attention: Greg Carroll · 816.588.4804 · gcarroll@youthjazz.us

MEMBERSHIPS

The Quarterly Club

Platinum. Gold. Silver. Bronze. Payment for each level is available by PayPal subscription.

PLATINUM

$500
each quarter
$2,000 per year

PayPal payment option →

GOLD

$250
each quarter
$1,000 per year

MEMBERS
Manuel Constancio, Jr.

PayPal payment option →

SILVER

$100
each quarter
$400 per year

PayPal payment option →

BRONZE

$50
each quarter
$200 per year

MEMBERS
Brock Henning
Johnathan Ligon

PayPal payment option →

PATREON MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP

Become a Monthly Member

Various levels with thank-you gifts. Tax-deductible monthly memberships help sustain Kansas City Area Youth Jazz. patreon.com/join/youthjazz

SEASON FUNDRAISER

2026 Givebutter Campaign

Support the next generation of jazz artists through the 2026 Youth Jazz "Give Butter" campaign. givebutter.com/2025FELLOWS

FEATURED CAMPAIGN

25 for 150

Twenty-five supporters are invited to give $150 each and receive a limited collector's mug featuring 2026 Fellows album-cover art by Kansas City photographer Duane Hallock.

GIVE ANY AMOUNT

One-Time Donation

Use the Donate button on YouthJazz.us/your-support for our donation form. Gifts support new works, mentorship, masterclasses and recording.

EMPLOYEE GIFT MATCHING

Also find Youth Jazz on these platforms that allow employee gift matching: Benevity Causes (causes.benevity.org/causes/840-922098803) and the PayPal Giving Fund (paypal.com/US/fundraiser/charity/4854729).

HEAR THE MUSIC

Listen to the Youth Jazz Album Sampler, one track from each album, on the Youth Jazz YouTube channel (youtube.com/@youthjazz).

2024–2025 CONTRIBUTORS

Join These Fantastic Supporters

ArtsKC Regional Arts Council

Sarah and James Weitzel

Michael and Debra Gerken

The Louis and Frances Swinken Foundation of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Kansas City

Buttonwood Financial Group, LLC

Manuel Constancio, Jr.

iSTEAMKC

Martha Lee Cain Tranby Music Enrichment Fund

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Kansas City Jazz ALIVE

Muriel McBrien Kauffman Family Foundation

National Endowment for the Arts

The Sally Ann Firestone Foundation

Mid Atlantic Arts, Inc.

Frontier Community Credit Union

Dr. Phyllis Chase

Music Performance Trust Fund / American Federation of Musicians

Team Smile KC

WHERE THE WORK HAPPENS

Rehearsals

Kansas City Kansas Community College
Room 2190 (Music Rooms)
7250 State Ave, Kansas City, KS 66112

Recordings

Allegro Recording, Studio A
3600 Main Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

Office

c/o The Nonprofit Village
31 W. 31st Street
Kansas City, MO 64108

CONTACT

(913) 250-5141 · director@youthjazz.us · YouthJazz.us

Sponsorships and advertising: Midnight Blue Jazz LLC, Attn: Greg Carroll, 816.588.4804, gcarroll@youthjazz.us.
Mail: Kansas City Area Youth Jazz, Attn: Mr. Burnett, Registered Agent, P.O. Box 47, Leavenworth, KS 66048. Kansas City Area Youth Jazz Inc (EIN 92-2098803) is a 501(c)(3) public charity; contributions are tax-deductible under IRC Section 170 as allowed by law.