

Valley Jazz Cooperative Audition Materials for Piano

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. Thank you!

Thank you for your interest in VJC ensembles. We are delighted you plan to audition for one or more of our groups. Our annual audition calendar features **combo auditions in August/September**. Then the entire program *resets* with **big band auditions in November/December**.

Please note that different programs (combos vs. big bands) have slightly different audition requirements. This packet contains all the materials needed for *any* type of VJC ensemble audition. But please know you would never have to play all the pieces found here in any single audition. Read carefully below to understand precisely what you need to prepare for your upcoming VJC audition.

For All VJC Auditions (Combos and/or Big Bands), please prepare:

- 1) Major and minor scale performance (ascending and descending, hands together [*an octave apart*], two or three octaves).
- 2) Groove/feel demonstration by comping in a stylistically appropriate manner over the chord progressions to the two lead sheets found in this packet: *VJC Blues* (swing 8ths) and *Framer of Thy Song* (straight 8ths). You only need to comp over the changes found in each piece's improvised solo section (labeled "**OPEN for Solos**").
- 3) Improvisation on one or both of the tunes *VJC Blues* and *Framer of Thy Song*. It is completely your choice whether to prepare one or both pieces.

In addition, for VJC Combo Auditions, please prepare:

- 1) The melody to *VJC Blues* (right hand, only). Left hand can either rest (remain silent) or support the right hand melody by comping.

In addition, for VJC Big Band Auditions, please prepare:

- 1) There are three excerpts from the big band chart *Patience*, labeled **A**, **B**, and **C**. Select any two of those three---your choice---to play for the audition.
1A) As an alternate option, anyone trying out for AZ All-State Jazz Ensembles may substitute *those* audition materials (provided by ABODA) for the *Patience* excerpts listed above.

On VJC audition days, please be warmed up and ready to go by the start of your assigned audition time, so that we may stay on schedule throughout the process. Thank you.

Finally, please contact the VJC Director, Russell Schmidt (email: Russ@ValleyJazz.org) with any additional questions you may have about the audition process. And thank you again for your interest in the Valley Jazz Cooperative. We look forward to hearing you soon!

VJC Blues

Medium Swing

(N.C.) F⁹_{sus} Eb⁻⁹

(Bass cues sound 8vb)

Pedal point groove for INTRO

5 F⁹_{sus} F⁷(#9) Gb⁹ G⁷(b9) Ab⁷ Bb⁷ F⁷(#9) B⁹(#5)

Drum Fill

2X's THRU (on both the Head In and Head Out)

10 Bb⁷ Eb⁷_{sus} Bb⁷ F⁻⁷ Bb⁷(b5)

Str. Ahead Swing
(Bass walks)

14 Eb⁹ Eb⁻⁹ Ab⁹ Bb⁷ G⁷(b9)

18 C⁻⁷ F⁷(b9) Bb⁷ Ab⁷ Bb⁷ F⁷(#9)

To CODA

Drum Fill

OPEN for Solos:

22

26

30

D.S. al CODA
(twice thru on the **Head Out**)

34

CODA

34

CODA

Drum Fill

Framer of Thy Song

Med. Latin ♩ = 132-136

Piano introduction in 4/4 time, key of F major. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes, while the left hand provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes. Chords include C7alt. and (N.C.).

(Bass cues sound 8vb)

Musical staff 1 (measures 3-6). Chords: F-9, Eb7sus, Eb7.

Musical staff 2 (measures 7-10). Chords: Db9, C7alt., F-11, C7alt.

Musical staff 3 (measures 11-14). Chords: F-9, Eb7sus, Eb7.

Musical staff 4 (measures 15-18). Chords: Db9, C7alt., F-11.

Musical staff 5 (measures 19-22). Chords: Eb9, F-9.

Musical staff 6 (measures 23-26). Chords: Eb9, Db9, C7alt., F-11, C7alt. Includes 'To CODA' markings and an 'Opt. Drum Fill (just 8th notes)' section.

Framer of Thy Song

OPEN for Solos:

27

F-9 Eb9

31

Db9 C7alt. F-9 C7alt.

35

F-9 Eb9

39

Db9 C7alt. F-9

43

Eb9 F-9

47

(Soloist changes)

(Rhythm Section cue)

(mini-break)

Eb9	Db9	C7alt.	F-9	1., 2., 3., (etc.) (F-9)	Last X ONLY (F-9)	D.S. al CODA (after final solo)
Eb9	Db9	C7alt.	F-9	1., 2., 3., (etc.) (F-9)	Last X ONLY (F-9)	C7alt.

47

CODA

52

CODA

F-11 C7alt. F-11 C7alt.

56

F-11

Valley Jazz Cooperative Piano Audition Materials (for big band)

[loosely based on materials from *Patience*, composed by Russell Schmidt]

♩ = 144 (Straight 8ths)

A

mp

mf

f

STOP (OPT.)

B

mf

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STOP

C ♩ = 132 (Swing 8ths)

mf (comp freely)

A \emptyset ⁷ D⁹ Gmi⁷ C7(b9)

Fmi⁹ B \flat ⁹ Emi⁷ A⁷

A \emptyset ⁷ D⁹ Gmi⁷ C7(b9) Fmi⁹ B \flat ⁹ Emi⁷ A⁷ A \emptyset ⁷ D⁹

(comp using the rhythms shown)

Gmi⁷ C7(b9) Fmi⁹ B \flat ⁹ Emi⁷ A⁷ DMaj⁹ E \flat Maj⁹