

MTSU JAZZ ENSEMBLE AND COMBO VIDEO AUDITIONS

SPRING 2026

Jazz Ensemble audition guidelines for spring 26 semester are as follows:

- **Download** the correct jazz ensemble audition excerpt and perform the bracketed portions as a video. At the beginning of the video state your name and the ensemble(s) you'd like to participate in. Make sure to check your video for sound quality before posting it as a private video.
- All auditions for solo chairs should **improvise** one chorus of the chord progression to Miles Davis' "Four" with a backing track. See included lead sheets.
- **Upload** your video to youtube as a private video.
- Please **enter your contact information**, and your **availability** for ensembles, and private youtube link in the following online form:
<https://forms.gle/3LHGIEG1A52thjgw7>
- The audition **deadline** is Sunday, January 18th, 8 p.m. and results will be posted on Tuesday, January 20th so ensembles can begin on Wed. January 21st.

See COMBO requirements below

MTSU JAZZ COMBO VIDEO AUDITIONS

SPRING 2026

- **Students who participated in a combo in fall 25 do not need to audition.** Please fill out the online information form at <https://forms.gle/3LHGIEG1A52thjgw7>
- **For those who did not perform in a combo,** please record a video of the following:
 - **Horn players** should play the melody and then improvise one chorus of the chord progression to Miles Davis' "Four" with a backing track. See the attached lead sheets in the audition materials.
 - **Guitarists, Bassists, and Pianists** should play the entire melody, then improvise one chorus over the chord progression to Miles Davis' "Four" with a backing track. Stop the backing track and comp or walk the changes for a chorus, keeping the form. See the attached lead sheet in the audition materials.
 - **Drummers** should perform short 8-bar samples of the following styles: Fast bebop swing, medium swing, ballad with brushes, bossa nova, samba, 12/8 afro-cuban, funk.
 - **Vocalists** should sing a favorite jazz standard, with a backing track or accompanist.
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Good luck, and have a great semester!

Jamey Simmons

Spring 2026
Jazz Ensemble
Audition Excerpts

Altos

Play bracketed portions

NOTICE: The law provides penalties for any unauthorized copying or reproduction of any copyrighted musical work.

Three And One

composed and arranged by Thad Jones

1ST Eb ALTO SAX

MEDIUM SWING (♩ = 160)

The musical score consists of ten staves of music. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *ff* and includes handwritten numbers 2, 3, and 5 above the staff. The second staff has a handwritten box labeled 'BKX' and a dynamic marking of *f*. The third staff has a dynamic marking of *f*. The fourth staff has a dynamic marking of *mp* and a handwritten note '+4 Play'. The fifth staff has a dynamic marking of *f* and a handwritten box labeled 'C'. The sixth staff has a dynamic marking of *f* and a handwritten note 'Solo'. The seventh staff has a dynamic marking of *f*. The eighth staff has a dynamic marking of *f* and a handwritten box labeled 'D'. The ninth staff has a dynamic marking of *f*. The tenth staff has a dynamic marking of *f* and a handwritten note 'Licks'. Various other annotations include slurs, accents, and performance directions like 'Play' and 'Licks'.

Tenor Sax

Russian Lullaby

from "Soultrane" Prestige 7142
Words and Music by Irving Berlin

Play as close to tempo as you can while still playing musically. Bracketed portions only

Rubato (♩ = 132)

3 15

Fast (♩ = 328)

*Bebop
Style*

N.C. (A) Em6

B7b9 Em6 B7b9 Em6

Gmaj7 Cm7 F7

Bm7 E7 Am7 D7 Gmaj9

(B) F#m11 C7 B7b9

Em6 G13b9 Cmaj7 F9

Em6 B7b9

Em6 B7#5(b9) Em6 N.C.

③ Em6 B7b9 Em6 B7b9 Em6

C7 B7 Em6 B7b9

G6 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7

Bm7 E7 Am7 D7 Gmaj9

④ F#m11 B7#5(b9) C7 B7b9

Em6 G13b9 C6 B7b9

Em6 B7b9 Em6 B7b9

Em6 B7b9 Em6 B7b9

⑤ Em6

Play bracketed portions

Lead trumpets

Three And One

composed and arranged by Thad Jones

1ST B^b TRUMPET

MEDIUM SWING (♩ = 160)

rhythm

E 1ST TIME - BARITONE SAX SOLO Open 16
2ND TIME - FLUGELHORN SOLO

Continued

1ST B♭ TRUMPET

2. *Faster*

THREE AND ONE

CODA

SLOWER - Rit.

SECTION
TRPTS

Play bracketed portions

Flossie Lou

Track 10-9: The Complete EmArcy Recordings of Clifford Brown

In a hard bop style

by Tadd DAMERON

♩=195

3

GMI⁷ C⁷ AMI⁷ D⁷ GMI⁷ C⁷

FMA CMI⁷ F⁷ B^bMA E^b7 AMI⁷ D⁷ GMI⁷ C⁷

8 GMI⁷ C⁷ AMI⁷ D⁷ GMI⁷ C⁷ FMA CMI⁷ F⁷

13 B^bMA E^b7 AMI⁷A^b7 GMI⁷G^b7 FMA CMI⁷ F⁷ CMI⁷ B⁷

16 B^bMA CMI⁷ DMI⁷ CMI⁷ DMI⁷ G⁷ DMI⁷ G⁷ GMI⁷

23 GMI⁷ C⁷(b9) GMI⁷ C⁷ AMI⁷ D⁷ GMI⁷ C⁷ FMA

28 CMI⁷ F⁷ B^bMA E^b7 AMI⁷A^b7 GMI⁷G^b7 FMA GMI⁷ C⁷

33 AMI⁷ D⁷ GMI⁷ C⁷ FMA CMI⁷ F⁷

36

continue →

Flossie Lou

Musical score for 'Flossie Lou' in G minor, 3/4 time. The score consists of six staves of music, each with guitar chords and fingerings indicated above the notes. The chords are: B^bMA, E^b7, A^Mi7, D7, G^Mi7, C7, G^Mi7, C7, A^MiD7, G^Mi7, C7, FMA, C^Mi7, F7, B^bMA, E^b7, A^Mi7, A^b7, G^Mi7, G^b7, FMA, C^Mi7, F7, C^Mi7, B7, B^bMA, C^Mi7, D^Mi7, C^Mi7, D^Mi7, G7, D^Mi7, G7, G^Mi7, C7, G^Mi7, C7, A^Mi7, D7, G^Mi7, C7, FMA, C^Mi7, F7, B^bMA, E^b7, A^Mi7, A^b7, G^Mi7, G^b7, FMA, G^Mi7. Fingerings are shown as numbers 1-3 above notes, and triplets are marked with a '3' and a bracket. A double bar line with repeat dots is present between staves 3 and 4.

Lead players only

1ST TROMBONE

2

THREE AND ONE

I

f *mf* *f*

cresc.

J

p *ff*

All bones

ff *Phat*

D.S. *AL*

CODA

SLOWER - RIT

ff *ON CUE*

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Three And One

composed and arranged
by Thad Jones

4TH TROMBONE (BASS)

MEDIUM SWING (♩ = 160)

*Bass Bones
only play these
bracketed
portions*

The musical score for the 4th Trombone (Bass) part is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of Medium Swing (♩ = 160). The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The score is divided into measures and includes various performance instructions and annotations:

- Staff 1:** Starts with a bracketed section. Annotations include *ff*, *3*, *2*, *f*, and *6*.
- Staff 2:** Includes *mp*, *b*, *7*, *low*, *sfp*, and *f*.
- Staff 3:** Includes *BK's*, *v*, *7*, *ACH*, and *f*.
- Staff 4:** Includes *3*, *mf*, and *mf*.
- Staff 5:** Includes *2*, *3*, *5*, *AK*, *f*, and *8/8*.
- Staff 6:** Includes *8/8*, *C*, *(SAXES)*, *16*, *D*, and *16*.
- Staff 7:** Includes *E*, *1ST. BARI. SAX SOLO*, *2ND - FLUGELHORN SOLO*, *3x*, *16*, *F*, *9*, *2ND TIME ONLY*, and *mp +*.
- Staff 8:** Includes *mp +*, *mf*, and *mf*.
- Staff 9:** Includes *G*, *1ST TIME ONLY*, *(BASS SOLO)*, *14*, *H*, and *16*.

Piano + Gtr. + Vibes Play melody

STEEPLE CHASE - Charlie Parker

80.

Swing ♩ = 190

Chord symbols: B^b , G-, C-, $F7^{+4}$, B^b , $G7^{b9}$, C-, F7, B^b , G-, C-, $F7^{+4}$, B^b , $G7^{b9}$, C-, F7, B^b , D7, $C7$, $F7$, $F7$, B^b , G-, C-, $F7^{+4}$, B^b , $G7^{b9}$, C-, F7, B^b , G-, C-, $F7^{+4}$, B^b , $G7^{b9}$, C-, F7, B^b .

Piano + 523
Gtr. + Vibes

Play bracketed portions

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PIANO - GUITAR **Three And One**

MEDIUM SWING (♩ = 160)

composed and arranged
by Thad Jones

(GUITAR TACET UNTIL [E])

The musical score is written for Piano and Guitar/Vibes. It consists of 12 staves of music in 4/4 time, with a tempo of 160 beats per minute. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (ff, f, mf, mp). Chord symbols are written above the staves, including Eb7(#9), Db7, C7, Fmi7, Gb9(#11), Fmi9, Ami7, D7, G7, C7, F7, Bb7, Eb7(#9), AbMA7, A°, Gmi7, C7(#9), Fmi9, Bb9, Eb7(#9), Eb7, Db7, C7, Fmi9, Ami7, D9(b5), G7, C7(#9), F7, Bb7(b9), Eb7(b9), Eb, Fmi7, F#°, Eb, Eb9, Ab7, Db9, C7(b9), G9(#11), C7(b13), Fmi7, Fmi7, Ami7, D9, A9, D9, G7, C9, G7(b9), C9, F7, Bb9sus, Bb7, Eb, Bbmi7, Eb13, Ab, A°, D9sus, Gmi7, C7(#9), Fmi7, Bb13, Eb, G7(#9), C7(#9), F7, Bb7, Eb, G7(b13), C7, Fmi7, Fmi7, Ami7, E7(#9), Ami7, D9, Dmi7, G7, C7(b9), G7(#9), C7(b13), Cmi7, F13(b9), Fmi7, C7(#9), F7(#9), Bb7(#9), Eb7(#9), Fmi7, F#°, Gmi7, Gmi7, C13, C13(b9), F9(#11), Bb7(#9).

Play bracketed portions

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Three And One

BASS

MEDIUM SWING (♩ = 160)

SOLI - w/ BARI. SAX AND FLUGELHORN

composed and arranged
by Thad Jones

mf

Shift up to Eb on A string

B

mf

C

mf

D

IX only for audition

BASS

THREE AND ONE

E

WALK

(1ST TIME - BARI. SAX SOLO)
(2ND TIME - FLUGELHORN SOLO)

2

E_b Eb Eb Eb D^{b7} C⁷ Fmi⁷ Fmi⁷

Musical staff with rhythmic notation (diagonal lines) and a first ending bracket labeled '3'.

mp

Ami⁷ D⁷ G⁷(b9) C⁹ C⁷(#9/b13) F⁹SUS F⁹(#11)

Musical staff with rhythmic notation.

Fmi⁷ B^{b7} Eb⁷ Ab Ami⁷ D⁷(#9/b13) Gmi⁹ C⁷(#9/b13) Fmi⁹ B^{b7}(#9/b13)

Musical staff with rhythmic notation.

F

E_b Eb Eb Eb D^{b7} C⁷ Fmi⁷ Fmi⁷

Musical staff with rhythmic notation.

Ami⁷ D⁷ G⁷ C⁷(b9/b13) F⁷(b9)

Musical staff with rhythmic notation.

B^{b7}(b9/b13) Eb⁷(#9/b13) Ab D^{b9} Gmi⁷ C⁹ Fmi⁷ B^{b9}

Musical staff with rhythmic notation.

G

(Eb)

SOLO

E_b⁷ Eb⁷ D^{b7} C⁷

3

Musical staff with rhythmic notation and a melodic line starting with a *ff* dynamic marking.

Fmi⁷ Fmi⁷ Ami⁷ D⁷ G⁷ C⁷

Musical staff with rhythmic notation.

F⁷ B^{b7} B^bmi⁷ Eb⁷ Fmi⁷ F^{#o}(b9) Gmi⁷ C⁷ Fmi⁷ B^{b7}

Musical staff with rhythmic notation.

H

E_b Eb Eb Eb D^{b9} C⁷ Fmi⁷ Fmi⁷

Musical staff with rhythmic notation.

Ami⁷(D⁷) D⁷ G⁷ C⁷ F⁷

Musical staff with rhythmic notation.

B^{b7} Eb Eb Gmi⁷ C⁷ Fmi⁷ B^{b7}

END OF SOLO
2ND TIME

Musical staff with rhythmic notation.

Play bracketed portions

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Three And One

composed and arranged by Thad Jones

DRUMS

MEDIUM SWING (♩ = 160)

BRUSHES

Handwritten bracket on the left side of the first two staves.

mp ff mp

mf

mf

BKS (BRUSHES)

f mp f mp

mf

OUT BREAK (circled)

IN STICKS (circled)

C (SAX SOLO) (circled)

HI HAT f

mf

mf

D

mf

mf

3x **E**

1ST TIME - BARI. SAX SOLO

2ND TIME - FLUGELHORN SOLO

mf

mf

DRUMS

2

THREE AND ONE

F (4) (8)

2ND TIME ONLY

3x

G 1ST TIME ONLY HI HAT TO BRUSHES BASS SOLO (4) (6)

(8) (12) (14)

H RIDE (4) (8)

(12) 2ND TIME TO STICKS START KICKING

I ENS. 'Kick' (circled note)

EASY f mp f

cresc. 'Kick' (circled note)

p f 'KICK' (circled note)

'KICK' (circled note)

ff TO BRUSHES D.S. AL

3 CODA SLOWER - RIT. TO STICKS (circled note)

Combo
Auditions

"Four" by
Miles Davis

Concert pitch

Four

Music by Miles Davis
Lyric by Jon Hendricks

Med. Swing

$\text{♩} = 178$

E^b_{MA7} **A** (E^b_{MA7}) E^b_{MI7} A^b7 F_{MI7}

Of the won - der - ful things that you get out of life there are four — And they may

(F_{MI7}) A^b_{MI7} $Db7$

stop time — not be man - y, but no - bod - y needs an - y more, — Of the man - y

E^b_{MA7}/G $F^{\#}_{MI7}$ $B7$ F_{MI7} (B^b7) $(D_{MI7}(b5))$ $G7(b5)$

facts mak - ing the list of life, truth takes the lead — And to re -

E^b_{MA7}/G $F^{\#}_{MI7}$ $B7$ F_{MI7} B^b7 break E^b_{MA7}

lax know - ing the gist — of life, — it's truth you need. Then the sec -

B (E^b_{MA7}) E^b_{MI7} A^b7 F_{MI7}

ond is hon - or and hap - pi - ness makes num - ber three. — When you put

(F_{MI7}) A^b_{MI7} $Db7$

stop time — them to - geth - er you'll know what the last one must be. — Ba - by so the

E^b_{MA7}/G $F^{\#}_{MI7}$ $B7$ F_{MI7} $(D_{MI7}(b5))$ $G7(b5)$

truth, hon - or and hap - pi - ness and one thing more — mean - ing on - ly (to coda) mean - ing love and

G_{MI7} $F^{\#}_{MI7}$ F_{MI7} B^b7 E^b6 solo break (F_{MI7} B^b7)

won - der - ful, won - der - ful love that - 'll make it four.

Solo on form (AB)
After solos, D.C. al Coda

E \flat Pitch

FOUR

- MILES DAVIS

149

7

Cmaj7 F7

D-7 F-7 Bb7

Cmaj7 D#-7 G#7 D-7 G7

2.

Cmaj7 D#-7 G#7 D-7 G7

2.

(FINE) (SOLO BREAK) D.S.

E-7 D#-7 D-7 G7 Cmaj7

(FINE) D.S.

MILES DAVIS - "FOUR + MORE"

Bb Pitch

Four

Music by Miles Davis
Lyric by Jon Hendricks

Med. Swing

$\text{♩} = 178$

A F_{MA}^7 F_{MI}^7 Bb^7

G_{MI}^7 Bb_{MI}^7 Eb^7

F_{MA}^7/A Ab_{MI}^7 Db^7 G_{MI}^7 $(C^7$ $E_{MI}^7(b5)$ $A^7(b5))$

F_{MA}^7/A Ab_{MI}^7 Db^7 G_{MI}^7 C^7

B F_{MA}^7 F_{MI}^7 Bb^7

G_{MI}^7 Bb_{MI}^7 Eb^7

F_{MA}^7/A Ab_{MI}^7 Db^7 G_{MI}^7 $E_{MI}^7(b5)$ $A^7(b5)$ \odot

A_{MI}^7 Ab_{MI}^7 G_{MI}^7 C^7 F^6 solo break - - - $(G_{MI}^7$ $C^7)$

Solo on form (AB)
After solos, D.C. al Coda

Bass Clef

FOUR

MILES DAVIS

Handwritten musical score for bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The score consists of five staves of music with various chord annotations and performance markings.

Staff 1: $E^b M a j^7$ (with a slash and repeat sign), $E^b - 7$ (with a slash and repeat sign), $A b m i^7$

Staff 2: $A b e b^7$, $D b^7$, $E^b M a j^7$, $F \# m i^7$ B^7 , $F m i^7$

Staff 3: $B b^7$, 1. $E^b M a j^7$, $F \# m i^7$ B^7 , $F m i^7$

Staff 4: $B b^7$, 2. $G m i^7$ $G b^7$, $F m i^7$ $B b^7$, $E^b M a j^7$ (D.S.)

Staff 5: (FIND) (SOLO BREAK)

MILES DAVIS - "FOUR & MORE"