



Dear Jazz Educator,

Swingin' greetings from Weatherford! I hope your 2018 academic year is off to a great start. The preparations for the 49th Annual SWOSU Jazz Festival are underway and we're hoping you can join us. This year's dates are **February 7&8** and we're thrilled to have trumpeter and educator **Sean Jones** coming to Weatherford for the first time. Backing Mr. Jones, will be recent jazz festival artist **Josh Hanlon** and his trio.

Mr. Jones is probably best known with his association with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra but he currently is the chair of the jazz area at the prestigious Peabody Conservatory of Music. Prior to that appointment, he had a similar position at the Berklee School of Music and has been at the forefront of jazz education ever since. One of his most recent endeavors is as the director of Carnegie Hall's NYO Jazz, a youth jazz ensemble that toured Europe in the summer of 2018. He's the artistic director of the Pittsburgh Jazz Orchestra, a member of the SF Jazz Collective, and on the board of Jazz Education Network. Mr. Jones has shared the stage with many of today's modern jazz giants including Joe Lovano, Nancy Wilson, and Marcus Miller. His association with Miller led to Jones being selected by Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter for their Tribute to Miles tour.

Mr. Jones and the Josh Hanlon trio will be giving a **FREE concert** as part of the festival on Thursday, February 9th at 7PM in the Berrong Recital Hall. The next day will be featuring our big band competition with middle school, high school, and university big bands from across the region. In addition to the comments received by the clinicians in the performance room, both Mr. Jones and Mr. Hanlon will be presenting **free clinics** about their careers and a topic of their choice. At 1 and 8PM, our guest artists will be joining SWOSU Jazz Ensemble 'A' onstage for two exciting concerts. We certainly hope you will bring your jazz ensemble or band students to hear these master musicians.

Thursday, February 8

7PM, Berrong Recital Hall - SEAN JONES AND THE JOSH HANLON Trio - FREE CONCERT!

Friday, February 10

8AM-7PM, Middle School, High School, and Collegiate Big Band Festival

11AM, JOSH HANLON TRIO Clinic

1PM, Concert with SEAN JONES, the JOSH HANLON TRIO, and SWOSU Jazz 'A'

3PM, SEAN JONES TRUMPET Clinic

8PM, Concert with SEAN JONES, the JOSH HANLON TRIO, and SWOSU Jazz 'A'

The application form, personnel form, and other pertinent information are enclosed and is available at swosujazz.com. As always, please let me know if you have any questions or if you have ideas on how to make this event a better experience for your aspiring jazz students. Thanks and looking forward to seeing you in 2019!

Cheers,

Richard Tirk