



Dear Music Educator,

Fall is here which means the preparations for the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual SWOSU Jazz Festival are ramping up! This year's dates are **February 15 and 16** and we're very excited to have the Terell Stafford Quartet as our outstanding artists.

Terell Stafford, acclaimed trumpet player based in New York, has been hailed as "one of the great players of our time, a fabulous trumpet player" by piano legend McCoy Tyner. Since the mid-1990's, Stafford has performed with groups such as Benny Golson's Sextet, McCoy Tyner's Sextet, Carnegie Hall Jazz Band and Dizzy Gillespie All-Star Alumni Band. Stafford is a member of the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra and they were awarded a GRAMMY in 2009 for Best Large Ensemble, *Live at the Village Vanguard*. Stafford can be heard on over 130 albums including his own, *BrotherLee Love*, celebrating Lee Morgan.

Stafford is the Director of Jazz Studies and Chair of Instrumental Studies at Temple University, founder and band leader of the Terell Stafford Quintet, and Managing and Artistic Director of the Jazz Orchestra of Philadelphia (JOP). Stafford is renowned in the jazz world as an educator, performer and leader and has received countless award nominations and accolades.

The Terell Stafford Quartet will be giving a **FREE concert** as part of the festival on Thursday, February 15th 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, the Terell Stafford Quartet will be presenting **free clinics** about their careers and a topic of their choice. At 1 and 8PM, Mr. Stafford will be joining SWOSU Jazz Ensemble Orchestra onstage for two exciting concerts. We certainly hope you will bring your jazz ensemble or band students to hear these master musicians.

## Thursday, February 15

7PM, Berrong Recital Hall – Terell Stafford Quartet FREE CONCERT!

## Friday, February 16

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

11AM, Terell Stafford CLINIC #1

1PM, Concert with Terell Stafford and SWOSU Jazz Orchestra

3PM, Terell Stafford CLINIC #2

8PM, Concert with Terell Stafford and SWOSU Jazz Orchestra

The application form, personnel form, and other pertinent information are enclosed and is available at [swosujazz.com](http://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 2024!

Cheers,

ONLINE APP HERE!



Dr. Richard Tirk