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**For High Res Photos:**

[Essentially Ellington Competition & Festival 2010](#)



## **JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ANNOUNCES 2011 REGIONAL FESTIVALS FOR *ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON* PROGRAM**

**Who/What:**

Jazz at Lincoln Center announces the *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band **Regional Festivals**, taking place from February to April 2011 across the nation. The noncompetitive regional festivals, presented in partnership/collaboration with universities, high schools, and performing arts centers, are designed to offer high school jazz bands of all levels the opportunity to perform the music of Duke Ellington, Count Basie, and other seminal big band composers and to receive professional feedback from Jazz at Lincoln Center clinicians and other jazz professionals in their own communities.

For more information on *Essentially Ellington* please visit: [jalc.org/essentiallyellington](http://jalc.org/essentiallyellington)

**When/Where:**

The EE Regional Festivals for 2011 include:

Friday and Saturday, February 25-26, 2011  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

Wednesday, March 9, 2011  
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Saturday, March 26, 2011  
Greenwich High School, Greenwich, CT

Saturday, April 16, 2011

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Saturday, April 30, 2011

University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, LA

Presented by the Performing Arts Society of Acadiana

**How:**

For more information about the *Essentially Ellington* Regional Festivals, please contact [ee@jalc.org](mailto:ee@jalc.org) or 212-258-9812.

**Background:**

Now in its 16<sup>th</sup> year, *Essentially Ellington (EE)* is a unique music education program that has **reached more than 300,000 students in more than 3,000 high schools** across all 50 U.S. states, Canada, Australia and American schools abroad. *EE* has produced and distributed more than **90,000 copies of 90 previously unavailable scores**. The program culminates in its prestigious Competition & Festival where the top 15 high school jazz bands and one winning community ensemble compete and participate in workshops, jam sessions, and more. The three top-placing bands perform with Artistic Director of Jazz at Lincoln Center, Wynton Marsalis, as guest soloist, followed by a performance by the 15-piece Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra – whose members serve as mentors for the finalist bands throughout the weekend. The Festival's finale is an awards ceremony honoring outstanding soloists, sections and the top three bands. The Competition & Festival is the culmination of the annual *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program, which also includes regional festivals, curriculum resources, a student writing contest, a summer Band Director Academy, monthly newsletters, and more.

**Sponsorship:**

Founding leadership support for *Essentially Ellington* is provided by The Jack and Susan Rudin Educational and Scholarship Fund. Major support is provided by The Con Edison Community Partnership Fund, The Irene Diamond Fund, Alfred and Gail Engleberg, The Ella Fitzgerald Foundation, The Heckscher Foundation for Children, The Charles Evans Hughes Memorial Foundation, The Mericos Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, Surdna Foundation, and the United States Department of Education.

**For more information:**

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