

Testimonials from Educators and Students

His adjudication was insightful and encouraging to the high school bands and all the directors commented favorably about the good job he did with their groups. -- We had one of the best performances during his stay at Marshall and I was very impressed with his playing ability, his personality and the improvement he was able to make in our ensemble's performance during his residency. I am very happy about the success of our festival this year, which was in large part due to Jeff's presence.

Letter to Yamaha from Ed Bingham, Director
Marshall University Jazz Band
Huntington WV

... I had such an enriching experience and I will never forget it. You are a great person with a real pleasing personality and a lot of knowledge --- I learned more than jazz from you this weekend. I now think that success in any field (not just jazz) has as much to do with personality as it does with talent. You showed me that and I deeply appreciate it.

Keith Reiner, Student/Lead Trumpet
1994 Connecticut All-State Jazz Ensemble

Many thanks for your excellent presentation at Berklee. --- I received several nice comments from students, so its obvious we all learned a lot. -- Wisdom gained from practical experience is an essential part in the learning process, and your willingness to contribute is greatly appreciated.

Don Gorder, Chairman
Music Business/Management Program
Berklee College of Music

Your clinic was very informative and it was a pleasure to both accompany and solo with you. You are setting a goal for young jazz players like myself, and have opened up many doors to the world of jazz, and for that, I thank you. I only hope that I too may one day be able to share the knowledge, drive and energy with others that you have shared with me.

Scott Graham, Student
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

What a great weekend! Everyone is talking about your performance. I hope we will have the opportunity to work together again in the future.

Haig Shahverdian
Hall High School

West Hartford CT

Not only were the teachers and students impressed with his presentation at the adjudication sessions, but we were ecstatic and overwhelmed when Mr. Jarvis gave up a morning of his free time, came to our school to rehearse the band, and performed in the evening. --- Mr. Jarvis' presence in our band accelerated my students' musical development by two years. --- His personable-style approach to instruction was one I have rarely witnessed. Students and teachers easily identified with his personable and concerned manner.

Grant Etchegary, Music Director
O'Donel High School
St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada

I'd just like to thank you for the many things you have taught me. --- You always managed to make us laugh and have fun while learning. You took the time to learn our names and it means a lot to us.

Monica Negrych, Student
Bredenbury, Saskatchewan, Canada

--- The performance was worth its weight in gold in terms of excitement and satisfaction for my students, and they have not stopped talking about how much fun it was to perform with you.

Gene Crisafulli
Univ. of Massachusetts – Dartmouth

We have received very favorable comments from the high school students who participated in your clinic sessions and from their parents. It was great to have your input with the Washburn University Jazz Ensembles as well, and many in the big bands and the combo have commented on how much you helped them. Not only did you provide excellent instruction, but also your positive attitude was a great example to the students. Your performance on the evening concert was outstanding, and served to inspire all the students who were on the stage with you as well as those in the audience. Thanks for making this event a success.

Dr. Chuck Tumlinson & Dr. Tom Morgan
Washburn Univ. Coleman Hawkins Jazz Series
Topeka KS

As expected, your work was of the highest calibre. I have heard nothing but positive comments about your adjudications, your clinic, and of course, your performing.

Brent Campbell, Coordinator
Brandon (Manitoba) Jazz Festival

The educational jazz program (IAJE Teacher Training Institute) you have started and nurtured is one of the most important products that IAJE can do for the furtherance of jazz in our American schools. --- TBA is so lucky to have you produce the jazz clinics for our annual conventions. You bring together your colleagues who bring real jazz educational methods and music to our members.

Al Sturchio, Executive Director
Texas Bandmasters Association

Thanks again for your performance with the Texas Community College All-State Jazz Ensemble. Thanks to you, this was undoubtedly the best performance in the history of this ensemble. Your musicianship is impeccable (Playing and composing!) and your rapport with the students was inspiring. I cannot begin to tell you what a positive impact you made on the students. I can say without a doubt that you changed lives. I know of one student who changed his major to music because of the entire All-State experience.

From a personal standpoint, I want to thank you for being a consummate professional. You were a dream to work with. Your organization, your punctuality, and your outgoing yet laid-back personality all combined to make everything run like clockwork. You were the perfect guest soloist. Finally, you are an inspiration and a role model for me. You “wear” all your “hats” so well (businessman, player, composer, and clinician) that it is obvious why you have had and will continue to have such success.

Richard Birk, Director
2001 Texas Community College All-State Jazz Ens.

On behalf of the Shades of Blue Jazz Ensemble, I would like to thank you for making music with us. We have been literally inundated with letters raving about the band’s performances, especially the “superb trumpet of Jeff Jarvis”. Rarely do we come across a “prime time” player that is not only a fantastic musician, but a “down-to-earth” genuine human being as well. You are a pro’s pro that helped make our tour of Arkansas a great success, and for that, we are extremely grateful.

Ronald W. Gray, SMSGT, USAF
NCO, In Charge, Shades of Blue Jazz Ens.
Air Mobility Command Band, Scott AFB, IL

Jeff, I have said so many times “Jeff Jarvis is the best!” Please know how much I respect and admire the kind of person you are. You are a champion – a role model for both students and teachers.

Joseph Alme, Director
International Music Camp
Minot ND

Just a brief note to thank you for the opportunity of working with Jeff Jarvis. I can write without reservation or fear of contradiction that everyone present was inspired by this fine musician and educator. Jeff covered a number of aspects such as style, technique and improvisation, always delivering important messages with tact, humour and that special ingredient common to all good teachers – simplicity.

Letter to Yamaha from Paul Owens, Director
Sydney Technical High School Bands
Sydney, Australia

I hope that you enjoyed your visit to Fargo. Fargo certainly enjoyed your visit. I had a number of people come up to me after the final concert and express their thanks and congratulations. They really couldn't get enough of you and Shelly Berg. It is a rare thing to find two clinicians who are so strong both pedagogically and musically. --- The only down-side of the festival was putting you on an airplane at the end so you could return home.

Dr. Kyle Mack, Associate Director of Bands
North Dakota State University
Fargo ND

You made such an impression with our people here in Brisbane, as a very fine and supporting adjudicator, an incredible musician, a great educator, and a very warm human being. We look forward to your return visit to Australia in April.

John Morris, Managing Director
Australian Academy of Music
Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Your performance with our band was the highlight of our year. --- It was such a positive experience for our program – even better than I could have hoped for. I kids really loved the way you responded to them.

John Leddy, Director
Connetquot High School Jazz Ensemble

--- I would like to thank you for your performance at Crane. The concert was the highlight of this year's camp as you could tell by the enthusiastic ovation from the students. From my own perspective, I very much enjoyed the opportunity to perform with a true jazz artist and professional. --- I can assure you that the sharing of your knowledge, experiences, and musicianship was very much appreciated by the student and by the Crane Youth Music instructors.

Scott LaVine, Director
Crane Youth Music Camp
State University of New York at Potsdam