

# Union League Civic & Arts Foundation JAZZ IMPROVISATION COMPETITION 2012 Rules

The Union League Civic & Arts Foundation Improvisation Competition will be in two stages, a qualifying round at the Union League Club at 65 West Jackson, Chicago, and a finals audition on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at the Buddy Guy's Legends at 700 S. Wabash Avenue in Chicago.

## AWARD INFORMATION:

Awards totaling \$17,000 will be allocated as follows:

- **First Division:** (ages 14 to 17 as of March 1, 2012) First Place \$1,000 and up to three additional awards totaling \$2,125.
- **Second Division:** (ages 18 to 22 as of March 1, 2012): First Place \$1,500 and up to three additional awards totaling \$3,185.
- **Third Division:** (ages 23 to 27 as of March 1, 2012): First Place \$1,500 and up to three additional awards totaling \$3,190.
- **Grand Prize:** An additional \$3,000 will be awarded to one of the first place winners. As an example, if the grand prize winner is in the second division, that person's award will be \$4,500 (\$3,000 + \$1,500). The grand prize can be won only once but past grand prize winners are encouraged to re-enter in their division.
- **Peoples' Choice Awards:** An additional \$1,000 and \$500 will be awarded to two of the finalists at the finals audition on February 15, 2012. This winner will be selected by the vote of the live audience attending the final auditions. In the case of a tie for the People's Choice Awards, the awards will be distributed evenly between winners.

## QUALIFYING ROUND:

- Instrumentalists and vocalists will improvise, for a maximum of eight minutes, a blues piece (required) and a composition of their choice. Vocalists should include words and scat in their performance. The entrants will be judged on the originality and creativity of their spontaneous improvisation.
- Each entrant is limited to ten minutes including set up and tear down time. Entrants are welcome to bring their own accompanists, but the Civic & Arts Foundation will have a professional pianist accompanist available. Entrants who use our accompanist must bring a lead sheet in concert key.
- Applications should be submitted by midnight February 1, 2012. The Civic & Arts Foundation office will arrange audition times in advance.
- The qualifying rounds will take place at the Union League Club, 65 West Jackson, Chicago, on Monday, February 6, 2012 from 5:00 – 9:00 PM, Tuesday, February 7, 2012 from 5:00 – 9:00 PM, Wednesday, February 8, 2012 from 5:00 – 9:00 PM, and Saturday, February 11, 2012 from 12:00 – 4:00 PM. Applicants will be asked to audition on one of these days. **If you know in advance that you will be unavailable on one or more of these days, please indicate this on your application.**
- You will be notified via telephone or email by Monday, February 13, 2012, if you made the final auditions. **It is important that your contact information is correct and up-to-date and that you are available on February 15, 2012.**
- Attire at the Union League Club is Business Casual. **NO JEANS.**

**Cathy Pierce, Chairman of Music Program Committee**  
**Questions? Call Joe Garbin at 312.435.5961**

**FINAL AUDITION:**

The finals will occur at the Buddy Guy's Legends at 700 S. Wabash Avenue in Chicago from 5:00 – 8:00 PM on Wednesday, February 15, 2012, before a live audience.

Each finalist will improvise a blues piece (required) and a jazz standard of your choice. Please provide lead sheets in concert key. Vocalists should include words and scat in their performance. A professional trio will accompany your performance. (Drummers will use the trio's set). The event will be recorded. Attire at Buddy Guy's Legends is casual.

**AWARD DISTRIBUTION AND PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES:**

- The winners will be announced at Buddy Guy's Legends after the final auditions. **You must be present to win.** Checks will be mailed within two weeks.
- All finalists may be invited to perform at a Civic & Arts Foundation's function.
- **The Civic & Arts Jazz Ensemble** – The judges will recommend from all competition entrants an Ensemble that will be designated the Civic & Arts Jazz Ensemble of the Union League Club. The Civic & Arts Jazz Ensemble will have paid performance opportunities from March 1, 2012 to February 28, 2013 at the Union League Club and other venues.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

- Entrants should reside or study within one hundred miles of Chicago.
- We reserve the right to keep the digital images of our awardees and to use the images and videos of the final competition on our website and in our publications.

**See General Rules of the Foundation for more information.**

**Cathy Pierce, Chairman of Music Program Committee  
Questions? Call Joe Garbin at 312.435.5961**

**Union League Civic & Arts Foundation**  
**JAZZ IMPROVISATION PROGRAM**  
**2012 APPLICATION FORM**

Please fill in the application according to the rules. You are encouraged to apply via CAF's website at [www.civicanarts.org](http://www.civicanarts.org). If necessary, you may also mail your application to: Executive Director, Union League Civic & Arts Foundation, 65 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60604-3598. All applications must be received by February 1, 2012.

**Please check the category under which you are entering:**

First division (ages 14 to 17 as of March 1, 2012): \_\_\_\_\_

Second division (ages 18 to 22 as of March 1, 2012): \_\_\_\_\_

Third division (ages 23 to 27 as of March 1, 2012): \_\_\_\_\_

*I will not be available on* \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant:** *(Please type or print)*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hours entrant can be reached:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents Information:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School:**

**School now attending:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of present music teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School or Private Studio (address):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other teachers, length of study, dates:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**How did you hear about the competition?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instrument:** \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that I am eligible to enter this program according to the rules printed and I accept all conditions of the program.

**Signature of applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cathy Pierce, Chairman of Music Program Committee**  
**Questions? Call Joe Garbin at 312.435.5961**