2027 CAMP

At a Glance

August 8–13, 2027 · Killington, Vermont

A week of rehearsing, learning and performing jazz with other adult instrumentalists, led by professional jazz educators.

The basics

WHEN
Sunday, August 8 – Friday, August 13, 2027

WHERE
Killington Grand Resort Hotel, Killington, VT

WHO
Adults 21 and older who play at an intermediate or advanced level: serious amateurs, returning players and music educators

ENSEMBLES
Two big bands and two nonets, placed by audition

COST PER CAMPER
$2,485–$3,345, depending on room type and whether you share with another camper

BRINGING A NON-CAMPER PARTNER
Add $820 to the single-room price

INCLUDED
Room, breakfasts and dinners, hors d'oeuvres at the opening staff jam session and after the concert, tuition and camp activities

NOT INCLUDED
Travel, lunches, extra nights, private lessons, gratuities and incidentals

TO APPLY
Online application by December 31 and a short audition video by January 10

Is it right for me?

You'll fit in if you play regularly, in a community big band, a combo, a school or church group, or at jam sessions, and you're comfortable reading a part. Each band mixes players of somewhat different experience, and the directors work with everyone at their own level.

You don't need to be a confident improviser, but it's a good place to work on it. There are clinics on improvisation and jam sessions grouped by level, including a beginner session with guidance on how jams work.

A typical day

Morning	Midday	Afternoon	Evening	Night
Full ensemble rehearsal, 9:00–11:45	Lunch on your own	Sectionals or nonet rehearsals, clinics, a daytime jam session and practice time	Dinner, then ensemble rehearsal, 7:30–9:00	Faculty concert, guest artist concert or presentation, then jam sessions

The week ends with the **final concert on Thursday evening**, when every band performs. It's livestreamed on YouTube so family and friends can watch. In 2026 the week also included camper-led combos, a Q&A with the faculty, and workshops such as "Critical Skills of Real Musicians" and "Coltrane's Music."

Faculty

Rich Davidian Big band director	Music director of a leading Vermont big band; 40-year teaching career
Charlie Sarling Big band director	Taught for 38 years in the Brentwood School District; leads jazz ensembles and clinics
Peter BarenBregge Band director	Career of more than 50 years, including two decades with the U.S. Air Force Airmen of Note
Glendon Ingalls Nonet director	Retired music educator; two-time president of the Vermont Association for Jazz Education
Tom Cleary Staff musician (piano)	Studied improvisation with Yusef Lateef and Archie Shepp; teaches at the University of Vermont
Austin McMahon Staff musician (drums)	One of Boston's most in-demand jazz drummers
Bear Irwin Staff musician	Longtime Vermont music educator, teaching since 1970
Guest artist 2027	*To be announced*

Good to know

- **Getting there:** If you fly into Burlington (BTV), plan to rent a car; the camp doesn't provide transportation.
- **Music in advance:** Some of your ensemble's music arrives by July 1 so you can prepare.
- **Instruments:** Clarinet and flute players must also play saxophone. We don't accept vocalists at this time.
- **Room requests:** Tell us about room needs, such as being near the elevator, a shower grab bar or a refrigerator, when you request your room type.
- **Private lessons:** Faculty offer lessons during the week, arranged individually with the teacher, for an extra fee.
- **College credit:** Music educators can earn credit through Vermont State University's Jazz Immersion program.
- **Scholarships:** Partial and full scholarships are available. Submit your application and audition video first, then the scholarship application.
- **Gear:** If you need a rental, such as a keyboard or an amp, we can help. Rentals must be arranged and paid for by July 10.

What campers say

> *"This was my first time at JITM, and I needed much encouragement to attend, but was one of the best experiences of my life."*
> — Andy T.

> *"My abilities on my instrument always improve significantly with the immersion into it the camp provides and it bleeds into the other genres I regularly play in."*
> — Mark M.

> *"This was the highlight of my year! Making great music, with great people, in a beautiful setting! What could be better!"*
> — Wendy K.

> *"I had grave doubts about my ability to be a contributing member of my ensemble before camp started, but I am so glad I stuck with it! Thanks for a great week and for giving me confidence!"*
> — Hilary K.

> *"I think the camaraderie and musical experiences this camp provides and nurtures is just amazing ... It's truly a special and important program."*
> — Daniel Ian Smith, 2026 Guest Artist

Key dates

Dec 31, 2026	Online application due
Jan 10	Audition video due (required for new applicants, recommended for all)
Feb 10	Acceptance and band placement
Feb 21	Commitment to attend and room-type request
Mar 1	Full camp fee due
Jul 1	Ensemble music sent
Jul 10	Gear rentals arranged and paid

Questions?

Contact the Camp Administrator at
admin@jazzinthemountains.com or **(802) 798-9998**
or visit **jazzinthemountains.com**

Apply at jazzinthemountains.com/apply