



VALDOSTA HIGH SCHOOL

Jazz Ensemble

**Georgia Music Educators Association
In-Service Conference
Athens, GA
Friday, January 26, 2024**

Personnel

Saxophones

Kylan Christian+@

Dennis Savoie

Abdiel Salgado#

Micah Smith

Angello Vasquez

Trumpets

Tyler Fralick+#

Kapreal Griffin

John Johnson

Eloui Pufong

+ Lead

Region Jazz Band

@ Jazz All State Alt.

Trombones

Paris Flanders

Aubrie Hamm+

Chance Illiome

Epiphany Loveday

Rhythm Section

Jadon Gray# - Drums

Stephen Hodges# - Piano

Marquavious Lane - Bass

Devin Riley - Bass

Vocalist

Isis Lorenzo



Program

Strike Up The Band

George Gershwin arr. Sammy Nestico

Featuring Guest Trumpet Soloist,

Mr. James Seda

I Remember You

Victor Schertzinger and Johnny Mercer

arr. Roger Holmes

Splanky

Neal Hefty

Yes Indeed

David Springfield

St. Thomas

Sonny Rollins arr. Mark Taylor

Warm Breeze

Sammy Nestico

Featuring Guest Trombone Soloist,

Mr. David Springfield

The Next Chapter

Patty Darling

Directors



Andrew Hill is the Assistant Director of Bands and Jazz Ensemble director at Valdosta High School. A Tift County High School honor graduate, he studied at Abraham Baldwin College in Tifton, GA and gained his Bachelor of Music Education Degree in 2003 and a Master of Music Education Degree in 2004 from Valdosta State University . Mr. Hill began his career at Valdosta High School in 2004 when he was hired as the Assistant Director of Bands. His duties include the direction of the Valdosta High School Marching Cats, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, and Jazz Ensemble. These groups have consistently achieved Straight Superior Ratings and Grand Championships at festivals and performance evaluations throughout the North and Southeastern United States.



Travis W. Kimber is currently in his 27th year as a music educator and his fifth year as the director of bands at Valdosta High School. Groups under Mr. Kimber's direction have performed locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. Bands under Mr. Kimber's direction have performed in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Tournament of Roses and in Johannesburg, South Africa. Mr. Kimber's teaching philosophy is "music education is an art-form used to cultivate a masterpiece of human potential". Mr. Kimber earned his Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Florida A&M University and his Master Degree in Music Education from Anderson University. He is married to the lovely Tangelia Kimber and together they have two wonderful children Angela and Andrew.

The VHS Jazz Ensemble

The Valdosta High School Jazz Ensemble is under the direction of Assistant Director of Bands, Mr. Andrew Hill. The band was reorganized by Mr. Hill in 2004 with a focus on the authenticity of jazz music. Over the years, the VHS Jazz Ensemble quickly gained notoriety for their mature, authentic big band sound.

The VHS Jazz Ensemble has consistently received rave reviews from festival performances local, state, and regional. These festivals include the Abraham Baldwin College Jazz Festival, The Valdosta State University Titletown Jazz Festival, The Waycross Jazz Festival where they have consecutively received superior ratings, and the 2023 Essentially Ellington Regional Jazz Festival in Nashville, TN at Tennessee State University where they received special recognition for superior musicianship, soloists, and band. In addition to festival performances, the VHS Jazz Ensemble frequently has members who make the GMEA All State Jazz Band.

Special Guests



David Springfield is an Associate Professor and the Director of Jazz Studies at Valdosta State University, where he teaches jazz piano and directs the VSU Jazz Ensemble. He attended the Eastman School of Music, where he received degrees in Trombone Performance and Jazz Studies, studying with Rayburn Wright, Bill Dobbins and Fred Sturm. David has written music for jazz ensemble, concert band, symphony orchestra and chamber ensembles. His compositions and arrangements have been performed by such artists as Branford Marsalis, Phil Woods, the Count Basie Orchestra and the Boston Pops Orchestra. His works are published by Kendor and Sierra Music.



James O. Seda is currently the Director of Bands at Southwest Dekalb High School. He is a product of the Atlanta Public School System, having graduated from Southside Comprehensive High School. Mr. Seda received his Bachelors of Science Degree in Music Education from Florida A&M University. Mr. Seda is active as a trumpet and band clinician and an adjudicator. He is also maintaining an active performance schedule, frequenting the jazz scene throughout the southeastern United States. Music has impacted and molded Mr. Seda's life, and he feels that he should share and expose his knowledge and experiences with his students so they may have the same opportunities. His educational philosophy is to foster a true understanding and appreciation of music by exposing his students to its many styles, therefore making them competitive and adaptive in any musical situation.

Valdosta High School



Acknowledgements

Valdosta City Schools Superintendent

Dr. Craig Lockhart

Valdosta High School Principal

Dr. Johnnie Marshall

Valdosta High School Asst. Prin. Fine Arts

Kendrick Moody

Valdosta City Schools Band Staff

Arthur Adkins

Johnny Brown

Joy Grimsley

Julie Savoie

Keisha Thomas - Bass Coach

Dante Flowers - Piano Coach

Dr. Janice Richardson

Curt Kimbrough

**Thank you parents, Valdosta City Schools, and
the entire city of Valdosta
for your unending support.**

**2022-2023 Valdosta High School
Jazz Ensemble**

