

Broadmoor Hotel  
Colorado Springs

West Ballroom  
1:00pm

# Rocky Mountian High School

# JAZZ 1



# Program

**Groove Merchant.....Richardson arr. Thad Jones**

Solos: Ian Rose, Luca Krapf

**Sagebrush.....Annie Booth**

Solos: Ian Rose, Jacob Sferes, Finn Maston, Ivan Austin-Groen

**Teddy The Toad.....Neal Hefti**

**Don't Push.....Ryan Middaugh**

Solos: Jacob Sferes, Hannah Schulz, Kyri Jewell

**Los Brujos de Cisano .....Matt Harris**

Solos: Luca Krapf, Owen Dolezal, Jacob Sferes, Ivan Austin-Groen

# Musicians

## Saxophones (From Left to Right)

Ivan Austin-Groen – Tenor

Brandon Stewart – Alto

Hannah Schulz – Alto/Soprano

Luca Krapf – Tenor

Jacob Sferes – Bari



## Trombones (From Left to Right)

Brady Hill

Ava Giovando

Addison Schofield

Masaki Ishii

Kyri Jewell

# Trumpets

(From Left to Right)

Echo Peterson

Owen Dolezal

Sam Hawkins

Madeline Pearson



# Rhythm Section

(From Left to Right)

Duncan O'Kelly – Drum set

Ian Rose – Piano

Finn Maston –  
Vibraphone/Congas

Sage Maxwell – Bass

# Program Notes

**Groove Merchant.....Richardson arr. Thad Jones**

Trumpeter, composer and bandleader Thad Jones was born on this day (March 28) in Pontiac, Michigan, in 1923. He came from a musical family — his older brother was jazz pianist Hank Jones and his younger brother was drummer Elvin Jones — and after serving in the U.S. military, he became an integral member of the legendary Count Basie Orchestra (he can be heard soloing on such songs as “April In Paris” and “Shiny Stockings”). In 1963, after relocating to New York City, Jones linked up with drummer Mel Lewis, and together this duo would come to assemble the Thad Jones–Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra, which held a regular weekly slot at New York’s Village Vanguard jazz club for twelve consecutive years. “The Groove Merchant,” our Song of the Day” is a staple of the band’s repertoire. This version comes from their critically acclaimed 1969 album Central Park North, which featured a young Eddie Daniels on saxophone.

**Sagebrush.....Annie Booth**

Originally commissioned by the University of Nevada, Reno for the 2022 Reno Jazz Festival, “Sagebrush” is an homage to the state flower of Nevada. The piece’s slow swing feel is wide and open, reminiscent of the beautiful landscape of the American West. Its simple, bluesy melodies elegantly oscillate through minor and major tonalities, creating a sense of mystery and hopefulness. Sagebrush is a terrific way to feature multiple soloists over an elegant minor blues chord progression and makes a sophisticated addition to any setlist.

Annie Booth is a versatile and award-winning composer, arranger, jazz pianist, and educator. Her compositions are performed by ensembles around the world and her work has received international recognition from the likes of Chamber Music America, ASCAP, Downbeat Magazine, the International Alliance of Women in Music, and many others. Annie Booth has released seven studio albums with ensembles she leads ranging from trio to large chamber jazz ensemble. Additionally, Booth is a respected jazz educator and appears frequently across North America as a guest artist-educator at high schools and universities, and as a guest conductor of all-state jazz ensembles. She currently serves as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Denver’s Lamont School of Music in the Jazz & Commercial Music Program teaching jazz composition, arranging, and jazz piano. In 2023, co-founded Brava Jazz Publishing, the only outlet of its kind that supports and champions women composers and arrangers in the field of jazz.

**Teddy The Toad.....Neal Hefti**

The trombone section of the Count Basie Orchestra of the 1950s. Henry Coker, Al Grey, and Benny Powell – was one of the most dynamic sections in the history of big band jazz. Although the arrangement doesn't feature any improvisation, Teddy the Toad served as a wonderful vehicle for the trio's unique musical personality. Today RMHS will use it to celebrate and feature all 5 of their Trombone players. This publication was based on the original set of parts used during the recording session on the "The Complete Atomic Basie" Album recorded 1957.

**Don't Push.....Ryan Middagh**

"Don't Push" by Ryan Middagh was composed in dedication to jazz educator, composer, arranger, and pianist Dr. Robert Washut in honor of his retirement in 2018. The title comes from the first words Dr. Washut told the composer when starting his music education studies at the University of Northern Iowa, "Don't Push the Suck Button." The piece is a soulful piano and baritone saxophone feature as Dr. Washut is a pianist and Dr. Middagh is a baritone saxophonist. The piece is composed in a similar style to Washut's composition "Reverend Jack" to make an appropriate homage. The piece is featured on the Ryan Middagh Jazz Orchestra 2019 album "Live from Nashville." On this album, all tracks were recorded with all the musicians in the room, and in only one or two takes to capture the authentic spirit and sound of the band. "Don't Push" was recorded in one take.

Ryan Middagh is Director of Jazz Studies and Chair of Jazz and Global Music at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. Where he directs the multi-DownBeat Award Winning ensemble, the Blair Big Band. In addition to arranging and composing for various educational and professional ensembles and artists, Middagh is a top-call studio musician and appears on albums of artists from many genres, film scores, and video games. Middagh holds a Doctorate from the University of Northern Colorado.

**Los Brujos de Cisano .....Matt Harris**

"The Witches of CSUN" is a high energy mambo in 2-3 clave. Many unison/octave figures throughout this chart. Written in slower 4/4 time with 16th note groove. Solos for trombone 1 that could be opened Up for any instrument ... it's just 2 chords. A few trombone solis are also featured in this chart. An extended drum/perc. Solo over the rhythm section and later the horns ends this piece!

# **Mr. Doddridge would like to thank:**

- Kenyon Scheurman, Co-Band Director of RMHS, for your incredible dedication, musicianship, passion and friendship. Thank you for being a mentor and an amazing educator. It is an honor to teach alongside you every day!**
- Rocky Mountain High School music colleagues, Elizabeth Hohweiler, and John Friskney choirs, Shawn Murphy, orchestras and Shelly LaGuardia, music department secretary. You are my family. I learn and grow every day because of you all. Thank you for being the amazing professionals and humans that you are!**
- Dr. Craig Woodall, Principal, Mrs. Tyler Nickel, Assistant Principal and Fine Arts Liaison, Mr. Tim Bruell, Mr. Conrad Crist, and Mr. Ian Wells, Assistant Principals, the support and passion you all have for the arts at RMHS is incredible and I feel very lucky to work with all of you!**
- To our middle school band programs and their directors that start so many of our students, Jana Webster-Wheeler at Webber Middle School and Carson Sachtleben at Blevins Middle School.**
- To all the amazing Clinicians, Mentors and Musicians that helped to prepare the students and their director :) for our CMEA performance – Shiloh Stroman, Corry Petersen, Kammi Eckhoff, Annie Booth, Peter Sommer, Phoung Nguyen, Tim Libby, Ryan Middaugh, Sam Caston, Dave Lunn, Dan Bell, Dave Handshue, Steve Martin, Ian Sawyer, Dawson Dawdy.**
- My beautiful wife Sarah, thank you for being there for me through the long hours, stressful days and always supporting and inspiring me in this challenging career. I love you! (also thanks for the photos!)**
- The students of RMHS Jazz 1, first to those of you who were in the band in 23-24 and produced the recordings that lead us here. Your leadership, musicianship and passion will always be present in the program, and finally to the current students, thank you for your hard work, kindness, and dedication to the jazz art form, I love being your teacher! Thank you for being a part of my life!**

