

[Please note: These answers are specific to the Jazz Institute. If you are registered for, or interested in another program please check that program website or contact the Program Coordinator.]

When is the deadline for applications?

March 1, 2009

I'm a New York state high school student, where do I apply?

The program is held in collaboration with the New York State Summer School of the Arts School of Jazz Studies. New York State high-school students must apply by contacting:

New York State Summer School of the Arts

State Education Department

89 Washington Ave., Room 866 EBA

Albany, NY 12234

518-474-8773 / nysssa@mail.nysed.gov

All other interested applicants should apply by sending materials to the Office of the Dean of Special Programs at Skidmore College.

How many students apply? How many will be accepted?

The average age, level and size of the applicant pool varies from year to year. Since the Institute focuses on the small group combo we accept as many students as we can effectively arrange in balanced combos. Typically we are able to arrange 8 or 9 combos; therefore we accept 8 or 9 rhythm sections. There is more flexibility on the number of accepted brass and woodwind players.

What is the average age of the students?

The Institute accepts students ages 15 to adult and (although it varies slightly each year) the majority of students are in high school and college.

When will I hear about my application?

In order to arrange combos by instrument and level, application tapes are juried after the March 1st deadline. Applicants are encouraged to submit their materials before the deadline but the program cannot make early acceptances. The size of the applicant pool varies from year to year and we do our best to notify applicants of their status by April 1st.

Where is the closest airport?

Albany International Airport in Albany, New York is the closest airport. It is approximately 45 minutes away from campus.

Can I get a ride to campus from the airport or bus station?

We are unable to offer transportation services to everyone; therefore you must find your own way to campus. Please refer to the Travel Information Guide located in the "Information and Directions" section of the Dean of Special Programs website (www.skidmore.edu/summer) for information. If you are looking to share a taxi or travel with another participant coming from your area please contact Maria McColl (mmccoll@skidmore.edu) with your travel arrangements. If someone else has a similar itinerary we will put you in touch.

Are students under the age of 18 supervised in the dormitories?

The program has a qualified Resident Staff that lives with program participants in the dormitories. The staff is responsible for workshop students under the age of 18, attends daily classes and meals, plans extra-curricular activities, and is a great resource for all program participants.

Are the dormitory rooms single, or double occupancy?

We do our best to offer participants aged 18 and older single rooms. If space is limited, we will house participants in a double room with a roommate of the same gender and age. Participants under the age of 18 will have a roommate and stay on the same floor as a resident counselor. Adult participants are housed on a separate floor. Registered participants may request specific roommates.

What should I pack?

Participants are responsible for bringing their own instrument and all necessary equipment (staff paper, reeds, ext. cords, amps, etc.). Refer to the packing list in the acceptance materials or check the website for additional items specific to the program.

I play the drums; how do I get them there?

If you are not driving to campus, it is recommended you ship your drums BEFORE arriving on campus please address them to: Maria McColl, Office of the Dean of Special Programs, Skidmore College, 815 N. Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Please notify Ms. McColl when they will be arriving and they will be secured in your rehearsal space for you to unpack and set up upon arrival.

Information on local instrument rental, if needed, will be available in the spring.

Will students perform at the Institute?

Participant concerts are held Fridays at 1 pm in Filene Recital Hall. Family and friends are encouraged to attend.

Do I need formal attire for the Friday afternoon student concerts?

Formal attire is not required although participants will want to look their best when performing.

What do we do in the evenings and on weekends?

Registration is held Saturday, June 27th in the early afternoon and registered participants will attend the Freihofer's Jazz Festival at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center that evening and on Sunday, June 28th. Tickets and transportation will be provided. Concerts with Institute guest artists are scheduled during weekday evenings. Participants are encouraged to make use of the College's facilities, rehearsal studios, library, weight rooms, tennis courts, swimming pool, and Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery during their free time. Additional activities will be announced.

Is there a recommended place for my family and friends to stay when they drop me off or pick me up?

The Saratoga Springs Chamber of Commerce website is a good resource for local hospitality and entertainment: www.saratoga.org.