

JSU Band History Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. Who was the assistant band director from 2012-2014 and became Director of Bands from 2015-2017?**
 - A. Dr. Roderick Little**
 - B. O'Neill Sanford**
 - C. Dr. Renardo Murray**
 - D. Edward Duplessis**
- 2. Who served as an assistant band director during the years 2000-2001?**
 - A. Mr. Owen Rockwell**
 - B. Dr. Crystal Swepson Britton**
 - C. Mr. Joe Ringold**
 - D. Mr. Lowell Hollinger**
- 3. Who was the director of the JSU Band from 1977 to 1999?**
 - A. Dr. Thomas Johnson**
 - B. Dr. Robert J. McElrath**
 - C. Dr. Michael Thompson**
 - D. Dr. Richard Davis**
- 4. Who was the director during the band's rise in popularity in the late 1980s?**
 - A. Dr. John Smith**
 - B. Dr. Robert J. McElrath**
 - C. Dr. William Jones**
 - D. Dr. Emily Brown**
- 5. What is one ongoing challenge that the JSU Band faces?**
 - A. Performance logistics and scheduling**
 - B. Aging equipment and instruments**
 - C. Funding and resources for continued excellence**
 - D. Recruitment and retention of members**

- 6. In what decade was the Jackson State University marching band founded?**
- A. 1920s**
 - B. 1940s**
 - C. 1960s**
 - D. 1980s**
- 7. What is the tenure of Dr. Jimmie James, Jr. as Assistant Band Director?**
- A. 1966-2009**
 - B. 1970-2000**
 - C. 1984-1986**
 - D. 1952-1962**
- 8. Who served as the assistant band director from 2012 to 2015?**
- A. Mr. O'Neil Sanford**
 - B. Mr. Chan Leggette**
 - C. Mr. Kevin Johnson**
 - D. Mr. Brandon Jenkins**
- 9. Who held the position of Jsette coordinator from 1975 to 1997?**
- A. Mrs. Kathy Worthy**
 - B. Mrs. Shirley Middleton Blakely**
 - C. Mrs. Sarah Oatis**
 - D. Dr. Justin Sherrod**
- 10. Which member of the current band staff is responsible for retention and compliance?**
- A. Ms. Courtney Lett**
 - B. Mr. Wes Lee**
 - C. Ms. Keri Saupitty**
 - D. Dr. Justin Sherrod**

Answers

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1. B
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. C
6. B
7. A
8. A
9. C
10. C

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Explanations

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1. Who was the assistant band director from 2012-2014 and became Director of Bands from 2015-2017?

- A. Dr. Roderick Little**
- B. O'Neill Sanford**
- C. Dr. Renardo Murray**
- D. Edward Duplessis**

The assistant band director from 2012 to 2014 who later became the Director of Bands from 2015 to 2017 is O'Neill Sanford. This transition highlights Sanford's growth in the role within the organization, where he not only contributed to the band as an assistant director but also demonstrated leadership capabilities to advance to the director position. This sequence of roles is often indicative of a strong mentorship and professional development within academic musical programs, reflecting the trust and commitment of the institution in Sanford's talents and vision for the band.

2. Who served as an assistant band director during the years 2000-2001?

- A. Mr. Owen Rockwell**
- B. Dr. Crystal Swepson Britton**
- C. Mr. Joe Ringold**
- D. Mr. Lowell Hollinger**

The correct choice is Dr. Crystal Swepson Britton, who served as the assistant band director during the years 2000-2001. Her role as an assistant director was significant because she contributed to the development and growth of the band program during that time. This position typically involves supporting the head director, assisting with rehearsals, and helping to coordinate performances. Dr. Britton's involvement in the band during this period highlights her commitment to music education and the leadership that she provided to the students. The other individuals mentioned played various roles in music or education, but they were not linked to the assistant band director position during the specified years. Understanding the contributions of musicians and educators like Dr. Britton helps in recognizing the impact of leadership on the success of band programs in educational institutions.

3. Who was the director of the JSU Band from 1977 to 1999?

- A. Dr. Thomas Johnson**
- B. Dr. Robert J. McElrath**
- C. Dr. Michael Thompson**
- D. Dr. Richard Davis**

Dr. Robert J. McElrath served as the director of the JSU Band from 1977 to 1999, making him a significant figure in the band's history. During his tenure, he contributed to the development and recognition of the band, enhancing its reputation and expanding its repertoire. His leadership helped to shape the musical direction of the ensemble, promoting excellence in performance and fostering a strong sense of community among the members. Dr. McElrath's long-term commitment allowed him to implement innovative programs and create a legacy that many alumni fondly remember. This period was marked by substantial growth in the band's popularity, the introduction of new marching techniques, and a diversification of musical genres, all of which are hallmarks of his directorship.

4. Who was the director during the band's rise in popularity in the late 1980s?

A. Dr. John Smith

B. Dr. Robert J. McElrath

C. Dr. William Jones

D. Dr. Emily Brown

Dr. Robert J. McElrath served as the director during the late 1980s, a pivotal time for the band as it experienced significant growth in popularity. Under his leadership, the band not only expanded its repertoire but also enhanced its visibility and performance opportunities, contributing to a higher profile within the marching band and university community. This period marked a transformation for the band, characterized by innovative programming and a commitment to excellence that resonated with audiences. The other individuals listed either served at different times or did not play a role in this particular period of growth for the band. Each of them may have had notable contributions in their respective tenures, but it was Dr. McElrath's direction that specifically catalyzed the band's rise during that era.

5. What is one ongoing challenge that the JSU Band faces?

A. Performance logistics and scheduling

B. Aging equipment and instruments

C. Funding and resources for continued excellence

D. Recruitment and retention of members

The challenge of funding and resources for continued excellence is indeed a significant issue for the JSU Band. Many school bands rely on external funding sources such as donations, grants, and budget allocations from the educational institution. Limited financial resources can hinder the band's ability to provide adequate instruments, uniforms, and materials for members, as well as to facilitate performances and travel. Furthermore, financial constraints can impact the overall quality and range of experiences offered to band members, such as attending competitions or festivals, which are crucial for the growth and development of students. In the context of the other challenges listed, while performance logistics, aging equipment, and recruitment and retention are also important aspects of band management, the ongoing nature and foundational impact of financial challenges tend to resonate more deeply across various operational levels. Without sufficient funding, it becomes difficult to effectively address the other challenges, as they often require financial resources to resolve effectively. Thus, the emphasis on funding and resources reflects a core aspect of sustaining the band's longevity and ensuring a vibrant educational experience for its members.

6. In what decade was the Jackson State University marching band founded?

A. 1920s

B. 1940s

C. 1960s

D. 1980s

The Jackson State University marching band was founded in the 1940s, which marks a significant period in the history of this esteemed institution. During this decade, the band began to establish its presence and reputation, contributing to the cultural and entertainment aspects of the university as well as the broader community. The establishment in the 1940s aligns with the post-World War II era, a time when many universities were expanding their programs and activities to attract students and enhance campus life. Understanding the context of the 1940s is essential, as it was a pivotal time for many historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) in the United States, where music and performance became integral in the expression of identity and pride within the African American community. The band's formation during this time set the foundation for the rich tradition and excellence in marching band performances that Jackson State University is known for today. The other decades do not align with the documented establishment of the band, making the 1940s not just the correct answer but also a key point of interest within the history of JSU and its contributions to music education and performance culture.

7. What is the tenure of Dr. Jimmie James, Jr. as Assistant Band Director?

A. 1966-2009

B. 1970-2000

C. 1984-1986

D. 1952-1962

Dr. Jimmie James, Jr.'s tenure as Assistant Band Director spans an extensive period from 1966 to 2009. This duration reflects his significant and long-lasting impact on the band program, indicating that he was involved in shaping and enhancing the music education within the institution over several decades. His extensive tenure likely allowed him to contribute to a multitude of changes, developments, and advancements in the band's performance quality, repertoire, and overall visibility. This length of service is indicative of not only his dedication to the program but also the trust placed in him by the institution to lead and mentor emerging musicians in a systematic way over many years.

8. Who served as the assistant band director from 2012 to 2015?

- A. Mr. O'Neil Sanford**
- B. Mr. Chan Leggette**
- C. Mr. Kevin Johnson**
- D. Mr. Brandon Jenkins**

The correct choice highlights that Mr. O'Neil Sanford served as the assistant band director from 2012 to 2015. This period is significant in the context of the band's history, as it reflects the leadership and educational strategies he implemented during his tenure. His role would have been to support the director in managing the band, organizing rehearsals, and mentoring students, thereby contributing to the overall development and performance quality of the ensemble. This experience would have played a crucial role in shaping the band's culture and musical excellence during those years. The other individuals listed may have had roles within the band organization, but they did not hold the position of assistant band director during that specific timeframe, which is key to understanding the contributions of leadership in a musical program.

9. Who held the position of Jsette coordinator from 1975 to 1997?

- A. Mrs. Kathy Worthy**
- B. Mrs. Shirley Middleton Blakely**
- C. Mrs. Sarah Oatis**
- D. Dr. Justin Sherrod**

The position of Jsette coordinator from 1975 to 1997 was held by Mrs. Shirley Middleton Blakely. She played a significant role in the development and organization of the Jsettes, contributing to the program's reputation and success over the years. Under her guidance, the Jsettes flourished, showcasing their talents and becoming a prominent aspect of the JSU Band culture. While other individuals may have had important roles within the band program or in related areas, Mrs. Blakely's long tenure and direct influence on the Jsette program uniquely qualify her as the correct answer.

10. Which member of the current band staff is responsible for retention and compliance?

A. Ms. Courtney Lett

B. Mr. Wes Lee

C. Ms. Keri Saupitty

D. Dr. Justin Sherrod

The correct choice identifies Ms. Keri Saupitty as the member of the current band staff responsible for retention and compliance. This role is crucial for ensuring that band members remain engaged and committed throughout their participation. Responsibilities in retention typically include implementing practices and strategies that foster a supportive environment, enhancing members' experiences, and addressing any issues that may affect their commitment to the band. Additionally, compliance refers to adhering to established policies and maintaining operational standards. Both components are essential for the overall effectiveness and success of the band program. As such, Ms. Keri Saupitty's position focuses on fostering a strong community within the band, ensuring that members feel valued, supported, and are following the necessary guidelines to contribute positively to the ensemble.