United States Navy Band
Commodores Jazz Ensemble
Jazz Trumpet Vacancy
Audition by Appointment

The Commodores is the Navy's premier jazz ensemble, based in Washington, D.C. Formed in 1969, this 18-member group includes some of the finest jazz musicians in the world and is held in high regard nationwide by concert patrons and critics alike. The Commodores’ mission includes public concerts, national concert tours, jazz education classes, clinics, and performances for high-level military and civilian government officials.

Starting salary for a new member of the U.S. Navy Band is $67,842-$70,326, plus 30 days paid leave annually and full benefits for members and dependents. Members may also be eligible for the Student Loan Repayment Program (up to $65,000). Those selected for the U.S. Navy Band are advanced to the paygrade of E-6 (musician first class) following recruit training, under a contract for permanent duty with the U.S. Navy Band.

Applicants must be aged 18 to 39 and otherwise qualified for service in the U.S. Navy. Please note that the Navy has strict requirements with regard to medical readiness and physical appearance. Additionally, Navy Band members may not have tattoos that are visible in short sleeves and skirts. Please visit https://www.navyband.navy.mil/career_information.html for further details.

Application Instructions

The live audition will take place by appointment in Washington, D.C., and is by invitation only. By-appointment auditions will be scheduled in small groups to most effectively facilitate physical distancing guidelines as set forth by the Department of the Navy and the Centers for Disease Control. To be considered for a live audition, please complete all of the steps below:

**Step 1:** Send the following materials via e-mail to navyband.auditions@navy.mil:

1. United States Navy Band Applicant Fact Sheet
2. Letter of Endorsement - only for current military members

**Step 2:** Submit a preliminary audio recording. All recordings are due by March 26, 2021. Please e-mail the Navy Band in order to receive electronic submission instructions. Designated repertoire for recordings can be found on the next page.
Candidates must demonstrate the highest level of proficiency as both a section player and as a soloist performing in multiple styles such as swing, bebop, latin, ECM, straight-8th, odd-meter, funk/rock, and other traditional and modern big band styles. Applicants are also expected to exhibit excellent sight-reading skills.

**Preliminary Audio Submission Requirements:**

Please submit four jazz selections in contrasting tempos and styles (swing, latin, ECM, straight-8th, or odd-meter). You must include:

1. Ballad
2. Jazz standard or Great American Songbook tune

Applicants will be evaluated on melodic interpretation, improvisational skills, and instrumental proficiency.

You may include (optional):

- Original compositions as an additional submission; these may not replace other requirements
- An example of soloing with a big band
- Any additional submissions to showcase the depth of your playing; live recordings preferred

**Notes for candidates**

- Each selection should be no longer than three to four minutes in length.
- No editing of audio is permitted, except to comply with length restrictions.
- Please include a minimum of two improvised choruses for each medium and up-tempo selection and one improvised chorus on the ballad.
- Selections should be performed with a live rhythm section OR a play-along recording.
- Excerpts from previously recorded performances are acceptable as long as they fulfill given requirements; please edit to feature the applicant.

For official submission instructions as well as eligibility information, please contact navyband.auditions@navy.mil.

**You must e-mail the Navy Band in order to receive electronic submission instructions; please do NOT send recordings as e-mail attachments.**

All materials, including recordings, are due by 11:59 p.m. EST on March 26, 2021.