

## OCSA Jazz Band needs help

### Inside

OCSA Jazz Band  
From the Campaign

### Local News

BIOB  
Poinciana

CSX  
AVP

Feedback  
Contacts

The Jazz Band at the Osceola school for the arts lost their main sponsor and are looking for help to participate in a national competition at the Lincoln Center in New York City. Many



Greetings,

My name is Jason Anderson, and I am the Director of Jazz Studies at the Osceola County School for the Arts in Kissimmee, Florida. We are a performing arts school comprised of eight art majors and students in grades 6-12. Beginning in the 7th grade, students are eligible to join the jazz program. Currently, I direct three full big bands, three jazz combos, plus a 'Jazz Lab' class for our younger students without any prior jazz experience. While our school is over 20 years old, this is my third year as Director of Jazz Studies. Despite my short tenure, the jazz program has experienced unprecedented success in the past three years. In my first year alone, my top band was selected as a finalist in the prestigious 2022 Essentially Ellington Competition & Festival at Jazz at Lincoln Center. We won first place, and then returned to the competition last year and won first place again! On Wednesday, February 14th, 2024, we were notified that we were once again selected as one of the 15 finalists in this year's competition!

Now we face the reality of raising the nearly \$60k needed to return to NYC. If you are unfamiliar with our program and/or our students, I can tell you that a majority of them are economically disadvantaged and qualify for reduced or free lunch. Because of their lack of money, almost none of my jazz students are financially capable to afford private lessons either. Additionally, most of them take the bus to and from school. Many of them live in Poincianna and spend as much as 4hours each day on a school bus (2hours each way with traffic). It truly is a testament to the talent, fortitude, and determination of our jazz students that they have been able to achieve such success against the lack of time and financial resources. Conversely, most of the students in the other EE finalist bands reside in upper-middle class to wealthy communities or attend private schools. I do my best to try to organize paying gigs for the students to raise the money, but being kids, they easily tire from too many performances. It also makes staying on top of their academic studies even more difficult. The OCSA Jazz program has been transformative for many of our students as several of them have been awarded scholarships to some of our nation's most prestigious universities & conservatories. Last year alone, two of our graduates received full-tuition scholarships to attend the legendary Juilliard School in New York.

I am currently reaching out to supporters of the arts in the Kissimmee-Orlando area and lovers of this great music we call Jazz. Please consider donating to our program and supporting these truly amazing young musicians in their quest to return to NYC. [Donate to the OCSA Jazz Program today.](#)

Sincerely,

Jason G.M. Anderson  
Director of Jazz Studies  
Osceola County School for the Arts

students from our area attend OCSA. My daughter attended and graduated from this school. And yes she was on the bus over 3 hours a day every day. This is the link to donate if you can help. [Donation to OCSA Jazz Band](#)

Mr. Arrington, current district 3 commissioner is the Executive Director of Osceola Arts. If anyone can reach out to him and inquire if the county or Oceola Arts could help the OCSA Jazz Band

### From the Campaign

#### Libertarian Party of Florida Region 4 Representative Hat

This week I attended the monthly meetings of the Brevard (via zoom) and Seminole County Affiliates. Both affiliates have members that hold public office (City Commissioner and a Soil and Water Conservation District Board member. Both affiliates are working to increase engagement with the voters by attending local events. I also attended the Eustis Goerge Fest and spoke with the Lake County (not region 9) Affiliate at the information booth they had set up. Small town festival and politicking at its best.

This year the plan is to reconstitute the Osceola affiliate. If you are interested send an email to [region9@lpf.org](mailto:region9@lpf.org).

### BIOB Chatter

#### Social Media:

A lengthy discussion on Nextdoor about posting gate status on line. One camp insisting it is a security risk(unspecified) do so. The other camp indicating no information presented would be useful to unwanted guests. At some point the post that started the discussion was removed and the information in the conversation that at least 160 messages were exchanged was no more. Please do not remove or report posts (we are all adults and can take critiques) as the useful replies will be lost if the post is removed.

### When Cost Cutting Goes Astray

When a home is purchased in BIOB the message sent by the developer is resort like living. The current board is doing an excellent job managing costs, maybe to well. If landscaping and maintenance is neglected home values may not be impacted. Permanent work in progress traffic cones and construction barriers also can cause a drop in home values. Yes the goals of the board should be cost management but not to the detriment of the resort like living promise.



Semi-permanent construction barriers and no mulch refresh.



Not sure but I think the cost cutting has gone too far. If the home value hit is only \$2000 it adds up to almost five million total community loss in value.

## Poinciana News

### CSX

The CSX Expressway plan is still not acceptable to the community. SCAR meeting March 6<sup>th</sup> 2pm at the McDonalds by the hospital (385 Cypress). With traffic coming from Polk heading north and all the homes in the area generating commuter traffic what is the solution? Should Polk and Osceola pool resources to solve the problem? Should Poinciana try to become a city? The population is high enough. If that happens the impact fees may stay in Poinciana.

### AVP

Spring Fest Mar 30<sup>th</sup> at 11pm Amenity Lawn

### Feedback:

A prolific poster in Nextdoor was reminded of the rules that apply to committee members.

Many agreed even with the traffic issues we still live in a nice area of the country with an abundance of natural buetiful

### Contact Information

[editor@sfaoo.com](mailto:editor@sfaoo.com)

Contact the editor with any errors you would like to see corrected, letters/comments, new sections, breaking information.