

# Hudson High School Music Association Hudson, OH

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## Hudson Hosts 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Jazz Fest

### Featuring Greg Abate

For Immediate Release

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HUDSON----January 20, 2009 ----On Saturday, February 14, 2009, the sounds of Jazz will fill the Hudson High School Auditorium as Jazz Bands from **Solon, Stow, Jackson, Crestwood, Cuyahoga Falls** and the three Jazz Bands from **Hudson High** and the **Hudson Middle School** perform.

The public is invited to see these jazz ensembles perform, free of charge, starting at 10 PM and running consecutively through until 4 PM in the Hudson High School Auditorium.



The Jazz Fest will conclude with a performance by **Greg Abate** at 7:30 PM.

Greg Abate jazz saxophonist, flutist, composer continues as an International Jazz/Recording Artist with 150 days a year touring the globe.

In the mid 70's after finishing a four-year program at Berklee College of Music, Greg played lead alto for the **Ray Charles Orchestra** for 2 years.

In 1978 Greg formed his group Channel One which was a favorite in the New England area and from there had the opportunity to play tenor sax with the revived Artie Shaw Orchestra under leadership of Dick Johnson from 1986 to '87.

Following this experience Greg ventured out as post-hard bop soloist playing Jazz Festivals, Jazz Societies and Jazz Clubs throughout the U.S. Canada and abroad, including most of Europe, UK, and Moscow and Georgia Russia.

Greg recorded his first CD Live at Birdland NYC in 1991 on the Candid Jazz Label with the trio of James Williams, Rufus Reid, and Kenny Washington. To this date, Greg has recorded over 12 other recordings and was nominated for a Grammy for his 2004 recording EVOLUTION in four categories. James Williams, Harvie S, and Billy Hart comprised the trio.

Greg is also an adjunct professor of Jazz Studies at Rhode Island College and is a very active jazz clinician with co. sponsorship from the Conn -Selmer Instrument Co., conducting workshops and master classes through the U.S and abroad.

Recordings of his work are available to listen at  
[http://www.gregabate.com/?page\\_id=43](http://www.gregabate.com/?page_id=43)

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What some say about Greg Abate:

*Abate is not content to rely on stock bebop riffs and standard chord progressions. Rather, the sharp angularity of his phrases and the often startling pauses in his fast-moving lines give his work a feeling of constant invention and creativity.”*

–Howard Reich, Chicago Tribune

*“...Abate’s musical style can be seen as a distillation of swing’s easygoing vibe and bop’s more animated groove. He has developed a unique voice.*

–METRO San Jose

*“Greg Abate is an absolute powerhouse who will absolutely not let hard driving bebop die. One of the most exciting players around today, Greg’s commitment to the music is total...”*

–W. Pickowitz, Jr., The Jazz Messenger

*“Multi-saxophonist Greg Abate is a prime example of the ‘rear back and blow’ school of contemporary bop-based players. The tunes he writes or chooses are based on the kinds of changes that harmony-oriented jazzmen have favored since the beginning and he swings through them with an eager and easy virtuosity.”*

–David Franklin, Jazz Times

*“Greg Abate is one of the most appealing saxophonists on the scene today. He is mature with an abundance of gentle self-confidence. The result is that he plays music with sweetness and daring.”*

–Jim Merod, New Jazz Recordings

The following musicians will also be featured at Jazz Fest:

- ❖ Jack Schantz, Trumpet, Director of Cleveland Jazz Orchestra, and Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Akron\*
  - ❖ Al Krasel, Guitar and International Recording Artist
  - ❖ Joe Hunter, Piano, Member of the Fat Tuesday Big Band and Jazz Faculty at Cuyahoga Community College
  - ❖ Chas Baker, Trombone, Director of Jazz Studies at Kent State University\*
  - ❖ Mark Gonder, Drums, Jazz Faculty at the University of Akron and member of the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra\*
  - ❖ David Morgan, Bass, Director of Jazz Studies at Youngstown State University\*
- \*Denotes Member of Cleveland Jazz Orchestra

There are only **800 tickets** available for this extraordinary group. Don’t delay; get your tickets **TODAY**, before they sell out! Tickets are \$10 per person and may be purchased at the following locations:

- **Learned Owl Book Shop**, 204 N. Main Street in Hudson,
- **Acme Fresh Market**, 116 W. Streetsboro Road in Hudson,
- **Hudson High School Office**, 2500 Hudson-Aurora Road
- **Calling** the Hudson High School Band Room at **330.653.1452**

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- Purchasing them from any **Hudson High School Jazz I or II Member**

The Hudson High School Music Association is a non-profit organization that supports the band, choir, and orchestra students and directors with uniforms, selected instruments, and their pursuit of competition.

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