



WEEK OF FEB 22ND - FEB 28TH, 2026

# THIS WEEK IN EEU



### In the News:

Please make sure you review the handbook regularly for any scheduling updates.

## This Week's Schedule

**Saturday** - Jazz I, II & III SoCal Essentially Ellington Regional at Riverside Community College

**Saturday** - Winter Guard OC County

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**2/28:** Winter Guard OC County

**2/28:** SoCal Essentially Ellington Regional at RCC

**3/3:** Urban Plates Meet & Eat

**3/7:** Percussion: Marina High School

**3/7:** Winter Guard Ramona High

**3/14:** Aztec Jazz Festival!

**3/21:** Irvine Jazz Festival (Jazz I, II, III)

**3/28:** Percussion West Covina High School

**4/1-4/2:** Vanguard Jazz Orchestra shows

**4/3:** District Winter Guard show



### Jazz I NYC Information!

Final payments are due this week. Please hold off until Tuesday to pay your final balance as we are assessing donations thus far. We will continue to collect donations and apply them towards the costs for student travel.



### JAZZ TRIP PAYMENTS



Reminder that the **FIRST** payment for our Folsom jazz trip was due Friday, 2/13. **Second** pmt. is due 3/15.

*All Jazz I and Jazz II students.*

### Important Links:

[LINK](#) to the 25-26 Handbook.

[LINK](#) to the 25-26 Master Calendar

### Stay Connected:

**Website:** [www.ehseu.org](http://www.ehseu.org)  
You can find the full EEU calendar at our website!



# THIS WEEK IN EEU

## Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> is Aztec Jazz Festival!

This is our **BIGGEST** fundraiser of the year and is a **HUGE** event in our local music community. **ALL band and color guard students and families are asked to sign up and volunteer for this event.** Please review the sign up links below and sign up to support! We can't pull this off without **ALL** of us!

*Note: Students DO get service hours!*



EEU Student volunteer sign up [LINK](#)

EEU Adult & non-student  
volunteer sign up [LINK](#)

Donations sign up [LINK](#)





# THIS WEEK IN EEU

**We need donations!** It is estimated to cost close to \$30,000 to get our Jazz I students to NYC for the Essentially Ellington performance at Jazz at Lincoln Center. We need all the corporate donations we can get. If you own a business, know someone that does or can ask a local business owner, **please DO!**



## ESPERANZA HS JAZZ SELECTED FOR GLOBALLY PRESTIGIOUS ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON FESTIVAL IN NYC

ANAHEIM CA - 1/30/2026 - Esperanza High School's Jazz Ensemble I has been selected as one of only 20 finalists nationwide to compete in the 31st Annual *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program & Festival. The event, held at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City, is the pinnacle of high school jazz education in North America.

Under the leadership of director Brad Davis, **Esperanza HS Jazz I** was chosen from a pool of hundreds of applicants across the United States and Canada. The selection process involved a rigorous blind audition of three recordings from the Jazz at Lincoln Center library.

*"Essentially Ellington festival is the high water mark for high school Jazz,"* Mr. Davis remarks. *"We are so honored to be included in this list of amazing bands from around the country and I am so proud of our students and how hard they worked to make this dream happen. This is a true testament to their dedication to their craft, and to our community's dedication to our students and the high standards that we hold ourselves to. It's an unbelievable honor."*



*Esperanza Jazz I takes the stage with CSULB in their annual "Count Meets the Duke" concert. (12/2025)*

During the three-day festival from **April 30th to May 2nd, 2026**, students will participate in workshops, jam sessions, and rehearsals led by members of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, and compete in a performance judged by a panel of jazz legends, including Wynton Marsalis.

Esperanza Jazz and Mr. Davis have history with Essentially Ellington, being selected to compete in the national festival 14 years ago. Current senior trombone player, Gabriella Shanedling, comments: *"We are excited to be a part of this honorable experience. We cannot wait to step into the shoes of the last band that worked hard enough to earn the same opportunity."*

The Esperanza Band program is currently seeking community support and sponsorships to help offset the significant travel and instrument shipping costs for the ensemble. Local businesses or individuals interested in supporting these student-ambassadors can find more information at [ehseu.org](https://ehseu.org) or donate directly at <https://ehseu.org/contact-us/donate-here/>

**About Esperanza High School Jazz:** The Esperanza High School Band Program, located in Anaheim, California, is a premier performing arts department known for its excellence in jazz, concert, and marching arts. The program focuses on fostering musical mastery and professional discipline, consistently placing among the top ensembles in Southern California.

**About Essentially Ellington:** The *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program & Festival is the nation's premier jazz education initiative. Created by Jazz at Lincoln Center, the program aims to elevate the musicianship of high school students by providing them with the tools and mentorship to perform the music of Duke Ellington and other jazz masters.





# THIS WEEK IN EEU



**See's CANDIES**  
YUM-RAISING ESPERANZA ENTERTAINMENT UNIT

Please support our See's Candies fundraiser running NOW through March 20th!

Click this [link](#) to order and goodies will ship directly to your home!

Don't miss our next  
**Meet & Eat**  
March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Urban Plates!

We are kicking off our  
  
fundraiser!

Feed your family  
Urban Plates  
and earn cash for  
your cause



20% of your bill will be donated to support  
Esperanza Entertainment Unit!

**Tuesday**  
**March 3rd, 11am-9pm**

You can support us at  
**URBAN PLATES BREA**  
At Village at La Floresta  
3413 E Imperial Hwy, Brea, CA 92823

Two ways to participate

 **DINING AT THE RESTAURANT**  
Order at the register and present this flyer

 **ORDERING ONLINE**  
Orders placed on the Urban Plates app or urbanplates.com qualify! Select the fundraiser button at checkout and enter code EEU3 (case sensitive)

**URBAN PLATES**  
everyone deserves to eat this good

Please coordinate with Jessica Korte, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Fundraising to drop off between now and 3/13!

1/31/26, 4:53 PM

Clean out your closets and cupboards for Esperanza Entertainment Unit!



**Clean out your closets for Esperanza Entertainment Unit!**

**FUNDrive® Coordinator**  
Jessica Korte  
(714) 240-6086  
2ndvp@ehseu.org

**Our Goal:** \$500  
154 Tall Kitchen Bags (avg. 13 lbs.)  
30 Medium boxes (household goods)  
**Fundraiser Dates:**  
02/02/2026 - 03/15/2026

We are collecting soft goods and small household items to help support the EEU! Please bring your soft goods and/or household items (see descriptions below) in a tall kitchen bag or approximate 18"x18" box, respectively. You can drop them off at the band room between now and March 15 and we will store the items until our drop off date of March 22, 2026! Thank you and we look forward to making this fundraiser a success!

### We Are Collecting

#### Clothes

men's, women's, & children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, belts, backpacks, etc.

#### Household Textiles

bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

#### Small Household Goods

kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative items, knick-knacks, toys, games, and small electronics

#### Books & Media

paperback, hard cover - all genres  
\*media needs to be boxed separately  
\*no encyclopedias or text books

Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly pack boxes of small household goods. Separate books from household goods and media. All items must be clean and in sellable condition.



FUNDrive® is an eco-friendly fundraiser for nonprofit organizations. Collect gently-used items in your community and FUNDrive™ will buy them.

Visit <https://FUNdrive.savers.com> to learn more.



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 Esperanza Entertainment Unit



# THIS WEEK IN EEU

Congratulations to our talented Jazz I, II, and III students and combos for their outstanding performances at last Saturday's Western States Jazz Festival! Your dedication and hard work truly shone through in each note and rhythm. Keep up the fantastic work, and continue to inspire others with your artistry and commitment!

## Results

**THANK YOU!**

It's wonderful to see how engaged and supportive our EEU parents are! Their efforts in capturing and sharing photos and videos on our Facebook page truly help in building a vibrant community. By posting these moments they allow us all to relive the events and experiences, bringing joy and a sense of connection to everyone involved.

Thank you to all the parents for their invaluable support!

**Jazz 3 Big Band Intermediate:  
2nd Place!!**

**Jazz 2 Big Band Advanced:  
4<sup>th</sup> Place!!**

**Jazz 2 Big Band Heavy:  
4<sup>th</sup> Place!!**

**Combo 1 Combo Advanced:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place!!**

**Combo 2 Combo Intermediate:  
Tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> Place!!**



WEEK OF FEB 22ND - FEB 28TH, 2026

# THIS WEEK IN EEU

Get your tickets to see The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra before they sell out!

[Link](#) to purchase tickets for night 1 on 4/1 - EEU jazz opening

[Link](#) to purchase tickets for night 2 on 4/2 - Eldo jazz opening

Feel free to promote on your social media and invite family and friends!

*"The band changed jazz... For my money, the band is still the best large jazz ensemble in the world. It's an unbeatable combination of elements that nobody else can touch. It's an unparalleled achievement."  
- Bill Kirchner*

## The VANGUARD JAZZ ORCHESTRA



### PRESENTED BY:

*Friend of Jazz - The Grace Foundation - Imperial Band Instruments - Bertrands Music  
Esperanza HS Music Boosters. - El Dorado HS Music Booster*

**TWO NIGHTS:**  
**April 1, 2026    April 2, 2026**  
**7:00 pm**

**ESPERANZA HS THEATER**

1830 Kellogg Dr.  
Anaheim, CA 92807

**TICKETS: \$45**

Reserve your tickets on our  
webstore using this QR Code or visit  
[esperanzahs.seatyourself.biz](http://esperanzahs.seatyourself.biz)

