

Hamp's Legacy: The International Jazz Collections at The University of Idaho

Mission

The International Jazz Collections (IJC) are an ever-expanding repository dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and study of one of the world's great art forms.

The IJC include:

- Scores
- Recordings
- Business records
- Correspondence
- Photographs
- Instruments
- Clothing and personal items of historical significance

Through partnerships with the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival and School of Music, as well as a robust digitization program, the IJC is accessible for study and enjoyment by researchers, jazz enthusiasts, and musicians worldwide.



Holdings

Complete Collections:

- Band leader and vibraphonist Lionel Hampton
- Jazz critic Leonard Feather
- Trombonist Al Grey
- Trumpeters Conte and Pete Candoli

Partial Collections:

- Vocalists Joe Williams, Ella Fitzgerald, and Lee Morse
- Trumpeters Dizzy Gillespie and Doc Cheatham
- Double Bassist Ray Brown
- Pianist Jane Jarvis
- Publisher and collector Neil McCaffrey
- Band leader Stan Kenton
- Saxophonist Buddy Tate

Programs

In addition to a large exhibit coinciding with the annual Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, the International Jazz Collections staff:

- Mount exhibits throughout the year – both in the Library and online – celebrating anniversaries, birthdays, and other significant events in the history of jazz.
- Host interdisciplinary speaker programs that explore how different constituents utilize these collections, and how the IJC responds to changing research methodologies.
- Visit music composition and history classes across campus to increase awareness of the IJC and to teach archival research skills.
- Assist researchers locally and around the world by providing orderly access to comprehensively processed materials and carefully digitized surrogates.

Background

The International Jazz Collections were formally established at the University of Idaho in 2000 with the Lionel Hampton Library Collection. The IJC continued to grow, and merged with Special Collections & Archives of the UI Library in 2007. It is now the preeminent jazz archive in the Pacific Northwest. The collections also include the archives of UI's Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, now in its 46th year.

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