



# NOBLE

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## **Noble Welcomes New York's Prestigious *Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra***

Pritzker College Prep Students Participate in Masterclass Ahead of Weekend Performance at Purdue Jazz Festival

**CHICAGO, IL** – Earlier today, students at Pritzker College Prep hosted members of New York City's prestigious Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra (JLCO), one of the country's most renowned collections of individual musicians. The assembled students of the Pritzker Jazz Band participated in an energetic and high-level masterclass in anticipation of an upcoming weekend performance at the 2016 Purdue Jazz Festival.



*Students of the Pritzker College Prep Jazz Band practice on January 22nd, 2016*

JLCO musicians Vincent Gardner and Paul Nedzela lead a robust classroom session, combining detailed instruction, live performance and critical feedback into a 90-minute masterclass. Today's visit provided additional expertise in guiding Pritzker's preparations for this weekend's 2016 Purdue Jazz Festival, where Pritzker placed second last year. They hope to deliver another strong performance at this year's festival, and the final touches provided by Mr. Gardner and Mr. Nedzela give added confidence to what is already one of the Noble Network's most accomplished music programs.

The session ended with an extended improvisational performance by the full complement of musicians present, featuring the entire student ensemble of the Pritzker Jazz Band, associated staff members, Mr. Gardner on trombone, and Mr. Nedzela on saxophone. Benjamin Das, Pritzker College Prep music instructor and director of the jazz band, praised the participation and thorough instruction of the JLCO visitors.

"For the students to see their enthusiasm for the music is just extraordinary," said Mr. Das. "They really showed you can be a meticulous professional while embracing the spirit and fun of jazz music. I think it helped our band relax, and we're feeling good about tomorrow."

Pritzker College Prep performs at the 2016 Purdue Jazz Festival on Saturday, January 23rd, at 11:30am in Purdue's Loeb Playhouse. More information can be found at <https://www.purdue.edu/bands/jazzfest/>



*Paul Nedzela (left) and Vincent Gardner (right) instruct members of the Pritzker Jazz Band*

The mission of the Jazz at Lincoln Center is "to entertain, enrich and expand a global community for Jazz through performance, education and advocacy." The Orchestra, led by Wynton Marsalis, will perform "Jazz in the Key of Life" at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, January 23rd.

The Noble Network of Charter Schools is Chicago's largest and highest performing network of open-enrollment public high schools. Noble serves more than 11,000 students throughout Chicago at 16 campuses located in some of the city's highest need communities, with a student population that is 89 percent low-income and 98 percent minority. As a public non-selective high school, there are no testing requirements for enrollment at any of Noble's campuses. Noble Network of Charter Schools is the 2015 winner of the Broad Prize for Top Public Charter School System in the nation.

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