

TRABUCO HILLS HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

27501 Mustang Run
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

Brad Pollock
Director of Instrumental Music

(949) 768-1934
<http://thhsmusic.com>

Saturday, February 28, 2026
2026 Essentially Ellington Southern California Regional Festival
@ RCC Coil School for the Arts, Riverside City College (RCC)
in Riverside, California (SCSBOA)

ITINERARY

TIME	EVENT
7:30 AM	Report time at Trabuco Hills High School All Drivers Meet and Check-In
7:45 AM	Pack & Load Instruments into Cars
8:00 AM	Load Cars
8:15 AM	Depart from Trabuco Hills High School Arrive at Riverside City College Unload & Use Restrooms
9:30 AM	Store Equipment
9:45 AM	Setup Equipment
10:05 AM	Warm-Up
10:15 AM	Finish Warm-Up
10:20 AM	Staging
10:45 AM	Trabuco Hills High School Jazz Ensemble Performance
11:30 AM	Lunch (<i>bring your own lunch</i>)
12:15 PM	Watch RCC Jazz Ensemble
1:00 PM	Master Classes (with instruments)
2:00 PM	Pack & Load Instruments into Cars
2:15 PM	Load Cars
2:30 PM	Depart from Riverside City College
3:30 PM	Approximate Arrival at Trabuco Hills High School
3:35 PM	Unload Equipment and Clean-Up
4:00 PM	Approximate Dismissal

***** Please keep in mind, no schedule is sacred and always subject to change!!!**

REMINDERS

- All SVUSD and Music Program expectations and policies apply while traveling to/from and at the show site.
- Bring Water & Snacks for the performance



Last Updated on 2/10/2026 at 10:20 PM

**Thundering Mustangs Marching Unit * Color Guard * Percussion Ensemble * Jazz Ensemble
Symphony Orchestra * String Orchestra * Symphonic Band * Pep Band**

Friday, February 27th		
Time	Ensemble	Clinicians
9:00 AM	Oxford Academy Jazz Band	Watson/Tinnon
9:30 AM	Alta Loma HS Jazz II	Dorsey/Schroeder
10:00 AM	Rancho Verde Jazz Band	Watson/Tinnon
10:30 AM	Yorba Linda HS Jazz Ensemble	Dorsey/Schroeder
11:00 AM	Southwest High School Jazz Band	Watson/Tinnon
12:00 PM	RCC Jazz Orchestra	
1:00 PM	Masterclasses/Director Workshop	
2:30 PM	Alta Loma Jazz I	Dorsey/Schroeder
3:00 PM	Newbury Park Jazz Ensemble	Watson/Tinnon
3:30 PM	Ventura High School Studio Jazz Black	Dorsey/Schroeder
4:00 PM	Central Union HS Jazz Ensemble	Watson/Tinnon
4:30 PM	Judges Break	
4:45 PM	Etiwanda Jazz Ensemble	Dorsey/Schroeder
5:15 PM	Palm Desert HS Jazz Ensemble	Watson/Tinnon
5:45 PM	Thousand Oaks HS Studio Jazz Band	Dorsey/Schroeder

Saturday, February 28th		
Time	Ensemble	Clinicians
8:30 AM	Tesoro High School Jazz Ensemble	Dorsey/Schroeder
9:00 AM	El Toro High School Jazz Ensemble	Watson/Tinnon
9:30 AM	Milikan HS Gold Jazz	Dorsey/Schroeder
10:00 AM	Judges Break	
10:15 AM	OCSA Jazz Ensemble	Watson/Tinnon
10:45 AM	Trabuco Hills Jazz Ensemble	Dorsey/Schroeder
11:15 AM	Esperanza Jazz III	Watson/Tinnon
12:15 PM	RCC Jazz Ensemble	
1:00 PM	Masterclasses/Director Workshop	
2:30 PM	El Camino Real HS Studio Jazz Ensemble	Dorsey/Schroeder
3:00 PM	El Dorado Jazz II	Watson/Tinnon
3:30 PM	Esperanza Jazz II	Dorsey/Schroeder
4:00 PM	OCSA Studio Big Band	Watson/Tinnon
4:30 PM	Judges Break	
4:45 PM	Westlake HS Studio Jazz Ensemble I	Dorsey/Schroeder
5:15 PM	Calabasas High School Jazz A Band	Watson/Tinnon
5:45 PM	OCSA Ambassador Jazz Orchestra	Dorsey/Schroeder
6:15 PM	Esperanza Jazz I	Watson/Tinnon
6:45 PM	El Dorado Jazz 1	Dorsey/Schroeder



**ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON**

Southern California Regional Jazz Festival
February 27th and 28th
Riverside City College

Masterclass Schedule 1:00-1:50		
Bijon Watson	Brass Masterclass	Choral Hall
Chris Dorsey	Band Director's Workshop	Classroom, CSA 250
Adam Schroeder	Saxophone Masterclass	Classroom, CSA 251
Shirazette Tinnon	Drumset Masterclass	Rickson Band Hall

Masterclass Schedule 1:00-1:50		
Bijon Watson	Brass Masterclass	Choral Hall
Chris Dorsey	Band Director's Workshop	Classroom, CSA 250
Adam Schroeder	Saxophone Masterclass	Classroom, CSA 251
Shirazette Tinnon	Drumset Masterclass	Rickson Band Hall



**ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON**

Southern California Regional Festival

**Riverside City College
Coil School for the Arts**

Friday, February 27th and Saturday, February 28th

DIRECTOR'S PACKET



ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON



3rd Annual *Essentially Ellington* Regional High School Jazz Band Festival

presented in collaboration with

**Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association
RCC Coil School for the Arts**

Welcome to the 2026 *Essentially Ellington* So Cal Regional High School Jazz Band Festival

We are very excited to present two days of festival performances, masterclasses, and guest artist concerts all provided to you and your students as a source of inspiration, education, and celebration of community.

On behalf of the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association, I want to thank **Charlie Richard** and the entire staff here at **RCC's Coil School for the Arts** for their generosity in providing a truly outstanding venue for this festival. Another huge shout out goes to **Todd Stoll, Maegan Kelly, and everyone at Jazz at Lincoln Center** for your guidance and support in establishing what we all hope will grow into a staple of the Southern California Jazz Education scene.

Finally, *THANK YOU* to all the **directors, students, and parents** for participating this year! Without you, none of this is even possible. It is my mission to provide you with the best possible educational event that I can and I hope that this lives up to what I've envisioned for our community.

Here's to having two incredible days of music, learning, and fun!

Eric Samson
VP, Jazz Education
Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association



Festival Overview

Location

Riverside City College, Coil School for the Arts
3890 University Avenue
Riverside, CA 92501

Admission \$10 General Admission

Tickets will be sold at the door for all non-performers. Registered bands and their directors will all receive passes for the day.

Friday, 2/27

8:30am – 11:45am	Festival High School Performances	Coil Hall Stage
12:15pm	RCC Jazz Orchestra Concert Directed by Charles Richard	Coil Hall Stage
1:00pm	Masterclass Sessions Chris Dorsey - Band Directors Masterclass Bijon Watson – Brass Masterclass Adam Schroeder – Saxophone Masterclass Shirazette Tinnin – Drumset Masterclass	Classroom CSU 250 Choral Hall Classroom CSA 251 Rickson Band Hall
2:30pm – 6:15pm	Festival High School Performances	Coil Hall Stage

Saturday, 2/28

8:30am – 11:45am	Festival High School Performances	Coil Hall Stage
12:15pm	RCC Jazz Ensemble Directed by James Rocillo	Coil Hall Stage
1:00pm	Masterclass Sessions Chris Dorsey - Band Directors Masterclass Bijon Watson – Brass Masterclass Adam Schroeder – Saxophone Masterclass Shirazette Tinnin – Drumset Masterclass	Classroom CSU 250 Choral Hall Classroom CSA 251 Rickson Band Hall
2:30pm – 6:45pm	Festival High School Performances	Coil Hall Stage
7:00pm	RCC Jazz Orchestra Concert Directed by Charlie Richard	Coil Hall Stage



ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON



Director Festival General Information

Equipment

The following gear will be provided in the warm-up, performance, and clinic rooms:

Piano

Bass Amp

Vibes

Drumset w/ 2 cymbal stands (no cymbals) and hi-hat WITH cymbals.

Please bring your own guitar amp *as well as hi-hat stand with hi-hats if you want to use your own.*

In order to prevent any potential delays of the festival caused by the inevitable missing clutch, you will not be able to change the hi hat cymbals on the provided gear in any room, although they will be good quality cymbals that you are welcome to use. If you want to use your own hi-hats, you need to bring the stand too.

Bass Players must have their own instrument and cable.

Guitar Players must have their own instrument, amp, and cable.

Instrument Cases Storage

We will have designated instrument/case storage areas upstairs for bands to use during the day. Space is tight up there, so you are also encouraged to use the storage on your busses once you're done playing for the day. There is a bus loading zone outside the front of the Coil School, so loading should be very quick and easy for you.

Copies of Music Scores

Music scores are **NOT** required to be turned in. If you want to submit 2 copies to the judges, that's fine, but it's not required.

Sound

The acoustics of the Coil Hall are remarkable and we want every band to sound their best. We will provide a professional engineer to run sound for the day. Here are some thoughts to consider about our approach to sound reinforcement for this festival that I am borrowing from the UNLV Regional:

We all know that over-amplified big bands are simply not appropriate for the genre, and most of you have probably experienced a well-balanced big band being ruined by overzealous sound personnel with too many microphones. For this reason, our philosophy is to allow the performance to be as purely acoustic as possible, allowing the true balance of your band to be heard by the audience and judges. The only sound amplification that will be used for your performance will be for soloists, and possibly a small amount of piano and upright bass to



ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON



ensure a good balance with the band if needed. You will see several solo microphones in each section, 3 for saxophones, 2 for trombones, and 2 for trumpets. These mics will remain off until needed for a solo. There will also be two “front” mics downstage – one is typically used for speaking and the other one is for soloists that have time to go down front (we love seeing soloists come down front – but it isn’t required).

For each song you play, please instruct your soloists to ensure the nearest solo microphone in their section is placed so that the microphone is approximately 8"-18" away from the bell of the horn (or slightly to the player’s right of the bell for saxophones), and if possible, each soloist should stand up to ensure we have the solo mic turned up and ready as soon as they play their first note. We will also be on the lookout for doubles (flutes, clarinets, etc.) and will ensure they are heard assuming the mic is placed correctly.

Your oversight here will help us ensure a great sounding concert for your band. We are committed to doing our very best to ensure an accurate sound is what is heard by the audience. Less is more!

Judging Format

The format of this festival is non-competitive with written and recorded feedback coming from two of our clinicians. These score sheets and audio commentary will be available shortly after your performance. You can pick up your sheets in the lobby from our festival coordinators and your commentary will be emailed to you.

There will also be two additional clinicians listening to your performance in the hall that will give you a feedback clinic afterwards. These clinicians will not do written or recorded comments, but will work directly with your band when your performance is over.

Awards

Essentially Ellington is a non-competitive festival. There will be no placements or rankings of the bands at any point during the day. Any awards recognizing some of the exemplary performances (individuals and sections) that the judges heard during the day will be included in your packet with your score sheets.

Food Service For Your Students

The schedule for the day is full so that we can get every band in that wants to participate. Each band director will have the latitude to arrange for getting their students fed. You can bring lunch for your group and eat outside the building or you can take your group to one of the nearby restaurants in the Downtown Riverside area. *The Food Lab* is like a food court that is just a couple of blocks away and has a variety of options.



**ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON**



Attendance At All Events

We encourage directors and students to participate in all activities during the day at the festival, including the masterclasses and the featured concerts so that everyone can maximize this wonderful educational experience celebrating our American music. We look forward to sharing this unforgettable and collaborative educational experience with you and your dedicated students. It will provide a lasting impact and create a culture of fellowship with performances, master classes and concerts for all who participate in this unique festival that honors our great Jazz legacy!

Essentially Ellington Festival Requirements

1. All bands participating in the *EE* Festival must join Jazz at Lincoln Center's 2025-2026 *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program (*EE*). By joining the free program, schools receive original transcriptions or arrangements by Duke Ellington and other seminal big band composers and arrangers, as well as recordings, rehearsal videos, teaching guides, and other resources. <http://academy.jazz.org/ee/>
2. All bands participating in the *EE* Festival must be comprised of high school students. High school bands will each perform a 20-minute set (30 total minutes on stage). All bands participating in the *EE* Festival must perform at least one selection from Jazz at Lincoln Center's *Essentially Ellington* print music series. In addition to the 2025-2026 charts received through their membership with *Essentially Ellington*, bands may also elect to perform any of the previously published charts in the *EE* library.

Essentially Ellington Regional Festival Performance Details

1. Each band will be given access to a warmup room for 25 minutes before their performance.
2. Each band will be given 5 minutes for stage set-up, 20 minutes for performance, and 5 minutes to exit the stage.
3. The warmup room, stage, and clinic room are all very close to one another, so it will be very easy and self-evident where to go. However, we will have RCC students to help you in every space and direct you to the next area or provide any other support you might need.

Warmup Room	Choral Rehearsal Room
Performance	Coil School for the Arts Concert Hall
Clinic	Rickson Band Hall



ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON

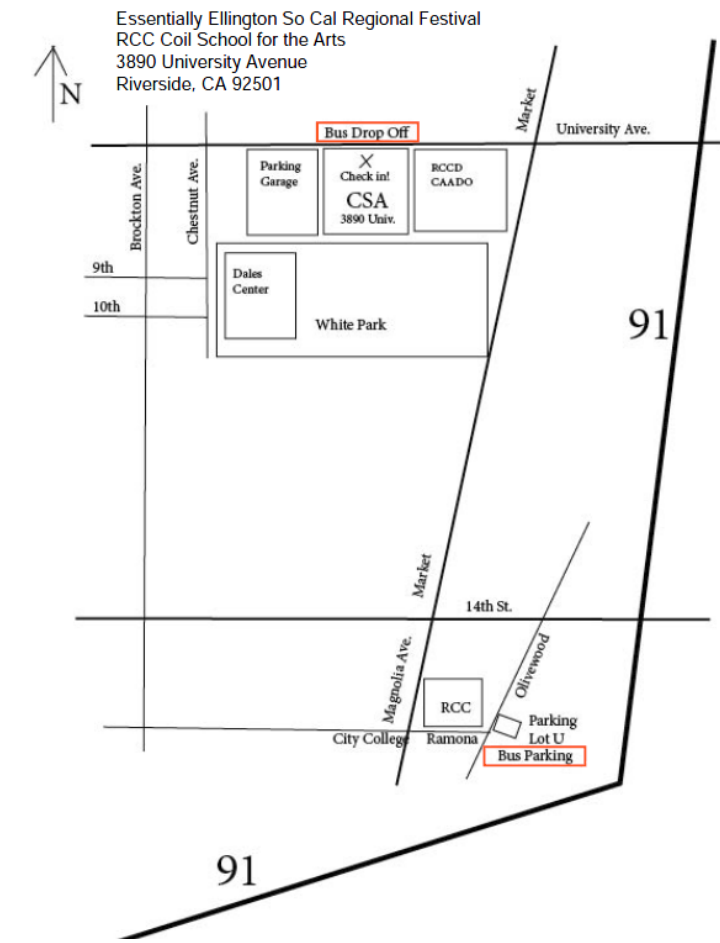


Getting Here

RCC Coil School for the Arts
3890 University Avenue
Riverside, CA 92501

Bus Parking: There is a bus loading zone immediately in front of the building. Busses should drop you drop off with all of your equipment in front of the Coil School. Busses will then park in Lot U at the RCC Main Campus (see the attached map) at the corner of Ramona and Olivewood. It's not far from the Coil School, so if you need your busses to come back to load, it won't take long.

Festival Attendee Parking: There is a parking structure next to the Coil School that attendees are free to use. Just be aware that parking is NOT FREE on Friday, since it's a school day. Anybody parking in that structure will have to purchase a permit for the day to park there. On Saturday, parking is free in the Coil School Parking Structure.





ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON



Meet Our Guest Adjudicators and Clinicians



Bijon Watson

Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Bijon Watson's career as a musician and educator spans more than 30 years and has taken him around the globe to perform for audiences worldwide. Bijon plays lead trumpet for the Grammy-nominated Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, the Grammy-winning John Daversa Progressive Big Band, the Grammy-winning John Beasley's Monkestra, José Rizo's Jazz on the Latin Side All-Stars, the late Gerald Wilson Jazz Orchestra, and many other jazz, salsa, and pop bands throughout the United States. Most recently, in 2022, as co-leader with pianist/composer Steven Feifke, Bijon can be heard showcasing his talents with their Grammy Award-winning Generation Gap Jazz Orchestra.



Shirazette Tinnin

Shirazette Tinnin is a recent 2022 Latin Grammy Nominee for (Andean-Funk "The Sacred Leaf) 18th St. Make Jazz Fellow, Fulbright Scholar recipient, published author, health coach, music director, drummer, composer and bandleader. She is a newly appointed full-time associate professor of percussion at Berklee College of Music where she directs The Dee Dee Bridgewater Ensemble and teaches Private Instruction. Tinnin is the American drummer with Dee Dee Bridgewater and loves to be in her band.

Tinnin performs and freelances with other artists that include Deborah Cox, Lea Delaria (Orange is the New Black), Endea Owens, Yuri Juárez's Afro-Peruano, Afrikkaniitha, Alan Harris, Alicia Olatuja, Nicole Mitchell, Tia Fuller, Mimi Jones, Orange Coffee (2022 New Artist Release) Alicia Keys; Black Girls Rock (BET) and leads her own projects called The Sonic WallPaper Band and her jazz trio for political injustices called "Moods of Her".



Chris Dorsey

Christopher Dorsey is a distinguished music educator, conductor, clinician, and trombonist whose career spans more than 36 years of excellence in jazz education and performance. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Jackson State University and a Master of Music Education – Instrumental Music from the University of Florida.

Throughout his career in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties, Mr. Dorsey has dedicated his life to inspiring young musicians to achieve artistic excellence while developing discipline, leadership, and life skills through music.



ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON



Adam Schroeder

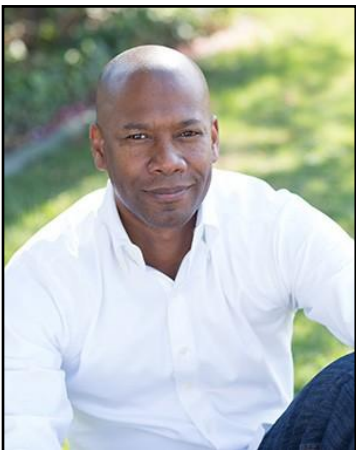
Baritone Saxophonist Adam Schroeder has established his influence as a major voice and force within the global jazz community becoming the first call for a multitude of musical situations in addition to his dedication and devotion towards extensive educational outreach. Schroeder's third release as a leader, "*CT! Adam Schroeder & Mark Masters celebrate Clark Terry,*" (CAPRI 2024) was recently released on January 19th, 2024 and is already gaining critical acclaim around the globe. Holding a BM in Jazz Studies from Texas State University, San Marcos and a MM in Jazz Studies from the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music, California State University, Long Beach, Schroeder presently serves as an Associate Professor of Jazz & Commercial Music at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.



David Beatty

David Beatty recently retired as the Chair of the Commercial Music Department at Azusa Pacific University. Since its inception in the year 2000, the Commercial Music degree program at APU has grown to become a significant part of the School of Music with graduates currently employed in many facets of the music industry. Beatty's past teaching experience includes music faculty positions at California State University San Bernardino, Cal Poly Pomona, and Citrus Community College.

Mr. Beatty holds a B.M. in Trombone Performance from CSUN, a M.M. in Commercial Music Performance from CSULA and a M.B.A. from Claremont Graduate University. In addition, he is on the faculty of the Idyllwild Arts Summer Jazz Academy, and is a frequent adjudicator and clinician for jazz festivals and clinics throughout California.



James Ford

James Ford, III is a native of Georgia. Since moving to Los Angeles in 2003, he has established an impressive reputation as an accomplished all-around trumpet player. Dr. Ford's dexterity and warm sound has allowed him to cross many musical boundaries. He performs in diverse musical settings including big band, small groups, orchestral, chamber, pop, and early music ensembles. Ford continues to experiment and broaden his musical palette. He is a member of the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra and the Benjamin Wright Orchestra. Ford has played in venues in Europe, Asia, South America, South Africa, Canada, and throughout the U.S.



ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON



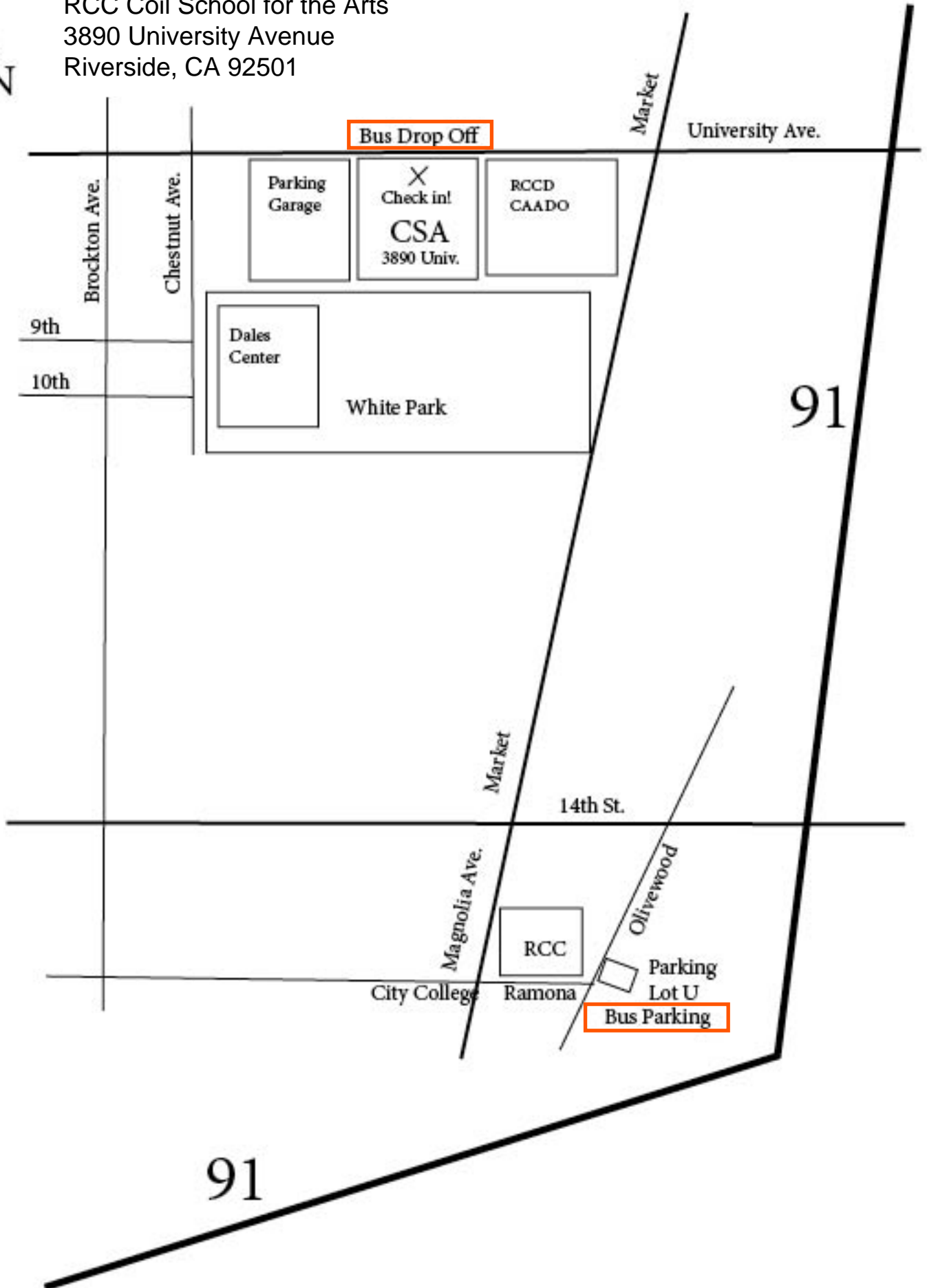
About *Essentially Ellington*

The *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program (*EE*) is unique among educational resources for high school jazz bands. Each year, Jazz at Lincoln Center transcribes, publishes, and distributes charts by Duke Ellington and other seminal big band composers and arrangers, along with additional educational materials to bands across the globe. Beyond providing these charts, *Essentially Ellington* also supports its members throughout the school year with a variety of initiatives including teaching guides, the *Essentially Ellington* website, newsletters, a student composition contest, and professional feedback of student performances of the charts.

Schools that join the program are eligible for participation in non-competitive regional festivals and have the option to submit a recording for the national *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival held annually in New York City at Frederick P. Rose Hall, the home of Jazz at Lincoln Center. Fifteen bands are selected as finalists and, to prepare, each finalist band receives an in-school workshop in their community led by a professional musician. The Competition & Festival culminates in a three-day festival in May for the finalist bands, including workshops, rehearsals, jam sessions, and performances. The three top-placing bands perform an evening concert with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra.

We look forward to sharing this unforgettable and collaborative educational experience with you and your dedicated students. It will provide a lasting impact and create a culture of fellowship with performances, masterclasses and concerts for all who participate in this unique festival that honors our great Jazz legacy!

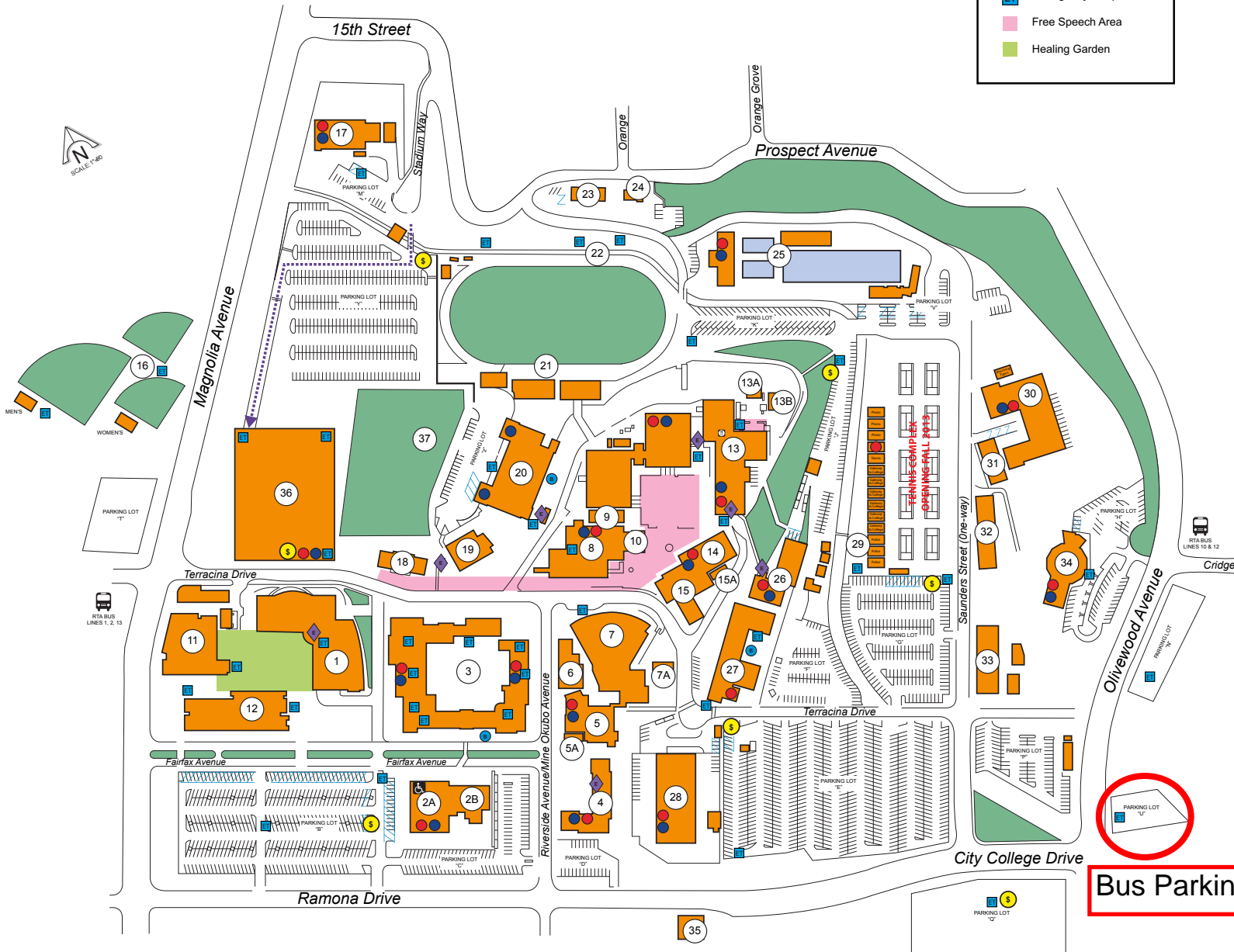
Essentially Ellington So Cal Regional Festival
RCC Coil School for the Arts
3890 University Avenue
Riverside, CA 92501



2024 Essentially Ellington So Cal Regional Festival Bus Parking in RCC Main Campus - Lot U Southeast Corner of Campus City College Drive and Olivewood Ave.

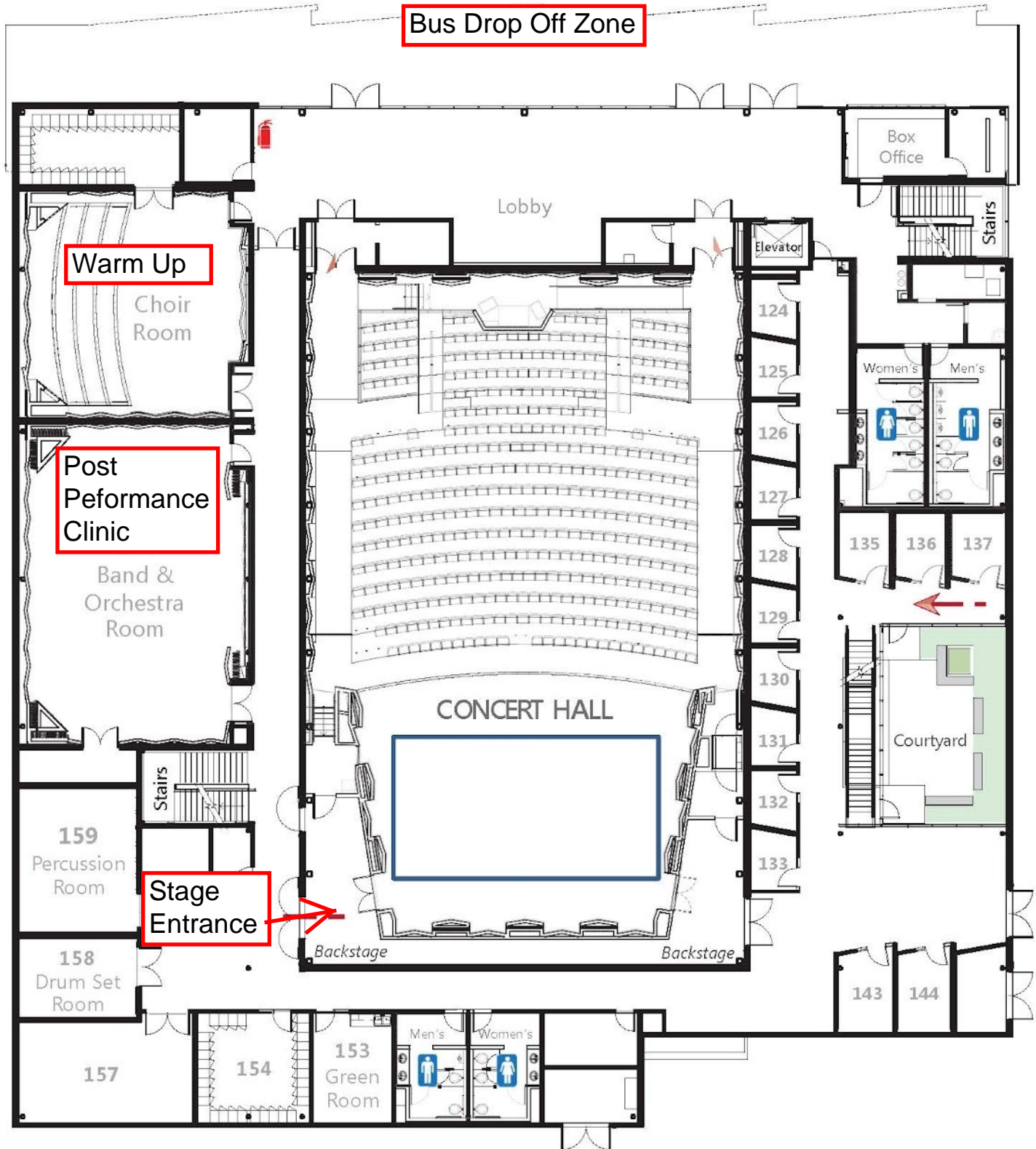
- Restrooms
- Accessible Restrooms
- ◆ Elevators
- ▤ Accessible
- 🚌 RTA Bus Lines
- 🚲 Bike Racks
- \$ Pay Parking
- ☎ Emergency Telephones
- Free Speech Area
- Healing Garden

- UPPER CAMPUS**
1. Digital Library & Learning Resource Center
 - Academic Senate/CTA
 - Auditorium
 - Glenn Hunt Center for Teaching Excellence
 - Instructional Media Center
 2. Administration (O.W. Noble)
 - Section A
 - Board Room
 - Disabled Services
 - H.O.M.E. Room (The Ujima Project)
 - Learning Disabilities Center
 - Mailroom/Admin Service Center
 - Veterans' Resource Center
 - Veterans' Services
 - Section B
 - Academic Affairs
 - Athletics
 - Business Services
 - Community Learning in Partnership (CLIP)
 - President's Office
 - Workforce Resource and Development
 3. Quadrangle (Arthur G. Paul)
 - Art Gallery
 - Community for Academic Progress (CAP)
 4. Business Education (Alan D. Pauw)
 - CalWORKS/Resource Center
 - Independent Living Program (ILP)
 - Micro Support Services
 - Workforce Preparation (WFP)
 5. Music
 - 5A. Music Annex
 6. Music Hall (Richard M. Stover)
 7. Landis Performing Arts Center
 - 7A. Landis Annex
 8. Martin Luther King, Jr. High Tech Center
 - Academic Labs
 - Center for Communication Excellence
 - Stem Center
 - Tutorial Services
 9. Assessment Center
 - Viewpoints
 10. Planetarium (Robert T. Dixon)
 11. School of Nursing
 - Healing Garden
 12. Math and Science Building
 13. Student Center (Ralph H. Bradshaw)
 - Aguilar Patio
 - Auxiliary Business Services/Cashier
 - Bookstore
 - Cafeteria/Food Services
 - Citrus Room
 - Extended Opportunities Programs & Services (E.O.P.S.)
 - Hall of Fame
 - Health Services
 - Heritage Room
 - Matriculation
 - Student Services/Student Activities
 - TRIO
 - Upward Bound
 - 13A. ASRCC Student Government
 - 13B. Information Services Telecom Annex
 14. Student Financial Services
 - Financial Aid
 - Network Services
 - Outreach Completion Counts Welcome Center
 - Student Employment Services
 15. Admissions & Counseling (Cesar E. Chavez)
 - Admissions & Records
 - Career/Transfer
 - Counseling
 - Transcripts
 - 15A. Annex/Wells Fargo
- LOWER CAMPUS**
16. Sports Complex (Samuel C. Evans)
 - Baseball Field
 - Pony League Field (Nate DeFrancisco)
 - Softball Field (Ab Brown)
 17. Early Childhood Studies
 18. Ceramics
 19. Art
 20. Gymnasium (Arthur N. Wheelock)
 - Athletics/Coaches' Office
 - Fitness Room
 21. Stadium (Arthur N. Wheelock Field)
 - Weight Room
 22. Nature Trail (Ariene & Robert F. Richard)
 23. North Hall
 - Finance & Accounting Services
 - Purchasing & Accounts Payable
 24. College House
 - Administration & Finance
 - Risk Management
 25. Riverside Aquatics Complex
 26. Technology B
 - Information Services
 - International Students Center
 - Printing & Graphics Center
 27. Technology A
 - Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
 - Career/Technical Education
 - Welding
 28. Automotive Technology
 - Lovekin Complex
 - College Safety and Police
 - Gateway to College (GTC)
 - Marching Tigers
 - Photo Lab & Studio
 - Tennis
 - Tennis Courts (Fran Bushman)
 30. Gymnasium (Catherine S. Huntley)
 - Band
 - Dance
 31. Pilates Studio (Eleanor H. Crabtree)
 32. Warehouse
 33. Maintenance & Operations
 34. Cosmetology
 35. Alumni House - 3564 Ramona Drive
 - Foundation
 36. Parking Structure
 37. Practice Field



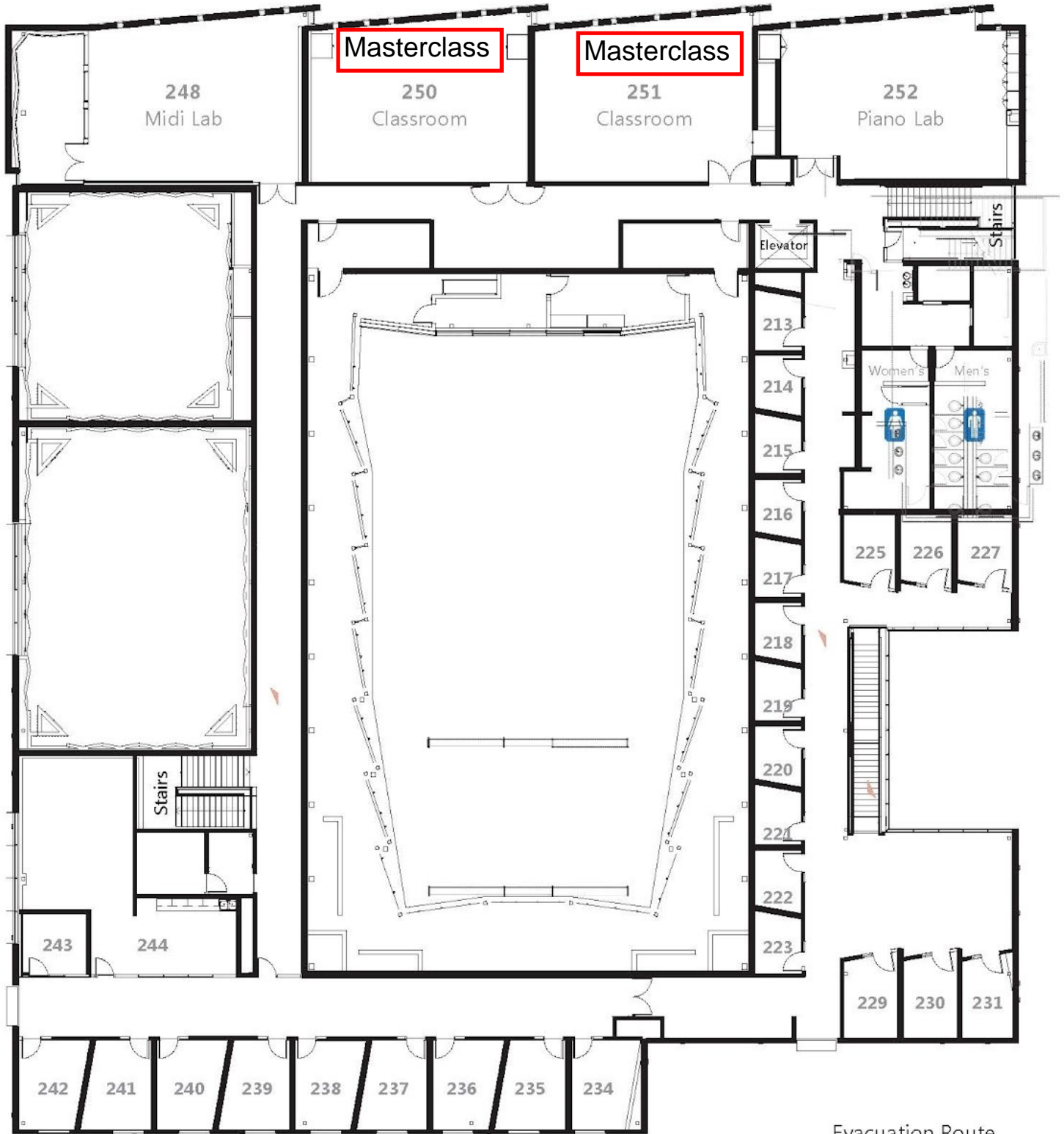
HENRY W. COIL SR & ALICE EDNA COIL SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

1st Floor map



HENRY W. COIL SR & ALICE EDNA COIL SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

2nd Floor Map



- Evacuation Route
- Fire Extinguisher
- Fire Alarm Pull Station