



NOTE TO PARTICIPATING TEACHERS-LUCERNE-2009

Hi Folks

I look forward to meeting all of you for our 19th Annual Jazz Meeting in Lucerne. Enclosed along with this note is a letter to your attending students that will give those of you new to an IASJ meeting some background. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THE STUDENTS READ THIS LETTER** (and help them with the English if necessary). It is important that the students who come with you are the type of individuals who are cool, not egotistical and nice people. We have purposely kept the meetings small so that everyone can really get to know each other, which has been very successful over the years.

I want you to understand that this is not a standard summer workshop type situation. I don't know for sure but am assuming that most of you are not being paid and may even be putting some money out yourself to attend, which is appreciated. There are really no direct responsibilities that you must do. It would be nice if you would take part in the few master classes we have, play a bit at the jam sessions (spotlight is of course on student to student interaction which is the premise of the IASJ) and participate in the Ongoing Dialogues which Walter Turkenburg conducts every year. These are fantastic and interesting discussions on a variety of issues. We try to take advantage of the fact that we are so international and therefore have differing customs and traditions to deal with.

I will request a few teachers to take charge of a combo. Usually I pair two folks who don't know each other, one of whom has already lead a combo in the past. The main thing that you see me mention in the letter to the students is that I want them to put the music together, to take responsibility for rehearsing and planning a set as part of the final concerts, so the teachers who have combos should more or less fade into the background as the week goes on. I do encourage original music by the students as well.

Finally, this year we have limited lecture time and I already have folks for them.

Lucerne is a cute town and if the weather is nice, it should be happening. Hami Hammerli, our host coordinator is a very competent administrator so things will be well organized.

Look forward to meeting new friends and renewing with old ones. This is a great opportunity for all of us personally to extend our pedagogical and performing possibilities. My wife, Caris and daughter Lydia will be with me as well.

Safe travels

Peace