

Wynton Marsalis, Artistic Director, Jazz at Lincoln Center

# Uptown Downbeat

By Duke Ellington

As performed by Gerald Wilson and His Orchestra  
Transcribed and Edited by David Berger for Jazz at Lincoln Center

Full Score

This transcription was made especially for Jazz at Lincoln Center's 2013-14  
Nineteenth Annual *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program.

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ESSENTIALLY  
ELLINGTON

jazz

## NOTES ON PLAYING ELLINGTON

At least 95% of modern-day large ensemble jazz playing comes out of three traditions: Count Basie's band, Duke Ellington's band, and the orchestrations of small groups. Those young players interested in jazz will be drawn to small groups for the opportunity to improvise and for practical reasons (it is much easier to organize 4 or 5 people than it is 15). Schools have taken over the task (formerly performed by dance bands) of training musicians to be ensemble players. Due to the Basie Band's popularity and its simplicity of style and emphasis on blues and swing, the better educators have almost exclusively adopted this tradition for teaching jazz ensemble playing. As wonderful as Count Basie's style is, it doesn't address many of the important styles developed under the great musical umbrella we call jazz. Duke Ellington's comprehensive and eclectic approach to music offers an alternative.

The stylistic richness of Ellington's music presents a great challenge to educators and performers alike. In Basie's music, the conventions are very nearly consistent. In Ellington's music there are many more exceptions to the rules. This calls for greater knowledge of the language of jazz. Clark Terry, who left Count Basie's band to join Duke Ellington, said, "Count Basie was college, but Duke Ellington was graduate school." Knowledge of Ellington's music prepares you to play any big band music.

The following is a list of performance conventions for the great majority of Ellington's music. Any deviations or additions will be spelled out in the individual performance notes which follow.

1. Listen carefully many times to the Ellington recording of these pieces. There are many subtleties that will elude even the most sophisticated listener at first. Although it was never Ellington's wish to have his recordings imitated, knowledge of these definitive versions will lead musicians to make more educated choices when creating new performances. Ellington's music, though written for specific individuals, is designed to inspire all musicians to express themselves. In addition, you will hear slight note differences in the recording and the transcriptions. This is intentional, as there are mistakes and alterations from the original intent of the music in the recording. You should have your players play what's in the score.
2. General use of swing phrasing. The triplet feel prevails except for ballads or where notations such as even eighths or Latin appear. In these cases, eighth notes are given equal value.
3. There is a chain of command in ensemble playing. The lead players in each section determine the phrasing and volume for their own section, and their section-mates must conform to the lead. When the saxes and / or trombones play with the trumpets, the lead trumpet is the boss. The lead alto and trombone must listen to the first trumpet and follow him. In turn, the other saxes and trombones must follow their lead players. When the clarinet leads the brass section, the brass should not overblow him. That means that the first trumpet is actually playing "second." If this is done effectively, there will be very little balancing work left for the conductor.
4. In Ellington's music, each player should express the individuality of his own line. He must find a musical balance of supporting and following the section leader and bringing out the character of the underpart. Each

player should be encouraged to express his or her personality through the music. In this music, the underparts are played at the same volume and with the same conviction as the lead.

5. Blues inflection should permeate all parts at all times, not just when these opportunities occur in the lead.
6. Vibrato is used quite a bit to warm up the sound. Saxes (who most frequently represent the sensual side of things) usually employ vibrato on harmonized passages and no vibrato on unisons. The vibrato can be either heavy or light depending on the context. Occasionally saxes use a light vibrato on unisons. Trumpets (who very often are used for heat and power) use a little vibrato on harmonized passages and no vibrato on unisons. Trombones (who are usually noble) do not use slide vibrato. A little lip vibrato is good on harmonized passages at times. Try to match the speed of vibrato. In general unisons are played with no vibrato.
7. Crescendo as you ascend and diminuendo as you descend. The upper notes of phrases receive a natural accent and the lower notes are ghosted. Alto and tenor saxophones need to use sub-tone in the lower part of their range in order to blend properly with the rest of the section. This music was originally written with no dynamics. It pretty much follows the natural tendencies of the instruments; play loud in the loud part of the instrument and soft in the soft part of the instrument. For instance, a high C for a trumpet will be loud and a low C will be soft.
8. Quarter notes are generally played short unless otherwise notated. Long marks above or below a pitch indicate full value: not just long, but full value. Eighth notes are played full value except when followed by a rest or otherwise notated. All notes longer than a quarter note are played full value, which means if it is followed by a rest, release the note where the rest appears. For example, a half note occurring on beat one of a measure would be released on beat three.
9. Unless they are part of a legato background figure, long notes should be played somewhat *fp* (forte-piano); accent then diminish the volume. This is important so that the moving parts can be heard over the sustained notes. Don't just hold out the long notes, but give them life and personality: that is, vibrato, inflection, crescendo, or diminuendo. There is a great deal of inflection in this music, and much of this is highly interpretive. Straight or curved lines imply non-pitched glisses, and wavy lines mean scalar (chromatic or diatonic) glisses. In general, all rhythmic figures need to be accented. Accents give the music life and swing. This is very important.
10. Ellington's music is about individuality: one person per part – do not double up because you have extra players or need more strength. More than one on a part makes it sound more like a concert band and less like a jazz band.
11. This is acoustic music. Keep amplification to an absolute minimum; in the best halls, almost no amplification should be necessary. Everyone needs to develop a big sound. It is the conductor's job to balance the band. When a guitar is used, it should be a hollow-body, unamplified rhythm guitar. Simple three-note voicings should be used throughout. An acoustic string bass is a must. In mediocre or poorly designed halls, the bass and piano may need a bit of a boost. I recommend miking them and putting them through the

house sound system. This should provide a much better tone than an amplifier. Keep in mind that the rhythm section's primary function is to accompany. The bass should not be as loud as a trumpet. That is unnatural and leads to over-amplification, bad tone, and limited dynamics. Stay away from monitors. They provide a false sense of balance.

12. Solos and rhythm section parts without chord changes should be played as is or with a little embellishment. Solos and rhythm section parts with chord changes should be improvised. However, written passages should be learned because they are an important part of our jazz heritage and help the player understand the function of his particular solo or accompaniment. Soloists should learn the chord changes. Solos should not be approached as opportunities to show off technique, range, or volume, but should be looked at as a great opportunity to further develop the interesting thematic material that Ellington has provided.
13. The notation of plungers for the brass means a rubber toilet plunger bought in a hardware store. Kirkhill is a very good brand (especially if you can find one of their old hard rubber ones, like the one I loaned Wynton and he lost). Trumpets use 5" diameter and trombones use 6" diameter. Where Plunger/Mute is notated, insert a pixie mute in the bell and use the plunger over the mute. Pixies are available from Humes & Berg in Chicago. Tricky Sam Nanton and his successors in the Ellington plunger trombone chair did not use pixies. Rather, each of them employed a Nonpareil (that's the brand name) trumpet straight mute. Nonpareil has gone out of business, but the Tom Crown Nonpareil trumpet straight mute is very close to the same thing. These mute/plunger combinations create a wonderful sound (very close to the human voice), but they also can create some intonation problems which must be corrected by the lip or by using alternate slide positions. It would be easier to move the tuning slide, but part of the sound is in the struggle to correct the pitch. If this proves too much, stick with the pixie – it's pretty close.
14. The drummer is the de facto leader of the band. He establishes the beat and controls the volume of the ensemble. For big band playing, the drummer needs to use a larger bass drum than he would for small group drumming. A 22" or 24" is preferred. The bass drum is played softly (nearly inaudible) on each beat. This is called feathering the bass drum. It provides a very important bottom to the band. The bass drum sound is not a boom and not a thud – it's in between. The larger size drum is necessary for the kicks; a smaller drum just won't be heard. The key to this style is to just keep time. A rim knock on two and four (chopping wood) is used to lock in the swing. When it comes to playing fills, the fewer, the better.
15. The horn players should stand for their solos and solis. Brass players should come down front for moderate to long solos, surrounding rests permitting. The same applies to the pep section (two trumpets and one trombone in plunger/mutes).
16. Horns should pay close attention to attacks and releases. Everyone should hit together and release together.
17. Above all, everyone's focus should remain at all times on the swing. As the great bassist Chuck Israels says, "The three most important things in jazz are rhythm, rhythm, and rhythm, in that order." Or as Bubber Miley

(Ellington's first star trumpeter) said, "It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing."

## GLOSSARY

The following are terms which describe conventions of jazz performance, from traditional New Orleans to the present avant garde.

**Break** • within the context of an ongoing time feel, the rhythm section stops for one, two, or four bars. Very often a soloist will improvise during a break.

**Call and response** • repetitive pattern of contrasting exchanges (derived from the church procedure of the minister making a statement and the congregation answering with "amen"). Call-and-response patterns usually pit one group of instruments against another. Sometimes we call this "trading fours," "trading twos," etc., especially when it involves improvisation. The numbers denote the amount of measures each soloist or group plays. Another term frequently used is "swapping fours."

**Coda** • also known as the "outro." "Tags" or "tag endings" are outgrowths of vaudeville bows that are frequently used as codas. They most often use deceptive cadences that finally resolve to the tonic or they go from the sub-dominant and cycle back to the tonic.

**Comp** • improvise accompaniment (for piano or guitar).

**Groove** • the composite rhythm. This generally refers to the combined repetitive rhythmic patterns of the drums, bass, piano, and guitar, but may also include repetitive patterns in the horns. Some grooves are standard (i.e., swing, bossa nova, samba), while others are manufactured (original combinations of rhythms).

**Head** • melody chorus.

**Interlude** • a different form (of relatively short length) sandwiched between two chorus forms. Interludes that set up a key change are simply called modulations.

**Intro** • short for introduction.

**Ride pattern** • the most common repetitive figure played by the drummer's right hand on the ride cymbal or hi-hat.



**Riff** • a repeated melodic figure. Very often, riffs repeat verbatim or with slight alterations while the harmonies change underneath them.

**Shout chorus** • also known as the "out chorus," the "sock chorus," or sometimes shortened to just "the shout." It is the final ensemble passage of most big band charts and where the climax most often happens.

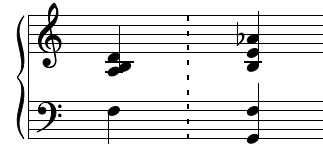
**Soli** • a harmonized passage for two or more instruments playing the same rhythm. It is customary for horn players to stand up or even move in front of the band when playing these passages. This is done so that the audience can hear them better and to provide the audience with some visual interest. A soli sound particular to Ellington's music combines two trumpets and trombone in plungers/mutes in triadic harmony. This is called the "pep section."

**Stop time** • a regular pattern of short breaks (usually filled in by a soloist).

**Swing** • the perfect confluence of rhythmic tension and relaxation in music creating a feeling euphoria and characterized by accented weak beats (a democratization of the beat) and eighth notes that are played as the first and third eighth notes of an eighth-note triplet. Duke Ellington's definition of swing: when the music feels like it is getting faster, but it isn't.

**Vamp** • a repeated two- or four-bar chord progression. Very often, there may be a riff or riffs played on the vamp.

**Voicing** • the specific spacing, inversion, and choice of notes that make up a chord. For instance, two voicings for G7 could be:



Note that the first voicing includes a 9th and the second voicing includes a 9th and a 13th. The addition of 9ths, 11ths, 13ths, and alterations are up to the discretion of the pianist and soloist.

## THE FOUR ELEMENTS OF MUSIC

The following are placed in their order of importance in jazz. We should never lose perspective on this order of priority.

**Rhythm** • meter, tempo, groove, and form, including both melodic rhythm and harmonic rhythm (the speed and regularity of the chord changes).

**Melody** • a tune or series of pitches.

**Harmony** • chords and voicings.

**Orchestration** • instrumentation and tone colors.

— David Berger

## UPTOWN DOWNBEAT • INSTRUMENTATION

Reed 1 • Alto Sax/Soprano Sax  
Reed 2 • Alto Sax  
Reed 3 • Tenor Sax/Bb Clarinet  
Reed 4 • Alto Sax/Bari Sax  
Trumpet 1  
Trumpet 2  
Trumpet 3  
Trombone 1  
Trombone 2  
Trombone 3  
Guitar  
Piano  
Bass  
Drums

## ORIGINAL RECORDING INFORMATION

**Composer** • Duke Ellington

**Arranger** • Duke Ellington

**Recorded** • July 29, 1936 in New York City

**Master #** • B 19628-1

**Original Issue** • Brunswick 7734 [78]

**Currently Available on CD** • Mosaic MD11-248 (*The Complete 1932-1940 Brunswick, Columbia and Master Recordings of Duke Ellington and His Famous Orchestra*) [11 DISCS]

**Download Available** • Uptown Downbeat • [itunes.com](https://itunes.com)

**Personnel** • Duke Ellington (piano); Rex Stewart (cornet); Cootie Williams, Arthur Whetsol (trumpet); Joe "Tricky Sam" Nanton, Lawrence Brown (trombone); Juan Tizol (valve trombone); Barney Bigard (clarinet/tenor sax); Johnny Hodges (alto sax/soprano sax); Otto Hardwick (alto sax); Ben Webster (tenor sax); Harry Carney (baritone sax/alto sax); Fred Guy (guitar); Billy Taylor and/or Hayes Alvis (bass); Sonny Greer (drums)

**Soloists** • Barney Bigard (clarinet); Cootie Williams (trumpet); Johnny Hodges (soprano sax)

## REHEARSAL NOTES

- **Uptown Downbeat** is a would be typical 1930s dance arrangement. Only in the hands of Duke Ellington, the genre is elevated to fine art at its best. Like so many other pieces of its time, it is a 32-bar AABA song that deals with the tonic, subdominant and the relative minor. What makes this piece different is the way that Ellington infuses the Blues and a natural feeling of swing.
- After an 8-bar intro that alternates between the relative minor and the major, there are 2.5 choruses and a repeat of the intro. The first chorus is the melody with an improvised clarinet solo on the bridge, the 2nd chorus is split between a trumpet solo with sax backgrounds and a trombone soli with soprano sax answers. The last half chorus is a reed soli with brass punches on the changes of the bridge and last A section.

- The tempo of this piece is crucial. The temptation is to play it faster because you can, but holding back is what makes it so appealing. Don't rush the syncopations. Relax but play with plenty of accent. It's not about the volume – the intensity comes from the accents and everyone in the band locking into the same conception of the time. Keep those quarter notes short and crispy.
- The rhythm section needs to keep it simple and let the horns be the focus. Just lay down the swing and let the horns sit on top. Acoustic guitar and bass are crucial. You don't want to force the horns to play loud. The piano also needs to keep his oom pahs very soft and light.
- The 8th note lines in the reeds are legato and are mostly slurred. That's the way they played back in the swing era. Bebop tonguing would be out of place here. You want to stress the upper notes with breath accents made with your diaphragm.
- Make sure that the sax backgrounds stay under the plunger muted trumpet solo. This was Cootie Williams' solo. He used a pixie mute (French straight mute) inside his plunger to make it sound nasty.
- At **G** and **H** there is a call and response between the trombones and the soprano sax solo. Make sure that your saxophonist keeps the form.
- The reed soli starting at **H7** needs to wail. Everyone is in his high register. Don't hold back.
- Letter **K** is *subito mf*. Make sure everyone comes down on the first beat. It's accented but soft. The clarinet answers the ensemble – another call and response.
- To play this piece successfully everyone needs to understand that it is not a flag waver. It's just a comfortable little groover. Don't try to make it more than what it is. Enjoy the subtleties. This is the opposite of contemporary pop music that can never relax and is all spectacle. A good program will have varied tempi, styles, moods, etc. We get to appreciate the harmonies more when they are not speeding by. And in Ellington's music the harmonies are always fascinating.

– David Berger

Courtesy of Tutti Dynamics, Inc., videos of Wynton Marsalis leading the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in rehearsals of the *Essentially Ellington* 2013-14 repertoire can be downloaded FREE at [jalco.org/EssentiallyEllington](http://jalco.org/EssentiallyEllington)

CONDUCTOR

Jazz at Lincoln Center Library - Essentially Ellington  
**UPTOWN DOWNBEAT**

Duke Ellington  
Transcribed by David Berger

Medium Swing ♩ = 112

Reeds 1 Alto Sax *mf*

2 Alto Sax *mf*

3 Tenor Sax *mf*

4 Alto Sax *mf*

Trumpets 1 *mf*

2 *mf*

3 *mf*

Trombones 1 *mf*

2 *mf*

(Valve) 3 *mf*

Guitar *Bb m7 Bb m6* *f* *mf*

Piano

Bass *f* *mf*

Drums *sticks cr closed HH cr HH* *f* *mf* *choke*

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Uptown Downbeat

**A**

Alto

Alto

to Clarinet

Tenor

Baritone Sax

Bari

Tpt. 1

2

3

Tbn. 1

2

3

Gtr.

Db Dbmaj7 Db6 Gb7 Db G7 C7 F7 Bbm Eb7 Ab7

f

Pno.

Bass

f

brushes

Drs.

This musical score is for the piece 'Uptown Downbeat', page 2. It features a variety of instruments: two Alto saxophones, a Tenor saxophone (with a note to switch to Clarinet), a Baritone saxophone, three Trumpets (Tpt. 1, 2, 3), three Trombones (Tbn. 1, 2, 3), a Guitar (Gtr.), Piano (Pno.), Bass, and Drums (Drs.). The score includes a section labeled 'A' and contains a large red watermark that reads 'Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase'. The guitar part includes a chord chart: Db, Dbmaj7, Db6, Gb7, Db, G7, C7, F7, Bbm, Eb7, Ab7. The drums part is marked with 'brushes' and a dynamic of 'f'.

Uptown Downbeat

**B**

Alto

Tenor

Bari

Tpt. 1

2

3

Tbn. 1

2

3

Gtr.

Pno.

Bass

Drs.

Chord progression: Db Dbmaj7 Db6 Gb7 Db G7 C7 F7 Bbm Bbm7 Eb7 Abm7 Db7+5

Uptown Downbeat

**C**

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Alto:** Two staves, mostly containing rests.
- Clarinet:** One staff with a melodic line and a 'Solo' section. Chords are written above the staff:  $A^{\flat}$ , Solo,  $A^{\circ}$ ,  $B\flat m7$ ,  $E\flat 7$ ,  $A^{\flat}$ ,  $A^{\circ}$ ,  $B\flat m7$ ,  $E\flat 7$ ,  $A^{\flat}$ ,  $A^{\circ}$ ,  $E\flat 7$ ,  $G7+5$ ,  $C7+5$ ,  $F9$ ,  $B\flat 9$ .
- Bari:** One staff, mostly containing rests.
- Tpt. 1-3:** Three staves for Trumpets 1, 2, and 3, showing rhythmic patterns.
- Tbn. 1-3:** Three staves for Trombones 1, 2, and 3, showing rhythmic patterns.
- Gtr.:** One staff with a rhythmic pattern and chords:  $G\flat$ ,  $G^{\circ}$ ,  $A\flat m7$ ,  $D\flat 7$ ,  $G^{\circ}$ ,  $G^{\circ}$ ,  $D\flat 7$ ,  $F7+5$ ,  $B\flat 7+5$ ,  $E7$ ,  $E\flat 9$ ,  $A\flat 9$ .
- Pno.:** Two staves (Grand Piano) with harmonic accompaniment.
- Bass:** One staff with a rhythmic pattern.
- Drs.:** One staff (Drum Set) with a rhythmic pattern.

A large red watermark 'Legal Use Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the score.



Uptown Downbeat

[D]

The musical score is arranged for a jazz ensemble. The top section includes two Alto parts, Clarinet (Eb), and Bari. The middle section features three Trumpet parts (1, 2, 3) and three Trombone parts (1, 2, 3). The bottom section includes Guitar, Piano (with a Solo section), Bass, and Drums. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score. The key signature is Bb major, and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'mp'.

Alto *mp*

Alto *mp*

Clar. <sup>Eb</sup> to Tenor Sax *mp* Tenor Sax

Bari *mp*

Tpt. 1

2

3

Tbn. 1

2

3

Gtr. <sup>Db</sup> <sup>Dbmaj7</sup> <sup>Db6</sup> <sup>Gb7</sup> <sup>Db</sup> <sup>G7</sup> <sup>C7</sup> <sup>F7</sup> <sup>Bbm</sup>

Pno. Solo

Bass

Drs.

Uptown Downbeat

[E]

Alto

Alto

Tenor

Bari

Tpt. 1

2

3

Tbn. 1

2

3

Gtr.

Pno.

Bass

Drs.

solo - plunger w/pixie  
Eb growl

Ab7

Eb no growl

A7-9

D7-9

G7-9

Cm

growl

F7

Bb7

Db

Gb7

Db

G7-9

C7-9

F7-9

Bbm

Eb7

Ab7

Uptown Downbeat

[F]

Alto

Alto

Tenor

Bari

Tpt. 1

2

3

Tbn. 1

2

3

Gtr.

Pno.

Bass

Drs.

to Clarinet

to Alto Sax

Chord progression: Eb, Ab7, Eb, A7-9, D7-9, G7-9, Cm, Cm7, F7, Bbm7, Eb7, Db, Gb7, Db, G7-9, C7-9, F7-9, Bbm, Bbm7, Eb7, Abm7, Db7

Uptown Downbeat

Chord progression: G, Ab Soprano Sax, A°, Bbm7, Eb7 Solo, Ab, A°, Bbm7, Eb7, Ab, A°, Eb7, G7, C7, E9, F9, Bb7

Chord progression: Gb, G°, Abm7, Db7, Gb, G°, Abm7, Db7, Gb, G°, Db7, F7, Bb7, D9, Eb9, Ab7, C

Drum notation: /

The image shows a musical score for the piece 'Uptown Downbeat'. It includes staves for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bari, Tpt. 1, 2, 3, Tbn. 1, 2, 3, Gtr., Pno., Bass, and Drs. The score is heavily overlaid with a large red watermark that reads 'Preview Only! Legal Use Requires Purchase'. The watermark is oriented diagonally across the page. Above the Soprano staff, a series of chords is listed: G, Ab Soprano Sax, A°, Bbm7, Eb7 Solo, Ab, A°, Bbm7, Eb7, Ab, A°, Eb7, G7, C7, E9, F9, Bb7. Above the Gtr. staff, another series of chords is listed: Gb, G°, Abm7, Db7, Gb, G°, Abm7, Db7, Gb, G°, Db7, F7, Bb7, D9, Eb9, Ab7, C. The drum staff contains a series of slashes representing drum notation. The overall layout is a standard musical score with multiple staves and a prominent watermark.

Uptown Downbeat

Sheet music for "Uptown Downbeat" featuring various instruments and vocal parts. The score includes:

- Soprano:** Melodic line with a starting key signature of E-flat (Eb) and a dynamic marking of *f*. Includes a rehearsal mark [H].
- Alto:** Melodic line with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Tenor:** Melodic line with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Bari:** Melodic line with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Tpt. 1:** Trumpet part with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Tpt. 2:** Trumpet part with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Tpt. 3:** Trumpet part with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Tbn. 1:** Trombone part with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Tbn. 2:** Trombone part with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Tbn. 3:** Trombone part with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Gtr. (Guitar):** Rhythmic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *f*. Chord changes are indicated above the staff: Eb, Ab7, Eb, A7-9, D7-9, G7-9, Cm, soli, open, Eb, G7, C7, F7, Bbm, Bbm, F7-9, Bbm, Db7.
- Pno. (Piano):** Accompaniment part.
- Bass:** Bass line with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Drs. (Drums):** Drum part with a dynamic marking of *f*.

Chord changes for Guitar: Eb, Ab7, Eb, A7-9, D7-9, G7-9, Cm, soli, open, Eb, G7, C7, F7, Bbm, Bbm, F7-9, Bbm, Db7.

Uptown Downbeat

I

Soprano  
Alto  
Clar.  
Alto  
Tpt. 1  
2  
3  
Tbn. 1  
2  
3  
Gtr.  
Pno.  
Bass  
Drs.

Chord progression for Guitar:  
Gb G° Abm7 Db7 2 Gb G° Db7 F7+5 Bb7+5 E7 Eb9 Ab9

Dynamic markings: *f*, *f*, *f*, *f*

Rehearsal mark: I

Section marker: 2

Uptown Downbeat

Sheet music for "Uptown Downbeat" featuring various instruments: Soprano, Alto, Clarinet, Alto, Trumpet 1, 2, 3, Trombone 1, 2, 3, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The music includes a large red watermark: "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase".

The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat major/D minor). It begins with a rehearsal mark 'J' in a box. The woodwinds and strings play melodic lines with trills and grace notes. The brass section provides harmonic support with sustained notes. The guitar part shows a sequence of chords: Db, Gb7, Db, G7, C7, F7, and Bbm. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chordal accompaniment. The drum part includes a consistent bass drum pattern and a snare drum pattern, with a specific drum notation for the snare labeled 'stick HH'.

Uptown Downbeat

**K**

Soprano *mf* *f* *mf*

Alto *mf* *f* *mf*

Clar. C m answer ensemble *f* *mf*

Alto *mf* *f* *mf*

Tpt. 1 *mf* *f* *mf*

2 *mf* *f* *mf*

3 *mf* *f* *mf*

Tbn. 1 *mf* *f* *mf*

2 *mf* *f* *mf*

3 *mf* *f* *mf*

Gtr. Bb m7 Bb m6 2 *f* *mf*  
Db F7 Bb7 Eb7 Ab7 Ab7+5 Bb7 Eb7 Ab7 Db Bb m7 Bb m6

Pno.

Bass *f* *mf*

Drs. sticks cr choke choke choke choke choke choke

The image shows a musical score for 'Uptown Downbeat' on page 12. The score is for a jazz ensemble and includes parts for Soprano, Alto, Clarinet, Alto, Trumpet 1, 2, and 3, Trombone 1, 2, and 3, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* and *f*, and performance instructions like 'sticks', 'cr', and 'choke'. A key signature 'K' is indicated at the top left. The guitar part includes chord diagrams and chord names: Bb m7, Bb m6, Db F7, Bb7, Eb7, Ab7, Ab7+5, Bb7, Eb7, Ab7, Db, Bb m7, and Bb m6. The drum part includes instructions for 'sticks', 'cr', and 'choke'.



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## essentially ellington

The *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program (*EE*) is one of the most unique curriculum resources for high school jazz bands in the United States, Canada, and American schools abroad. *EE* extends the legacy of Duke Ellington and other seminal big band composers and arrangers by widely disseminating music, in its original arrangements, to high school musicians for study and performance. Utilizing this music challenges students to increase their musical proficiency and knowledge of the jazz language. *EE* consists of the following initiatives and services:

**Supplying the Music** • Each year Jazz at Lincoln Center (JALC) transcribes, publishes, and distributes original transcriptions and arrangements, along with additional educational materials including recordings and teaching guides, to high school bands in the U.S., Canada, and American schools abroad.

**Talking about the Music** • Throughout the school year, band directors and students correspond with professional clinicians who answer questions regarding the *EE* music. *EE* strives to foster mentoring relationships through email correspondence, various conference presentations, and the festival weekend.

**Professional Feedback** • Bands are invited to submit a recording of their performance of the charts either for entry in the competition or for comments only. Every submission receives a thorough written assessment. Bands are also invited to attend *EE* Regional Festivals for an opportunity to perform and receive a workshop.

**Finalists and In-School Workshops** • Fifteen bands are selected from competition entries to attend the annual Competition & Festival in New York City. To prepare, each finalist band receives an in-school workshop led by a professional musician. Local *EE* members are also invited to attend these workshops.

**Competition & Festival** • The *EE* year culminates in a three-day festival at Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall. Students, teachers, and musicians participate in workshops, rehearsals, and performances. The festival concludes with an evening concert that features the three top-placing bands, joining the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis in concert previewing next year's *EE* repertoire.

**Jazz at Lincoln Center Band Director Academy** • This professional development session for band directors is designed to enhance their ability to teach and conduct the music of Duke Ellington and other big band composers. Led by prominent jazz educators each summer, this companion program to *EE* integrates performance, history, pedagogy, and discussion into an intensive educational experience for band directors at all levels.

As of May 2013, *EE* has distributed scores to more than 4,200 schools in all 50 states, Canadian provinces, and American schools abroad.

Since 1995, over 309,000 students have been exposed to Duke Ellington's music through *Essentially Ellington*.

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER is dedicated to inspiring and growing audiences for jazz. With the world-renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and a comprehensive array of guest artists, Jazz at Lincoln Center advances a unique vision for the continued development of the art of jazz by producing a year-round schedule of performance, education and broadcast events for audiences of all ages. These productions include concerts, national and international tours, residencies, yearly hall of fame inductions, weekly national radio and television programs, recordings, publications, an annual high school jazz band competition and festival, a band director academy, jazz appreciation curricula for students, music publishing, children's concerts, lectures, adult education courses, student and educator workshops and interactive websites. Under the leadership of Managing and Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis, Chairman Robert J. Appel and Executive Director Greg Scholl, Jazz at Lincoln Center produces thousands of events each season in its home in New York City, Frederick P. Rose Hall, and around the world. For more information, visit [jalc.org](http://jalc.org).

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