



2026 ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON COMPETITION & FESTIVAL FINALIST GENERAL SCHEDULE

** All events take place at JALC's home, Frederick P. Rose Hall**

Thursday, April 30, 2026

8:30-9:45am: Band Rehearsals (4 bands)
10:00-11:15am: Band Rehearsals (4 bands)
11:30am-12:45pm: Band Rehearsals (4 bands)
12:30-1:00pm: Registration (all bands)
1:00pm: Cheer Tunnel
1:30-3:00pm: Q&A with Wynton Marsalis and JLCO
3:15-6:00pm: Section Workshops
6:15-7:30pm: Dinner for finalist students and directors (Directors offsite)
7:30-9:30pm: Jam Sessions with students and JLCO

Friday, May 1, 2026

9:15-10:30am: Band Rehearsals (4 bands)
10:45am-12:00pm: Band Rehearsals (4 bands)
12:00pm: Break
12:30-3:00pm: Competition Part 1 (6 bands perform)
3:00-4:00pm: Break
4:00-6:30pm: Competition Part 2 (6 bands perform)

Saturday, May 2, 2026

10:00am-11:30am: Competition Part 3 (4 bands perform in Rose)
11:30am-1:00pm: Lunch
1:00-2:30pm: Competition Part 4 (4 bands perform)
2:30-4:00pm: Judges' Deliberation/JLCO Autograph Signing/Band Director Meeting
4:00pm: Announcement of 3 top-placing bands
5:30-7:00pm: Soundcheck for 3 top-placing bands
7:30pm: Final Concert and Awards Ceremony