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Here are several Alfred jazz charts that work well for middle school and developing high school jazz bands.

Charts that work for the very beginning of the year:

Listen Here – Eddie Harris/Victor Lopez - soul jazz (all horns have guide solo cued - uses two chords – great vehicle to start improv)

Yeah, You Right - Eddie Harris/Victor Lopez -soul jazz (no solos)

Baby, That's What I Need (aka Walk Tall) - Joe Zawinul/Vince Gassi (funky soul jazz, written 16 bar tenor solo)

Mercy, Mercy - Joe Zawinul/Mike Story - rock (short piano solo, could be opened up)

Escalator Blues -Jeff Darrohn- swing (short 4 bar solos)

Hit the Road Jack - Percy Mayfield/Mike Lewis - swing (repetitive figures, no solos)

Blues March - Carl Strommen - blues in F (written out solos, could be opened up)

*Avenue Swing – Mike Collins-Dowden –trumpet 1 solo – riff based melodies

Charts that work for the second half of the year:

Swing:

Work Song - Nat Adderly/Terry White (16 bar form - d dorian)

Mr. P.C. - John Coltrane/Terry White (minor blues - d dorian)

Splanky - Neal Hefti/Roy Phillippe (Basie blues - Eb)

Cherry Point - Neal Hefti/Roy Phillippe (Basie blues - Eb)

Shout, Stomp & Swing - Les Sabina (8 bar solos)

One For Daddy-O – Nat Adderly/Vince Gassi (short 8 bar tenor solo)

Do Nothin' 'Til You Hear From Me – Duke Ellington/Lisa DeSpain (trumpet 1 has one melody solo (8 bars) and one written or ad-lib passage (16 bars)

* Serenade To A Cuckoo – Roland Kirk/Zachary Smith – solos in tenor 1 & trumpet 2 – catchy hooks

Latin:

Sombrero Sam - Charles Lloyd/Vince Gassi (two chords for solos)

Let My People Go - arr. Rick Hirsch (g minor tonality in solos)

Cubano Chant - Ray Bryant/Mike Story (solos over 8 bar g minor vamp)

Niobe - Vince Gassi (bossa with very nice changes)

* Angel – Wes Montgomery/arr. Les Sabina (printed tenor & piano solo – improv is basically over a Gmin7 & C7 vamp).

Paquito's Revenge – Terry White – solo space for alto 1 & trumpet 1 – nice ensemble passages following solos.

Ballads:

Dreamsville - Henry Mancini/Vince Gassi (tenor feature, nicely written out solo, tasteful & very playable ensemble writing)

Azure - Duke Ellington/Mike Lewis (piano feature, very playable ensemble writing)

Misty - Erroll Gardner/Terry White – (straight ahead ballad, 8 bar alto solo)

Rock:

Jive Samba - Nat Adderly/Terry White (tenor & trumpet solos - solos cross cued - very cool bass line)

Sideways Walking Dog - Zachary Smith (tenor solo, charts sounds more difficult than it is)

Zero Gravity - Vince Gassi (playable melodies, cool harmony, no solos)