



More Information Available At: wearewijo.org

Who We Are:

Women In Jazz Organization is a collective of over 300 professional performing Jazz Musicians who identify as Women or gender Non-Binary. Largely a New York City-based organization, with connections to other individuals and groups nationally and internationally.

Women In Jazz Organization Mission Statement:

Women In Jazz Organization intends to help level the playing field in Jazz, so that women and non-binary people have an equal opportunity to participate in and contribute to jazz, leading to an improved and more rich, diverse, and successful artform. The organization is committed to honoring Black Americans as the creators of jazz.

WIJO aims to empower the individuals within the organization, as well as coming together in solidarity to empower the larger community of jazz musicians who identify as women or non-binary. WIJO works to address inequalities in jazz culture, to change the landscape of the current jazz scene. WIJO also works to improve the perceptions and treatment of women and non-binary people in jazz from outside the jazz community.

Why we need WIJO:

- There is a lack of representation of women in the Jazz world
- Women in Jazz face discrimination
- Women in Jazz experience harassment, assault, abuse and violence
- Women in Jazz don't receive the same opportunities as men in Jazz do
- Women in Jazz don't have the same community available to them that men in Jazz do

Why we started WIJO:

- To create a group of women in Jazz that can meet and share experiences, to have peers to talk with and share stories and support, so as not to feel alone.
- To build a network of women in Jazz to share resources with, learn from each other, and empower each other and the entire women in Jazz community as a whole.
- To work on issues in the Jazz community: how men see and treat us; how people outside the Jazz community see and treat us; and how we see and treat ourselves and each other.
- To improve the experience of women and non-binary people in Jazz.

What WIJO is working to provide:

- Empowerment/personal development/learning space/resources
- Community building/support group/network & connectivity tool
- Outreach programs & mentorship
- Social justice/advocacy/action for change; dismantling barriers and inequities in Jazz
- Creating more opportunities for members to perform, work, learn, and participate in Jazz
- Providing established voice to represent individual women & non-binary people in Jazz