



12/19/14

To: Steve Heckler

RE: Sound levels and guide lines as per Twin Cities Jazz festival

Since 2003 I've been the lead sound engineer for the Twin Cities Jazz Festival. The current maximum sound level by the city, 85 decibels (db) measured at 50 feet, does not reflect what the levels have been for the past 11 years. At the absolutely wonderful Mears Park venue we have recently run into conflicts with the city with trying to meet the level dictated. No matter how perfected and wonderful sounding our latest equipment is, there's the fact that all of the entertainment types we present will obtain certain decibel levels. For example the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and the Navy Big Band at times exceed the allowable levels. We have always strived to keep down the levels of sound through the years, but in practice, the actual levels of the festival have been in the 90db- 92 db range registered at the common 100 ft distance.

Our seasoned and schooled engineers simply cannot meet the current demands even though we communicate well with the bands and work very hard to control volumes. It has become a very difficult experience for our technicians and the local and acclaimed national entertainers to produce the show.

I recommend that the sound level for the Jazz Festival be 92db measured at 100 ft. In no way will this increase the volume of the festival but rather reflect where levels have been for the past 11 years. I feel the 92db level measured at 100 ft. would provide for the continued great festival experience and be workable for all.

Neal Wallace

Event Pro, Inc.