



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dr. David Gaines Named Executive Director

Veteran Music Educator and School Arts Administrator Served as President 2014-15

Westbury, NY - October 10, 2019 - The New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) is proud to announce that Northport, NY resident Dr. David Gaines has been appointed Executive Director. In this role, he will oversee the finances and logistics of all the association's many activities. He replaces Dr. Steven Schopp who retired after thirteen (13) years in the position.

While serving Long Island's Massapequa School District as curriculum associate for music, Dr. Gaines held various positions with NYSSMA including Nassau County representative, second vice president, president-elect. He served as president from 2014-2015, and remains an All State Brass and Major Organization adjudicator.

Dr. Gaines will report to the Executive Council on various activities including the annual All State/Winter Conference in Rochester, NY, which has over 150 clinic sessions and hosts the 900 students in the eight All-State Ensembles; Joseph R. Sugar Advocacy Day in Albany, and the spring festival season, which has over 130 solo and major organizations festivals throughout the State.

"It is my honor to continue serving NYSSMA as Executive Director," Dr. Gaines said. "I am proud that the Executive Council places faith in my abilities and experiences to work with the officers and lead this wonderful organization that benefits our teacher-members and the music education of the students across New York State.

Dr. Gaines has earned degrees from the University of Massachusetts, Queens College, and George Mason University where his studies included wind conducting and instrumental music education. He attained his doctoral degree from Columbia University. He has also taught both undergraduate and graduate courses in music education at Queens College.

NYSSMA, the New York State School Music Association, is the largest state affiliate of the National Association for Music Education. Its mission is to advance music education across New York State for its membership and students in member school programs.