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NYSSMA Welcomes Renée Fleming to *Cyber Summit 2020*

Renown Singer to Keynote Virtual All-State Conference

Westbury, NY – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – The New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) is proud to welcome New York’s own Renée Fleming as keynote speaker at *Cyber Summit 2020*. The annual All-State/Winter Conference was re-named for 2020 due to the pandemic that caused the cancelation of the in-person event that brings together more than 2,500 music educators and 900 student musicians each December in Rochester, NY.

One of the most beloved and celebrated singers of our time, soprano Renée Fleming is renowned for her sumptuous voice, consummate artistry, and compelling stage presence. Awarded America’s highest honor for an individual artist, the National Medal of Arts, as well as four Grammy awards, she brought her voice to a vast new audience in 2014, as the first classical artist ever to sing “The Star-Spangled Banner” at the Super Bowl. In addition to her professional credits, Ms. Fleming is passionate about the role music education has played in her life.

Ms. Fleming will discuss her experiences as a student in New York’s public schools and at the State University of New York at Potsdam’s Crane School of Music. She will also be addressing creative responses to the current crisis impacting so many musicians and educators, and the powerful ways music and the arts can have a positive impact beyond performance.

Throughout NYSSMA’s history, the decision to cancel the All State/Winter Conference has been made only twice: during the war years of 1943, 1944 & 1945, and because of a 1991 Ice Storm that caused power outages throughout New York State including Kiamesha Lake’s Concord Hotel, site of that year’s festival.

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.

