

MINUTES

Saturday, June 12, 2021, 2:00 p.m. to Sunday, June 13, 2021 – Harbor Hotel, Watkins Glen, NY

NYSSMA[®] Executive Council Meeting

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Harbor Hotel, Watkins Glen, NY

Welcome – Call to Order – 2:00 p.m.

NYSSMA[®] President David Brown welcomed members of the Executive Council to Watkins Glen for the annual June meeting. President Brown in turn introduced Zone 15 Representative Neil Bryson who also welcomed members of council to the Watkins Glen meeting and he gave a short orientation of Zone 15.

Not in attendance: GRC Chairperson Alan Orloff, Web Editor Terry Nigrelli (Tom Gellert reporting). Joining the meeting: Daria Barteldt (outgoing NYSSMA/NAFME Student President), Christopher McAfee (incoming NYSSMA/NAFME Student President).

Minutes: Approval of minutes of the March 2021 Executive Council meeting (previously approved via e-mail vote).

Nominations

The meeting was opened for any nominations from council for the following NYSSMA[®] positions that will be voted upon in the fall of 2021:

- A. NYSSMA[®] President-Elect - Ed Chiarello
- B. Zone 5 Representative - Ashley Trudell and Sara Gleason
- C. Zone 6 Representative – Jeanette Woodruff and Alexander Malsan
- D. Zone 9 Representative - Lynda Keech
- E. Zone 10 Representative - Samantha McShane
- F. Zone 13 Representative - Ruth Breidenbach

Nominations remain open until after the close of the August 2021 General Business Meeting.

Appointments

President Brown brought information concerning the appointment of two individuals to fill vacancies for Zone Representative in Zones 15 and 11: Collin Smith, Zone 15 Representative, to complete the office vacated by Neil Bryson through December of 2022, and Kimberly Duncan, Zone 11 Representative, to complete the office vacated by Nancy Torrente through December of 2022.

The following motions were brought to council:

Motion: Meghan Cabral (Zone 10), seconded by Michael Salzman (Past President), "that the appointment of

Collin Smith be approved by council to serve as the Zone 15 Representative (effective July 1, 2021) through December 31, 2022." **Motion carried.**

Motion: Nancy Torrente (Zone 11), seconded by Lynda Keech (Zone 9), "that the appointment of Kimberly Duncan be approved by council to serve as the Zone 11 Representative (effective July 1, 2021) through December 31, 2022." **Motion carried.**

Officer Reports

President: Dr. David M. Brown

President Brown gave a report touching upon a number of topics including:

- NYSSMA[®] organizational update - Thank you to all the members of the Executive Council and NYSSMA[®] office staff for their work in keeping NYSSMA[®] going forward during an especially difficult 16 months.
- Presidential travels.
- NYSSBA update - Their convention is still an in-person event for the fall of 2021.
- Impact on education of the 2021 American Recovery Act.
- A preview of the plans for Day 2 of the council meeting (extended Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) breakout groups).

President-Elect: Russ Faunce

Conference showcases and performers - The application deadline for Student Composer Showcases was June 4, 2021. The following numbers were available at that time. Student composers – 38; electronic – 15, and student songwriters – 11.

The deadline was extended one week to June 10, 2021, to accommodate a few last-minute submissions. Thank you to Rob Deemer and his committee for their continued time and effort to make this important NYSSMA[®] student opportunity available.

The application deadline for the Piano Showcase is June 30, 2021. At the time of this report 21 student have applied. Just a reminder that the application states: "having performed a memorized Level 6 solo from the current NYSSMA[®] Manual." Thank you to Nancy Deutsch and her committee for their work with what has become a wonderful NYSSMA[®] tradition.

A total of 10 performing groups have applied to per-

form at the NYSSMA® 2021 Winter Conference, including band, orchestra, choir, a guitar ensemble, and a clarinet ensemble. Groups will be notified of their status on June 18, 2021.

A total of 264 session presenters have applied for a conference session spot. With space being limited, we are being very selective and are trying to provide a wide variety of topics and discipline areas. Thank you, Dr. Brown, Marc Greene and David Gaines for their administrative part in the selection process. By the time this report is presented, session applicants will have been notified of their status.

Immediate Past President: Michael Salzman

Virtual county presidents' meetings have been very well attended. Mr. Salzman recommended to Council that NYSSMA® look for opportunities to meet both the county presidents and the general membership virtually in the future.

2nd Vice President: Ed Chiarello

Festival Season 2021 - A well-earned thank you is extended to the officers, NYSSMA® office staff, AFC, and the Zone Representatives for all their work, patience, and kindness this past festival season.

It has been a unique, unparalleled season. The numbers are not all in; however, as of May 28, we provided 45,796 auditions on a virtual platform in 15 zones. By comparison in 2019 we adjudicated 84,987. We created opportunities that could not have happened, except for our efforts. Recognize that all-state will occur this year because of our virtual initiative and all your hard work! Thank you to President Brown and the officers for navigating the work of the AFC Charge Committee and for assisting with comments, suggestions and approvals. Thank you for providing continuous guidance throughout the development period.

Thank you also to the AFC and the original AFC Charge Committee for the foresight and vision and then for the surgically precise "in-the-weeds" work that was necessary. Also, thanks to the full AFC Committee for preparing, training, and then supporting judges in the field. Many judges needed to be tutored through the virtual procedures and there are quite a few unsung heroes on our AFC committee.

Thank you to the NYSSMA® office staff: Dr. Gaines for his thoughtful, punctual guidance through every detail that required attention; Marc Greene for preparing, e-mailing, collecting and printing all the All-State Proficiency Sheets; Joan for "State" All-State Secretary -- printing out all the evaluation sheets, preparing multitudes of packets for the Chairs, Zone Reps, and the Officers, then assisting with data input and corrections; Stuart for managing all the spreadsheets and running the payroll for every festival (adjudicators splitting rooms, etc.), and to Debby Super for ancillary support in whatever was needed.

Lastly, thank you to the Zone Representatives, for literally "flying the plane;" preparing and monitoring festival chairs; working with MusicFirst; assisting teachers / students/ and their parents; learning the platform (how to navigate, how to make adjustments, handling all the problems associated with digital upload), and for monitoring and maintaining NYSSMA® rules and regs throughout the process.

Conference all-state - All-State numbers are in your folder.

The planning for conference all-state is proceeding with the understanding that health and safety guidelines continue to be relaxed and we are permitted to rehearse and perform as normal at the hotels and the Eastman Theater.

The All-State Selection Committee will meet at the Double Tree Hotel in East Syracuse on Monday, June 28. The Selection Committee list is in your folder. We are selecting five ensembles for Conference All-State 2021 to rehearse and perform in Rochester:

Symphony Orchestra — 144
Symphonic Band — 153
Mixed Chorus — 160
Instrumental Jazz Ensemble— 18
Vocal Jazz Ensemble — 26

Students will be housed no more than two to a room at three different locations:

Symphonic Band and Symphony Orchestra- Holiday Inn Downtown Rochester.
Mixed Choir and Vocal Jazz Ensemble — Double Tree Hotel, Henrietta.
Instrumental Jazz Ensemble — Hilton Garden Inn, Downtown Rochester.

Mixed Choir and Vocal Jazz Ensemble will rehearse at the Double Tree.
Instrumental Jazz Ensemble will rehearse at the Hilton Garden.
Symphonic Band will rehearse at the Holiday Inn.
Symphony Orchestra will rehearse at the Hyatt.

The two all-state concerts at the Eastman Theater are scheduled as follows:
Saturday, December 4, 7:30 p.m. — Vocal Jazz, Instrumental Jazz, Mixed Choir.
Sunday, December 5, 10:00 a.m. — Band, Symphony Orchestra.

Additionally, we are working on a Virtual Seating Audition program to allow seating auditions to take place in the weeks prior to assembly in Rochester. Students will learn their seat assignment in Rochester.

Area all-state - We are currently working with Zone Representatives to design a NYSSMA® registration program for area all-state (AAS) festivals. EdLaw2D now necessitates student data protocols, and we expect to have
continued on next page

an all-state registration program for all zones to utilize this September for their respective AAS application and selections process(es).

Festival Season 2022 is currently being planned. The Zone Representatives have been cooperative in completing zone calendars and adding their dates to a state calendar. We must do this to monitor the number of festivals state-wide that are scheduled on the all-state weekends of April and May. It is critically important that NYSSMA® is able to adequately staff the April-May weekend festivals with the necessary adjudication services, and, therefore, collective inter-zone planning has become essential.

3rd Vice President: Kathy Perconti

2021 "Virtual" NYS Summer Music Conference -

Sunday, August 15 - 17, 2021, 6:00-9:00 p.m. This year's theme: Revive, Refresh, Renew: Returning to Music in 2021-2022.

The keynote speaker, Lesley Moffat, is scheduled for Sunday, August 15 at 6:15 p.m. Moffat has taught high school band for more than 30 years in the Pacific Northwest. Her ensembles have performed all over the U.S. and in Canada, including multiple performances at Carnegie Hall. She has written two #1 international best-selling books: *I Love My Job but It's Killing Me* and *Love the Job, Lose the Stress*, which became international best sellers. For summer conference, Executive Council members need to register, pay, and then submit an expense voucher.

Conference timeline

Sunday, August 15

6:00 – 6:50 p.m. Welcome and keynote.

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Affiliate/committee content sessions.

Monday, August 16

6:00- 6:50 p.m. Affiliate/committee meetings.

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Affiliate/committee content sessions .

Tuesday, August 17

6:00 – 8:30 p.m. Affiliate/committee content sessions.

8:30 – 9:00 p.m. Virtual ensemble concerts from NYASTA & NYSBDA.

Closing Remarks

Here is the link to the: Summer conference brochure

Please note: There will not be a NYSSMA® general membership meeting at the conference because of the limited session time. The NYSSMA® general business day/time will be announced soon.

Please encourage music teachers to attend and remind them that NYSSMA® is an approved provider of Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) credits. Sessions will be available online until October 31, 2021!

I'd like to thank NYSSMA® COMEA Chairperson Holly McCoy, ACDA, NYSBDA, NYASTA, NYSCAME, and NYSSMA's Technology, Classroom and Collegiate Committees for all their diligent and quick work to make this virtual

conference possible. I also want to thank the NYSSMA® office for all they do, especially Debby Super for all the work she does to put our summer conference brochure together. Thanks also to David Gaines and Marc Greene for their guidance and support, and Stuart Rausch for working with the affiliates. Thanks also to Terry Nigrelli for his web support and Tom Gellert for the layout in the *School Music NEWS*.

Executive Director Report: Dr. David Gaines

In his report Dr. Gaines touched upon a variety of concerns which included:

- Ed Law 2-d - NYSSMA® is in compliance. Thanks for your patience.
- Financial obligations.
- Cap Region BOCES Partnership - Info on website soon. Letter to superintendents of schools with contact information.
- Cyber liability insurance – Recent ransomware attacks in the news.
- Upgrade to technology – Thank you for completing the training videos. More training on the way. You don't need to let the NYSSMA® Executive Director know when you get a phishing e-mail.
- Plans going forward - They will become more nuanced.
- Exploring how we move forward with more formalized partnerships.
- Scheduling programs.
- Other technology platforms that we use. Exploring how we can assist with county affiliates and other affiliate associations.
- All-state fees - They are going to increase. New hotels are more expensive for room and board. Additional transportation.

At the end of his report Dr. Gaines spoke about the real cost of housing our all-state students. The current actual cost is approaching \$520/student vs. the \$400 we charged in 2019. NYSSMA® will take a close look at phasing in an increase in all-state housing reflecting a move to two-student rooms (down from three to a room) and the upgrading of hotel accommodations for our students.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) activity - President Brown brought an important discussion / follow-up group activity to council addressing "DEI" and NYSSMA's role in embracing this initiative. Members of council broke out into circle groups to address DEI and then regrouped as the Executive Council to share the results of the smaller group discussion.

NYSSMA® Committee Reports

Adjudication Festival Committee – George Smith, Chair

2022 Adjudicator Orientation Seminars - Orientation sites are planned in Zones 1, 9, 13 and 14. The following

dates and sites are confirmed:

March 11-12	Jericho H.S. (piano only)	Zone 13
April 8-9	Smithtown West H.S. (no piano)	Zone 14
April 22-23	Kingston H.S.	Zone 9
April 29-30	Frontier H.S.	Zone 1

Since only 37 new adjudicators have been oriented in the past three years, compared to an average over twenty-four years of 63 a year, we are trying to arrange a fourth full orientation site on March 25-26 or April 1-2. The application will be on the NYSSMA® website and will appear in the *School Music NEWS* in the September, October, November/December issues. The deadline for applications will be March 1, 2022.

2020 candidates will have priority over new applicants if enrollment exceeds capacity at a site. 2020 candidates have been notified that they will only have to fill out the cover sheet of the orientation application for 2022 adjudicator orientation. Resumes and references from 2020 will be used for 2022. Candidates from 2020 will be e-mailed the 2022 application as soon as it is finalized.

AFC NYSSMA® e-mail addresses - NYSSMA® e-mail accounts have been established for all AFC members. Please use the following e-mail addresses to contact AFC coordinators and committee members:

Susan Avery AFC Chorus Coordinator afcchorus@nyssma.org
Daniel Fabricius Interim AFC Inst. Jazz Coordinator afcij@nyssma.org
Steven Fayette AFC String Coordinator afcstring@nyssma.org
Ronald Hebert AFC Orchestra Coordinator afcorch@nyssma.org
Lori Hershenhart AFC Woodwind Coordinator afcww@nyssma.org
Chris Hyde-Hall AFC Piano Coordinator afcpiano@nyssma.org
Alan Jones AFC Vocal Jazz Coordinator afcvj@nyssma.org
Jon Kusche AFC Brass Coordinator afcbass@nyssma.org
John McNeur Assignor of Adjudicators assignor@nyssma.org
Daryle Redmond AFC Percussion Coordinator afcpperc@nyssma.org
Michael Robertson Director of Adjudicators dirfadj@nyssma.org
George Smith AFC Chairperson afcchair@nyssma.org
Kathryn Struzik Manual Chairperson manual@nyssma.org
Michael Struzik AFC Band Coordinator afcband@nyssma.org
Rae Jean Teeter AFC Voice Coordinator afcvoice@nyssma.org

AFC in-person meeting - The Adjudication Festival Committee will meet in person for the first time since March 2020 on August 14-15, 2021. The following will be agenda items for the meeting:

- Thorough debriefing of the 2021 virtual festival season. Notable strengths will be noted. Also, documented issues will be identified and discussed by AFC. In the event it is necessary to have a virtual festival season in the future, these recommendations will be implemented to help advance the process. All AFC members have been asked to send their reflections to George Smith prior to the August meeting so they can be compiled for the meeting discussion.
- 2021 Adjudicator Feedback and Rehearing Requests (Director of Adjudicators Report).

- 2021 Winter Conference sessions.
- 2022 Adjudicator Orientation.
- Adjudicator Refreshers.

Initial AFC 2021 virtual festival season thoughts

- The allotted times for onsite solo festivals were not applicable for virtual evaluation. Many adjudicators needed a minimum of 20 to 30 minutes for a Level 1-4 evaluation. Level 5-6, AS times were from 30- to 45 minutes in actuality.
- While some adjudicators were concerned about compensation for the additional time needed, many appreciated having additional time to complete evaluations.
- Many adjudicators felt the quality of their evaluation sheets was better in the virtual format since they had the option to take more time.
- Adjudicators often listened to the solo more than once.
- Once acclimated, adjudicators felt the platform worked well and they were comfortable with it.
- Some adjudicators indicated they preferred virtual evaluation to onsite evaluation.

Rehearing Requests and Feedback Forms - As of the date of this report (June 3, 2021), the following have been received:

52 Rehearing Requests
29 Feedback Forms

It is unprecedented to have more rehearing requests than feedback forms.

Following the AFC report, George Smith distributed a 2021 festival season report from John McNeur, NYSSMA® Assignor of Adjudicators. Mr. Smith reviewed the report with the Executive Council, touching upon a number of important statistics. There was some discussion among members of council related to concerns from some adjudicators that they were not assigned to judge this past season despite the completion of the adjudicator availability form. It was suggested that any concerns should be addressed directly to John McNeur.

Advocacy Chairperson: Lori Orestano-James

Bills S4525 & A1788 (former bills S7550 & A9660)

- We are continuing to receive support letters from collegiate professional agencies and organizations. Please continue to advocate locally to your state Assembly members and state legislators to sign on to the respective bills. There are many curricular- and budgetary-based bills in committee, and if we do not show strong support from our elected official body, they will not be moved forward.

The Advocacy Zone Reps will continue to reach out to those in their areas to get additional support as well. As was shared in my March report, once we hit approximately 70%, we will move to additional grass roots membership and community support efforts. (More to come on the

continued on next page

specifics when we get closer.) Currently we sit at 39%, an increase of only 9% since March. We have grassroots work to do!

The timeline was to have this and the mass "fat file build" accomplished by mid-to late May for movement from committee to floor. There is still time but until this work is done, we will now be looking more likely at the fall 2021 legislative session. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. On a side note, President Brown and I continue to attend the Mid-Hudson Arts Alliance Advocacy Committee meeting, and there is strong work being done to gain support in the process of moving these bills forward and collaborative arts advocacy across New York State.

District/budget updates - Since the start of Covid-19 I (and now with the assistance of the Ad-hoc Committee) we have worked with 372 teachers/schools/districts regarding concerns of scheduling, program cuts, budget cuts and staffing concerns. In addition, there is dialogue around the "how-to" of curriculum delivery, especially with online learning and concerns of hybrid model programming. In addition, we are working with district regarding utilization of the ARP funds.

We need to continue to focus on efforts in NYC. Many to almost all schools have suffered, with the bulk of those schools having no music or arts education of any kind at all. I will continue to work with Robert Rams to build support for music education in this soon-to-be post-pandemic rebuilding.

A reminder to all that it is important to be involved in committee work in your district around the continuation of Covid planning (as we continue to move forward), as well as any budget committees. It is important for your voice to be heard at the table in order to be proactive and not reactive.

Advocacy Leadership Force (ALF – NAFME) - I continue to attend the virtual ALF meetings, providing updates and remaining current on issues regarding legislative actions/discussions at the national level, as well as Covid-19. NAFME's Web page continues to provide more information and updates to help you talk to superintendents, parents, community members, faculty and other stakeholders regarding the regulatory federal legislation.

Advocacy must be in the forefront of what we do on a daily basis. With concern at the federal, state and local levels, as well as our continued concerns on our goal to achieve a Pre-K-12 high-quality, sequential music education delivered by certified music teachers for ALL students, we need to remain vigilant to ensure our students get what they deserve and are entitled to. Please continue to reach out as we are here to assist you.

Continued work - I am excited that the decision has been made to continue with the committee work brought

about through the Covid ad-hoc structure. Advocacy is too large and important in the work we do for just one person.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the committee who have been doing outstanding work throughout the state, as well as President-Elect Russ Faunce, Past President/Eastern Division President Michael Brownell, Past Eastern Division President/Past President Marc Greene, SCMEA President Mike Mastangelo and, of course, our current President David Brown, for their support, guidance and assistance throughout these past number of months. Not only has it been a pleasure collaborating, but also the students and our NYSSMA® members were placed first in all you did to make music education a priority for all.

Classroom Music Committee Chairperson: Kerry Mero

Summer Conference 2021 - The Classroom Music Committee has 16 virtual sessions planned for Summer Conference 2021. Committee chairs Donna Basile, Anthony Femino, Jen Rafferty and Kim Kane have organized a wonderful slate of sessions for Pre-K through high school classroom music with topics such as, "Musically Meaningful Improvisation in Early Childhood," "Exploring Theatre in the Music Classroom," "Selecting and Creating Lessons Using Children's Literature in Elementary Music," "Dance Like Nobody's Watching: Dance and Movement for Middle School Students," "Rocking in Middle School: Starting a Modern Band Program," and "Putting Theory into Practice: Reshaping Music Theory in the Secondary Classroom Setting."

Our elementary headliner for summer 2021 will be Matthew Stensrud, who will present "Effortless Play: Creativity and Community in Distance Learning." Additionally, we will have a special session for all classroom levels entitled, "Introduction to Antiracist and Decolonizing Approaches in General Music Classrooms," led by Lorelai Batislaong (www.decolonizingthemusicroom.com).

Winter Conference 2021 - Our committee has proposed an exciting slate of sessions for Winter Conference 2021, and we will have more to share about these once the scheduling has been finalized! Our headliner for winter will be Heather Shouldice, a Music Learning Theory specialist. Her sessions will include "Research to 'Real Life:' Applications for Recent Research for Elementary General Music," "Teaching Harmony Step-By-Step: A Sequential Approach to Developing Harmonic Audiation," "Individual Musicking: Developing Elementary Students' Musical Independence," and "Fostering Vocal Creativity and Improvisation in Elementary Music."

Current committee projects - Our committee has met a couple of times virtually this spring, but most of our focus has been on planning upcoming conferences. We are looking forward to meeting again in person sometime in the near future and resuming some of our ongoing

committee projects. Individually, we have been doing some behind-the-scenes work on the updates to the song list, committee history book, and the CMC chairperson handbook.

COMECA Chairperson: Holly McCoy

Second quarter goals

1. Summer conference.
2. COMEA zoom meeting.
3. Website updating.

Goal 1: Summer conference - Assisted Kathy Perconti, 3rd VP, when needed. E-mailed affiliates for updates and submissions.

Goal 2: COMEA zoom meeting May 4, 2021 - First communication overview: great discussions, discussion of history of COMEA, and summer conference info shared.

Goal 3: Website updating - Site is up to date. Huge thank you to Terry Nigrelli, NYSSMA's Web Editor.

Updates/events from the COMEA

NY-ACDA President John Warren: "Excited for NYACDA summer offerings both NYSSMA® conference and virtual content for students the same weekend all grade levels."

KONY President Sarah Meadows: "After a wonderful first annual Equity and Diversity Summit in September of 2020, KONY is excited to continue to grow and expand this event on September 24-25, 2021. We are also excited for the return of our Tri-Chapter workshop (hosted with our local NYC Orff and Dalcroze chapters) in January 2022."

NYSMTA President Hendry Wijaya: "NYSMTA's 2021 Virtual Symposium will be held on October 16, 2021. It is open for both members and non-members. There will be no registration fee for this year. More information will be posted on NYSMTA website later in the summer. Please join us!"

NY AOSA Chapters Liaison Donna Basile: "I will be contacting the NY Orff chapters asking them to publicize the conference with their membership."

MAR of AMTA Co-Chair Tracy S Wanamaker: "Nothing to report - thanks!"

PAS NY Chapter President Jim Mola: "As the newly elected president of the New York Chapter of The Percussive Arts Society, I am looking forward to sharing our events with the music schools and arts councils in general. We are looking to take a more proactive approach in our offerings and want to let the state's wonderful educators know that we are here to help and inform."

NYSOCAME President Donna Watts: "Good News Project - the Equity Series - is well under way. Working groups

have been formed and updates will be shared in August. Announce that the deadline for the Joel Ratner Scholarship is June 18. Candidates can apply online."

NYSBDA President Michael Cordaro: "NYSBDA is moving forward with its plans to do an in-person symposium in March of 2022. We are also continuing our efforts to support our membership as we transition to a more 'normal' school year providing needed tools to move forward. We have an ongoing ethics and diversity committee, which has been tasked with providing resources to our membership to help with the growing awareness of societal inequalities in the band classroom and possible ways to address the issues. NYSBDA will continue to provide leadership and support for all band directors."

NY-ASTA President Richard S Webb: "The New York chapter of the American String Teachers Association sponsored three virtual events this spring: A College String Major Town Hall, with undergraduate students from ASTA student chapters around the state; a double-bass workshop for school orchestra teachers from New York, and the annual CELLOFEST featuring guest artist Jake Charkey, on the topic of cello techniques for playing music of North India, for students and educators from New York."

NY-GIML President-Elect Ashley Fox: "NY-GIML will be hosting two Professional Development Levels Courses (PDLCs) in collaboration with the University of Buffalo from July 5-16. This year, we will be offering Elementary General Level 1 and Instrumental Level 1. In addition, this year the Gordon Institute for Music Learning will be hosting its 8th International Conference on Music Learning Theory from July 27-29. This is a hybrid conference with sessions offered in-person in Chicago and online. For more information, or to register for either of these events, visit www.giml.org."

Curriculum Committee Chairperson: Frederic Weingarten Winter Conference 2021 Sessions

- o Delving Deeper: Creating Historical Connections (Cn).
- o All Music Has a Place in the Curriculum.
- o Expanding Culturally Responsive Pedagogy through Appropriate Repertoire Choices.
- o Super Strategies to Address the Standards in the Performance Ensemble.
- o Super Strategies to Address the Standards in Classroom Music.

Initiatives - Work continues on Innovative Instruction for Standards-Based Music Learning (I2). We are in the process of filling the database of this updated resource guide by accepting and editing instructional ideas. All NYSSMA® members are invited to contribute to this innovative venture by submitting exemplary lessons for inclusion in this document using this link. This link can also be found on the Curriculum Committee Web page at nyssma.org.

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- o Work continues in the Arts Content Advisory Panel (CAP) and The Individual Arts Assessment Pathways (IAAP).
- o Standards and Implementation documents available online at: <http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/arts-standards-implementation-resources>.
- o Direct links to recent additions:
 - Guidance Course Flow Charts
 - Need To Know documents
 - Implementation Guides
 - Think Documents; Toolkit and Self-Training

The NYS Learning Standards for the Arts "Customize Your Own Handbook" was included with the initial rollout. This feature has been discontinued and is presently inaccessible.

Government Relations Committee Chairperson: Alan Orloff (report submitted)

First, let me thank you all for the extraordinary efforts in every zone and county that made our 48th Annual (1st Virtual) Joseph R. Sugar NYSSMA® Day in Albany such a resounding success. While we cannot go to Albany as lobbyists due to our organization's tax-exempt status, our government advocacy efforts are unique. No other state has visited its state legislators for 48 consecutive years. We have been the model for government relations in all states. The NAFME Hill Day efforts in Washington, DC, came about from observing our day. We can look at these accomplishments with great pride.

The Government Relations Committee is not just about lobbying on behalf of school music. We have spoken for years about developing close, personal relationships with the members of our state government. I know you have heard me say that our Day in Albany is just the beginning of creating these relationships and that the real work of government relations happens when you go home and make an effort to see your Assembly member or State Senator at their local offices where you can really get to know them and they you. This terrible year of the Covid pandemic is a perfect example of how personal relationships with your local legislators are vital.

The Government Relations Committee's responsibilities as mandated in the NYSSMA® Constitution are:

1. Provide information to legislators regarding legislation that affects education.
2. Invite opportunities to consult with public officials on matters affecting education.
3. Fostering the establishment and functioning of Local Action Groups, providing information and assistance to the NYSSMA® members and supporters of these groups as needed or required.

The first two responsibilities are intertwined with our Day in Albany efforts and the local follow-ups that help to

grow government relationships

The third, creating Local Action Groups, is a responsibility we would like to put into play. Most zones and/or counties have such a group. They are usually made up of the NYSSMA® members who are at the tables in the capital on Joe Sugar Day, who call and make legislative appointments, who find new recruits to come to Albany and foster their interest in government relations. In short, they are the people who want to receive NYSSMA® political e-mails and enjoy acting on them.

Our goal is to make sure that these groups can be found in every zone, that if a zone or county does not have a formal group to help foster its organization, and to create a means of rapid communication to get important news out so the groups can share the information with other NYSSMA® members, their state legislators, and local governments.

I don't presume to tell people how to organize their group. Many of you have done this for years and have organized in the way that works best for your area. However, we learned this year that government relations are more important than ever. Imagine if we could have received and passed along Covid rules, regulations, legislation and questions quickly and accurately.

I encourage everyone to think about the group you have and help the GRC know whether you have such a group or need help creating the group. Then, we can effectively work together to find ways by which these groups can be organized into a NYSSMA-wide, rapid response government relations team that can communicate and easily get the information they need to share. After seeing how much we needed this during the pandemic, I hope we can seriously work on this concept and let it lead us to a higher level of government relations competence.

NAFME Collegiate Advisor: Dr. Keith Koster

First, a special acknowledgement and appreciation to the 2020-2021 State Collegiate Executive Board who worked tirelessly this past year among so many challenges in order to provide New York collegiate members with professional activities, resources and information: President, Daria Barteldt; President-Elect, Christopher McAfee; Secretary, Emma Clive; Web Editor, Morgan Beaton; Province Representatives, Joseph Benedict, Kieran DeMaria, Julia Turner, Madi Yung, Julia Stowell, Halie Carden.

April 2021

- Collegiate Executive Board members presented two (2) collegiate sessions at the biennial meeting of the Eastern Division of the National Association for Music Education (NAFME) virtual conference. The sessions were well received, and we thank the conference selection committee for approving these sessions for the conference.
- Morgan Beaton (Nazareth College School of Music) was awarded the 2021 Collegiate Professional

Achievement Award by the National Association for Music Education (NAFME). Morgan joins several collegiate members from around the country who have served their state and the national association so successfully. This is the second year that New York collegiate members have received this national award.

- We are awaiting word from NAFME on any other New York collegiate members or chapters that will be recognized this year.
- Completed 2020-2021 State Collegiate Executive Board elections. Please welcome the new e-board. These newly elected officers will be a great group of student leaders to work with!
- o President: Chris McAfee
mcafeec202@potdam.edu
- o President-Elect: Emma Uruburu
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May 2021

- The 2021-2022 Executive Board reviewed conference session proposal titles and descriptions and assisted Dr. Koster in the rank-ordering of those sessions for consideration at the 2021 NYSSMA® Winter Conference.
- The newly elected officers are currently reviewing their responsibilities and meeting with former e-board members.
- Dr. John Gallagher presented a virtual session for collegiate students about strategies related to substitute teaching. We appreciated his insight for the college students who were able to attend. We look forward to his session about public relations as it relates to music education sometime in the future.
- Dr. Koster has been in contact with Syracuse Chapter members who are planning the 2022 State Collegiate Conference. The dates for the biennial state collegiate conference will be March 25-26, 2022.

June 2021

- The newly elected Executive Board will be meeting to assemble an activity-based agenda for the upcoming academic year. Once completed, the activities and events will be shared on social media, as well as in the fall newsletter.
- Province Representatives will reach out to collegiate chapter members and advisors to update our state collegiate chapter roster.
- Promoted the 2021 NAFME Collegiate Advocacy Summit and expect New York Collegiate members to attend the online event (June 24-25, 2021).

In late July and early August, the officers will assist me with the fall C-NYSSMA® newsletter.

I am really excited about the direction our state collegiate officers are planning to go with some new and exciting ideas about how to expand membership, participation and engagement in NYSSMA® and NAFME while focusing on issues related to equity, diversity, inclusion, representation, and post-pandemic.

We value and appreciate NYSSMA's commitment to our collegiate members and encourage NYSSMA® members to follow collegiate chapters on social media. To access social media links, visit the Collegiate NYSSMA® tab (nyssma.org) and review chapter information.

NAFME Collegiate President: Chris McAfee

Hello everyone! The Collegiate Board and I are elated to begin our work with you for the year to come. Our primary objectives as a board are to build and grow our community while doing what is in our power to ensure a diverse and equitable state of music in New York.

Regarding building community, we are working on building community events throughout the summer for our collegiate members, which will build toward our time together at the summer conference. These events will range anywhere from professional development to musicians' wellness, all the way down to just having fun as a unit. While our primary objective is building opportunities for our New York membership, we also plan to collaborate with students from surrounding states to build our community network even further.

Regarding our efforts in diversity and equity, we are working on building resources for lesson plans for ourselves as future educators, on language to help NYSSMA® continue to adapt, and on curriculum and repertoire for all to benefit from. Diversity, equity, and inclusion is a long-term race toward the end of which we are all working, and as the future music educators of New York, we feel there is no time better than the present to get our hands in on the work. We all care deeply about the students we will have, that we will not even meet for years, and anything we can do now to ensure their music education is the best New York can provide is work that we want to be a part of. The future is bright in New York, and I, as much as any of you, am very excited to see it. I look forward to meeting and working with you all.

Public Relations: Dr. John Gallagher

Dr. Gallagher touched upon a report distributed to members of council that included initiatives through NYSSMA® press releases, published stories and an update on NYSSMA® social media traffic.

School Music NEWS Editor: Thomas N. Gellert

Final School Music NEWS coming later this month - The last issue of the 2020-21 school year has gone to press and will arrive before the end of the month. It will include virtual summer conference information, our annual index of articles appearing in the magazine during the preceding 10 months, and other information bringing a difficult school year to a close.

Call for future School Music NEWS articles - As always, please encourage membership to submit articles of interest for the upcoming Volume 85 of the *School Music NEWS*. Guidelines for submitting articles may be found online at the NYSSMA® website / *School Music NEWS* section.

Correcting NAFME/NYSSMA® mailing address information - Please encourage members in your zone to visit their online membership information accessible through the membership portal of the NAFME website. In compiling the 2021 directory of NYSSMA® membership it was readily apparent that there were a significant number of incomplete and inaccurate member listings, including wrong or missing home/school addresses, incorrect e-mails, etc.

Any correction of online member information is critical in making certain that NAFME and NYSSMA® mailings are being sent to the correct address in a timely fashion. All NYSSMA® members are also requested to renew their membership in a timely fashion especially in light of the fact that future issues of the *School Music NEWS* will include very important information as the new school year begins in September.

County President changes - If there are any county president changes beginning July 1 or September 1, please contact Debby Super in the NYSSMA® Business Office with this information ASAP. The information will be updated in the NYSSMA® computer so it appears correctly in the *School Music NEWS* masthead beginning in September.

Web Editor's Report: Terry Nigrelli (Tom Gellert reporting)
The NYSSMA® website is running well.

The 2021 NYS Virtual Summer Conference registration information was posted on June 3.

The job posting page was very active during the past couple of months. This may be due to retirements and federal and Albany education funding. Here are the job posting counts since January:

- January - 5
- February - 7
- March - 21
- April - 31
- May - 44
- June 1 to 3 - 8

Here is the link to the online job posting form: <http://www.nyssma.org/post-a-job/>

If you are new to editing your page on the site, please e-mail me at: webeditor@nyssma.org. I will send you your log in credentials and the instructions for editing your page. Alternatively, you can send me the information and I will post it for you. The link to log in to edit your page is: <https://www.nyssma.org/wp-login.php?wle>

If you need help with your NYSSMA® e-mail, please call the NYSSMA® office. They will be able to help you. As always, I have been answering or forwarding the many e-mail messages that get sent to info@nyssma.org from parents, teachers and students regarding the virtual solo festivals. I answer as many as I can and forward the rest to Zone Reps, committee chairs or the NYSSMA® office.

I'd like to ask committee chairs and Zone Reps review your pages to make sure the information is accurate and up to date.

Recognition

President Brown publicly thanked Neil Bryson for stepping in to assume the responsibilities of Zone 15 Representative on short notice.

President Brown presented retiring Executive Council member / Zone 11 Representative Nancy Torrente with a plaque in recognition of her service to council.

President Brown recognized Daria Barteldt with a commemorative plaque for her service to the collegiate membership of NYSSMA/NAFME and to the NYSSMA® Executive Council as the student president of NYSSMA/NAFME.

President Brown thanked the members of the NYSSMA® Executive Council for their hard work and efforts during the past 16 months of the pandemic.

Next Meeting: virtual general membership meeting – August

Adjournment

The following motion was brought to council.

Motion: Neil Bryson (Zone 15), seconded by Nancy Torrente (Zone 11) and all in attendance, "that the meeting is adjourned." **Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m..

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas N. Gellert, Recorder