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Annual All State Festival & Winter Conference Returns to Rochester

Event to feature Five Hundred Sixty-Six (566) of State’s Best Student Musicians

Westbury, NY / November 7, 2022 – The New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) is excited to announce a return to the Rochester Riverside Convention Center and the historic Eastman Theater on December 1 – 4 for the 2022 All State Festival and Winter Conference.

“For more than two decades, Rochester has been a wonderful host for NYSSMA, our students, our members, and our annual Conference,” said Russell Faunce, NYSSMA president. “Our outstanding All State musicians will learn from nationally-recognized conductors, and our members in attendance will participate in valuable professional development opportunities.”

With a theme of *Connect, Belong and Create*, NYSSMA will offer over two hundred (200) professional development sessions for music educators, with many focusing on Belonging, Equity, Diversity and Representation (BEDR) and Social Emotional Learning (SEL). Our traditional conference returned in 2021 and, this year, will be produced through the lens of rebuilding and rejuvenating music programs across New York State post-pandemic.

This year, NYSSMA will welcome five hundred sixty-six (566) students performing in five (5) ensembles led by the following conductors:

- All State Vocal Jazz Ensemble - [John Stafford II](#), Kansas City Kansas Community College
- All State Instrumental Jazz Ensemble - [Julius Tolentino](#), Newark Academy
- All State Mixed Chorus - [Dr. Derrick Fox](#), University of Nebraska, Omaha
- All State Symphonic Band - [Dr. Thomas McCauley](#), John Cali School of Music, Montclair State University
- All State Symphony Orchestra - [Dr. James Allen Anderson](#), University of Delaware

In line with requirements set forth by the Eastman Theater, all students will be vaccinated and those in attendance for the concerts must wear a mask. ???

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.

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