

NYSSMA Curriculum Committee Sessions

- Winter Conference, 2025 -

Interdisciplinary Curriculum for Secondary General Music — Thursday, 3:30PM, CC Highland DEF

Secondary general music should reflect students' experiences outside the music classroom. Interdisciplinary approaches—incorporating science, math, social studies, and language arts—can effectively connect music to students' broader experiences. This session offers accessible interdisciplinary lesson plan models that help create a culturally responsive learning environment.

Music Playcations: Gamification for Everyone — Thursday, 4:45PM, CC Highland DEF

Music Playcations: Gamification for Everyone is a session that uses Gamification (the process of adding games or game-like elements to a skill) and encourages participation and buy-in. This session will engage participants into games designed to introduce, teach and or refine foundational music skills in a fun and meaningful way. Participants will play their way through several games.

Confronting Social Injustices in the Music Curriculum — Thursday, 7:00PM, CC Highland DEF

In this session, examine 'social reconstruction' addressing injustices perpetuated in society, e.g. homelessness, climate change, red lining, etc. Participants will analyze and unpack teacher units and lessons informed by injustices rooted in local communities. Learn strategies from other educators on how they adopted this curricular approach to music education.

Navigating Your First Years of Teaching — Roundtable — Friday, 9:30AM, CC Highland DEF

In this session, early-career music teachers Ciara Cornelius, Geneva; Micayla MacDougall, Camden; and Alex Renzoni, Pittsford, reflect on their initial experiences, practical insights, relatable experiences, and strategies to grow as a music educator. Designed for new and pre-service teachers seeking inspiration, and their mentors. Q&A will follow to encourage discussion and further learning

State Education Department Update — Friday, 10:45AM, CC Highland DEF

Join David Seligman, Associate in Instructional Services for the Arts, as he shares the latest updates from the State Education Department. Discover guidance for cultivating arts-focused school communities, learn how schools are designing and managing IAAP, and hear about other proposals awaiting progress and approval.

AI Music-Making: Preparing Students for Tomorrow's Lessons — Friday, 1:15APM, CC Highland DEF

AI music generation is more than simple prompts - it's a sophisticated dialogue between musician and machine. Through analysis of real-world examples, discover where AI prompt engineering and musical creativity intersect. Explore the future of prompt-based composition and walk away knowing what today's music teachers need to accommodate tomorrow's students.

Developing a Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum for Music — Friday, 7:15APM, CC Highland DEF

A Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum (GVC) is essential for educators, yet many districts across New York State lack vertically aligned music programs. This session will guide building a purposeful curriculum, integrating unpacked standards, content objectives, data-driven conversations, standards-based assessments, and vertical mapping.