



NYSSMA® ELECTION 2025 CANDIDATE BIOS

Elected Candidates to Hold Office Beginning January 1, 2026

PRESIDENT - ELECT
DARYLE REDMOND



With 29 years in music education and longstanding service to NYSSMA, I stand for leadership that is built on trust, service, and a clear vision that aligns with the needs of the organization. Throughout my career, I have served NYSSMA in roles such as Zone Representative, Adjudication Festival Committee Coordinator, All-State Band Chair, and 2nd Vice President. In every role, I have led with integrity, honesty, and transparency - principles I hold as essential to effective and inclusive leadership. If elected, I will prioritize:

- * Creating a Professional Development Committee to provide continuous, relevant support for music educators at all levels across New York State.
- * Assessing Zone populations and geography to explore potential rezoning solutions that promote equitable access and representation for all school communities.
- * Modernizing NYSSMA's digital systems to improve usability and access, ensuring that participation and resources are more efficient, equitable, and forward-facing.

These goals reflect my commitment to growing NYSSMA in ways that are thoughtful, inclusive, and responsive to the real needs of our educators and students.

Leading is about listening and lifting up voices from every corner of the state, addressing inequities, and ensuring NYSSMA reflects the full diversity and brilliance of our musical communities. Leadership is not about waiting for the right time, it's about stepping up when you have the right experience, values, and courage to act. I'm ready to serve with the same commitment I've shown throughout my career—and I would be honored to be your next President-Elect.

PRESIDENT - ELECT
JAMES UZZI



Music has the power to transform lives—not only for our students, but for all of us who devote ourselves to this work. I have witnessed shy children find their voices through song, students discover strength and resilience through practice, and entire communities come together in shared performances. These moments remind me daily of the impact of music education and the importance of NYSSMA's mission. These experiences have influenced my decision to seek your support as NYSSMA President-Elect. I currently serve as the Zone 14 Representative, a position I have been honored to hold through two elections by the Zone membership. In this role, I have had the privilege of connecting with many of you—teachers, adjudicators, and colleagues from across the state. My time on the Executive Council has deepened my understanding of the workings and challenges NYSSMA faces, as well as the opportunities before us. These experiences have shaped my vision, one rooted in both reflection and growth. As President-Elect, I will:

- Work to ensure access to high-quality music education for every child, regardless of background, geography, or circumstance.
- Foster a culture of collaboration where every member feels valued, inspired, and truly seen and heard.
- Balance tradition with innovation, honoring what has made NYSSMA strong while embracing new practices that will guide us into the future.

I am deeply grateful to the teachers, colleagues, and students who have shaped my journey as an educator. With humility and enthusiasm, I seek the opportunity to serve as NYSSMA President-Elect. Together, I believe we can continue building a future where every child has the chance to experience the transformative power of music.

ZONE 1 | REPRESENTATIVE
PATRICK TOWEY



Since youth, music education has always been my passion. Now entering my 12th year as a music educator, I currently serve on the music faculty of the Kenmore-Tonawanda Union Free School District, as the Band Director at Kenmore West High School. I previously served for six years as the Plattsburgh High School Band Director and District Jazz Director. With NYSSMA, I serve as an adjudicator for All-State Instrumental Jazz, Piano, Brass and Instrumental Majors. I have also served on the Conference All-State Selection Committee and the Piano Showcase Selection Committee.

Now, more than ever, we need look for new ways to foster connections and bonds with future educators and teachers in training so that they can make a smooth transition into the profession and feel prepared for the road ahead. As Zone Representative, I will continue to look for ways to encourage collaboration between educators across our zone through professional development, inter-school exchanges and by strengthening our existing NYSSMA opportunities. I look forward to serving NYSSMA and Zone 1 in this capacity.

ZONE 3 | REPRESENTATIVE
DR. JENNIFER GREENE



I was a public school instrumental music educator for more than 30 years. Currently, I am the director of the Wind Symphony at Binghamton University, and I am also adjunct faculty at SUNY Onondaga Community College and Syracuse University.

As a director and zone rep, it has been my goal to program literature that represents many different populations, especially those traditionally marginalized. Congruent with this has been a desire to have student voices be a part of programming and repertoire selection.

I feel very strongly about providing professional development and support for teachers at all stages, particularly those in their early and mid careers. To that end, I have established PD sessions at each of the Area All-State festivals in which teachers may earn CTLE credit. This fall, I will be partnering with BOCES and Ithaca College to provide a regional PD day.

I believe that a long term goal for NYSSMA should be to provide mentoring support for new teachers to address the attrition rate and ensure their induction into this most wonderful profession.

ZONE 7 | REPRESENTATIVE
JOHN FATUZZO



Hello NYSSMA! I am John Fatuzzo, Band Director at Guilderland Central High School and District K-12 Teacher Leader for Music. I am a NYSSMA Brass and Jazz adjudicator, have chaired a Solo & Ensemble Festival, brought our Wind Ensemble to perform at the Winter Conference in 2024, and am a recent recipient of the NYSSMA Early Career Achievement Award. I have chaired multiple All-County ensembles and once served as the Director of Administration for the NYSSMA School of Orchestral Studies. My students and ensembles are highly active in NYSSMA S&E and Major Organization Festivals. NYSSMA has been a great resource for me as a music educator and has provided valuable and memorable learning experiences for my students. For these reasons, I am excited to run for and ultimately serve as Zone 7 Representative. As Zone Rep I would passionately voice the ideas and concerns of our music educators and administrators to the Executive Council, tirelessly collaborate with our teachers to continue organizing successful and meaningful Area All-State and Adjudication Festivals, and effectively advocate for our school programs to our state legislators. I believe in the power of music to change lives and that music has a place in the education of ALL children. I hope I have your vote so that I can best serve and represent the great music educators and students of the Capital Region. Thank you!



ZONE 11 | REPRESENTATIVE
KIMBERLY DUNKIN



Kimberly Dunkin (she/her) is a middle school choral/general music teacher in the Hendrick Hudson School District, where she has taught since 2006. She has served as the Zone 11 Representative since June 2021. Since becoming Zone Representative, Kimberly has advocated for equity and diversity within the organization so it may provide meaningful opportunities for all music students. If elected for a second term, she aims to continue this important work while also focusing on enhancing the overall experience for NYSSMA members.

Kimberly has held several leadership roles, including NY-ACDA Membership Chair and WCSMA All-County Chorus Coordinator. She currently serves as Publicity Chair for WCSMA, managing the organization's social media presence. Most recently, she has taken on the role of collaborative pianist for the Westchester Children's Chorus.

Kimberly is proud to serve as the liaison between Westchester teachers and the NYSSMA state council, dedicating herself to making sure they feel valued, supported, and well-informed.

ZONE 15 | REPRESENTATIVE
KIMBERLY HENRY



Kimberly Henry has served as the Band Director at Elmira/Southside High School for 22 years. A graduate of Jamestown High School, she earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in Music Education from SUNY Fredonia.

At Elmira High School, she directs the EHS Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, and Jazz Band. Beyond her work with bands, she teaches Theater Tech classes, serves as the school's Theater Technical Manager, is a Class Advisor, and also advises the Spartan Workout Club.

An active participant in NYSSMA, Kimberly has hosted numerous Zone 15 Senior High Area All-State Festivals and Instrumental Majors Festivals over the past two decades. Her ensembles have earned top honors, including NYSSMA Level 5 and 6 Gold with Distinction awards. Her teaching philosophy centers on more than just music—she strives to develop well-rounded, thriving young people through the power of music education.

Her goals for NYSSMA include advocating for music education across New York State, protecting programs in today's political climate, promoting lifelong music learning, and ensuring Zone 15 continues to provide outstanding opportunities for students.

