



# OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**TO: NYSSMA® Members**  
**FROM: Michael Mastrangelo, NYSSMA® GRC/Advocacy Chairperson**  
**RE: NYSSMA® Joseph R. Sugar Day in Albany - Monday, March 9, 2026**  
**DATE: January-February 2026**

Each year during the month of March, NYSSMA® celebrates “Music in Our Schools Month” across New York State. During this time, NYSSMA® arranges a day in Albany for music educators to meet with our state legislators. Each zone works collaboratively with NYSSMA® to schedule times with their assembly members and senators in Albany to discuss current issues and how they may affect music programs for students.

This is also an opportunity to express our gratitude for continued support of music education. Music educators from each zone will organize themselves into groups, and NYSSMA® will provide talking points to discuss with their legislators. Plan your calendar now so that you are able to join us for this worthwhile endeavor!

## **MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026 SCHEDULE**

**8:30 AM** - Arrive at the Empire State Plaza – Park in visitor parking area

**9:00 AM-9:20 AM** - Orientation Meeting - Meeting Rooms 2-4

**9:30 AM-11:30 AM** - Visits with Legislators (Remind the legislators of the 11:30 AM concert in the South Gallery of the Empire State Plaza and the evening reception in Meeting Rooms 2-4 at 5:00 PM. Let each legislator know if any student constituents are performing and invite them to have a photo taken during the evening reception.)

**11:30 AM** - All-State Instrumental and Vocal Jazz Ensembles Concert, Empire State Plaza South Concourse

**1:00 PM-2:00 PM** - Lunch provided by NYSSMA®, Meeting Rooms 2-4

**2:00 PM-3:00 PM** - NYSCAME meeting in Meeting Room 7 (Behind the Egg)

**2:00 PM-5:00 PM** - Visits with Legislators (Remind the legislators of the evening reception in Meeting Rooms 2-4 at 5:00 PM. Let each legislator know if any student constituents are performing and invite them to have a photo taken during the evening reception.)

**3:00 PM-5:00 PM** - County Presidents' Meeting, Meeting Room 7 (\*Behind the Egg)

**5:00 PM-7:00 PM** - All-State Instrumental and Vocal Jazz Ensembles Concert and Reception, Empire State Plaza Meeting Rooms 2-4, Dinner provided by NYSSMA®

Michael Mastrangelo  
NYSSMA® Government Relations Committee Chairperson