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## EDITOR'S NOTES

Dan Bilawsky – Editor, *School Music News*



# JANUARY–FEBRUARY NOTES

### 2026 WINTER CONFERENCE ONLINE APPLICATIONS

The posting of online 2026 NYSSMA® Winter Conference applications for session proposals, concert hour performing groups, and student showcases is imminent. Those materials are currently being finalized and should be available at the NYSSMA® website shortly. Please visit that site — [nyssma.org](http://nyssma.org) — on a regular basis for the most up-to-date information. Related details will follow in the March issue of *School Music News*.

### Welcome to Our New and Re-Elected NYSSMA® Officers and Zone Representatives

NYSSMA® President-Elect - Daryle Redmond

2nd Vice President - Scott Cannan

Zone 1 Representative - Patrick Towey

Zone 3 Representative - Dr. Jennifer Greene

Zone 7 Representative - John Fatuzzo

Zone 11 Representative - Kimberly Dunkin

Zone 15 Representative - Kim Henry

### Get Ready for NYSSMA® Day in Albany 2026

This year's Joseph R. Sugar NYSSMA® Day in Albany will take place on Monday, March 9, 2026. Both the All-State Instrumental and Vocal Jazz Ensembles are scheduled to perform at the Empire State Plaza, and there are planned visits to our state legislators to discuss the importance of music education in New York State schools.

Information regarding NYSSMA® Day in Albany, provided by GRC/Advocacy Chairperson Michael Mastrangelo, appears as an official announcement in this issue of *School Music News*. Please support music education in New York State and NYSSMA's efforts in this matter through your attendance at this important event.

### Correction: 2025 NAMM Foundation Best Communities for Music Education

We extend apologies to the following districts who were inadvertently omitted from the September 2025 *School Music News* listing of New York State-honored 2025 NAMM Foundation Best Communities for Music Education. NYSSMA® regrets the error and duly recognizes and congratulates the following districts:

Williamsville Central School District    East Amherst

Windsor Central School District        Windsor

York Central School District            Retsof

Yorktown Central School District       Yorktown Heights

### Quote of the month:

*"There are only two things worth aiming for, good music and a clean conscience."*

-Paul Hindemith, composer, conductor, educator and violist