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Rush-Henrietta Music Educator Appointed NYSSMA Officer

Scott Cannan fills position of Second Vice President for nation's largest state music association

Westbury, NY - January 9, 2026 - Veteran music educator Scott Cannan has been appointed Second Vice President of NYSSMA. This leadership role ensures the smooth operation of all festivals and conferences that focus on the student experience. This includes the management and supervision of nine hundred (900) students at the annual All State / Winter Conference at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center, and the adjudication of one hundred thousand (100,000) students during our state-wide festival season held from March through June. Mr. Cannan fills the term of Daryle Redmond, of the North-Syracuse School District, who was recently elected president-elect.

"I am honored to have been appointed to this crucial leadership role with NYSSMA," Mr. Cannan said. "I will draw on my experience as a music educator, and NYSSMA member and leader, to best serve the students throughout New York State."

Building on his training as an adjudicator for all state solos and instrumental ensembles, Mr. Cannan has held several leadership roles in NYSSMA. From 2017-2023, he was the local "Zone 2" area representative to NYSSMA's Executive Council serving approximately fifteen thousand (15,000) students and liaising with five hundred fifty (550) music educators from eight (8) counties including Monroe, Ontario, and Wayne. For two years, he served as the assistant all-state band chairperson managing NYSSMA's All State Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band in preparation for performances in Rochester.

Mr. Cannan is in his thirty-first (31st) year of teaching, with the last twenty-eight (28) of them at his alma mater, Rush-Henrietta. He has taught general and instrumental music at every level, and currently conducts the high school symphonic band. Under his direction, the bands have received the highest ratings at NYSSMA adjudication festivals, and have been featured at high-profile performances including the New York State School Board Association's (NYSSBA) annual conference, and venues in Chicago, IL, and Orlando, FL.

He received a Bachelor of Music Education from the State University of New York at Fredonia, a Master of Music Education from Ithaca College, and a Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Leadership from the State University of New York at Oswego. In 2020, he received NYSSMA's Established Educator Award for distinguished service at the local level, and, in 2021, he received a Citation of Excellence for outstanding contribution to bands and band music by the National Band Association.

A practicing saxophonist, Mr. Cannan has performed with the Central New York Music Educators' Wind Ensemble and the Eastman Music Educators' Jazz Ensemble, and currently performs with the Eastman Community Music School Music Educators Wind Ensemble.

NYSSMA, the New York State School Music Association, is the largest state affiliate of the National Association for Music Education.

The Mission of the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) is to advance music education across New York State for its membership and students in member school programs.

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NYSSMA Second Vice President Scott Cannan

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