
EDITOR'S NOTES

Dan Bilawsky – Editor, *School Music News*



APRIL NOTES

JAZZ APPRECIATION MONTH

As you may have noticed, this edition of *School Music News* has a marked emphasis on jazz. April is Jazz Appreciation Month, culminating with International Jazz Day (on April 30). Lessons embedded in the history and architecture of jazz are applicable to all areas of music education, so the hope is that everyone finds some valuable takeaways in the jazz-centric articles in these pages.

NYSSMA® JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER SUMMER CONFERENCE – JULY 24-25

Apropos of what's noted above in terms of jazz's wide reach, NYSSMA® is proud to announce and promote the July 2026 Summer Conference. Partnering with Jazz at Lincoln Center, the conference will take place at their facilities (Columbus Circle, NYC) on July 24 and 25. This issue of *School Music News* contains the initial interest/announcement flyer (originally presented this past December), the conference

registration form (which first appeared on the NYSSMA® website last month), a list of session descriptions and hotel options in the area (both first seen here). The different PD options within this conference have been tailored to be broadly applicable—not just for instrumental or vocal jazz ensemble directors but for ALL music teachers at all levels. Add to that two evening concerts included in the price of the conference—Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra one night, and dinner and a set of music at Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola on the other! This promises to be an incredible event and learning opportunity, so don't wait to register.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Jazz washes away the dust of everyday life."

-Art Blakey, drummer and leader of the Jazz Messengers



National Association
for Music Education

NAfME Guiding Principles, Frameworks, and Applications for AI in Music Education

Grounded in the National Music Standards, **Guiding Principles** explores how AI tools can enhance creativity, support performance, and deepen student reflection. It also addresses assessment strategies, productivity tools, and the broader ethical responsibilities music educators must consider when integrating AI into their teaching. Whether you're curious, cautious, or already experimenting with AI, this resource offers timely and practical information, ideas, and insights to help you make valuable, informed decisions about the use of AI.

Download this free resource and take the survey linked on the last page:
bit.ly/AIMusicEdGuidingPrinciples