

# ZONE RAP CORNER

*News from Across the State*

*[Editor's Note: An initiative created by President Kathy Perconti and supported through School Music News, the Zone Rap Corner will present informational updates and positive accomplishments as shared by our zone representatives. Each edition will focus on a number of zones, ultimately giving each and every one a chance to shine. This first one looks at Zones 1, 2, 10 and 12.]*

## **Zone 1 (Western New York) – Patrick Towey**

- Congratulations to the nine students who will represent Zone 1 in the All-State Jazz performances at Joe Sugar Day in March.
- Eleven Zone 1 teachers are finalists for the Barry Manilow Music Teacher Award!
- Both ECMEA (Erie) and CCTMA (Cattaraugus) have either planned or held county-wide professional development days in the winter.
- ECMEA piloted the replacement of sight-reading with prepared excerpts for SH All-County Jazz auditions.

## **Zone 2 (Genesee Region) – Brian Wilkins**

- Finger Lakes Music Educators Association hosted the annual professional development day on February 9 at Bloomfield High School.
- Hilton High School hosted renowned jazz trumpeter Wayne Bergeron at their annual Evening of Jazz concert on February 13.
- Congratulations to the three students who will represent Zone 2 in the All-State Jazz performances at Joe Sugar Day in March.

## **Zone 10 (Hudson Valley Region) – Samantha McShane**

- Arlington HS in Dutchess County hosted a free West Point concert in March.
- Columbia County hosted a successful “Jazz All-County and Invitation” at the beginning of February.
- DCMEA is going to work this summer to update their constitution.
- Dutchess County schools are looking to host a county-wide conference day next school year and we have reached out to help to provide music workshops.
- Columbia County (CCMEA) and Dutchess County (DCMEA) each have elections in May this year.

## **Zone 12 (New York City) – Kevin Heathwood**

- Junior Area All State
  - Second Area All-State site added for the first time this year due to high enrollment.
    - Forest Hills High School festival serves Queens schools.
    - Talent Unlimited High School serves the other four boroughs.
- Majors
  - 169 ensembles were adjudicated, including six modern bands and nine clinic evaluations
- NYC partnerships with local colleges have been a huge reason for our growing success. CUNY Lehman, Brooklyn College, and Queens College have been amazing partners.

In a few years, we may need to add more festival sites (for all types of festivals) to accommodate the growing numbers.