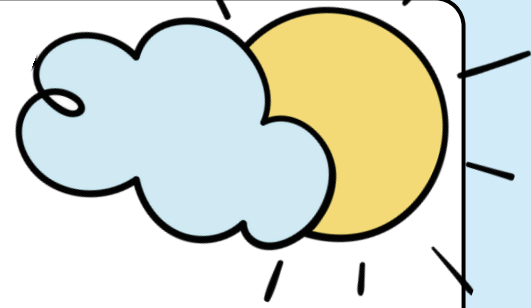
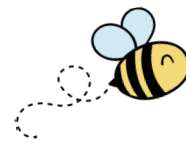


Zone 1 May Newsletter

NYSSMA Updates

- An ad hoc committee has been put together to explore the festival fees moving forward. Share any input with me and I'll make sure it's brought forward at the June Council Meeting.
- Conference All-State student fees this year will be \$950/student
- Reminder that the NYSSMA office is moving to a July 1-July 1 tax season, so all fees must be paid by the festivals ASAP!
- There will be a vote this fall to change the constitution to allow electronic voting in the future



Winter Conference Session Proposals/Performance Groups

Presenting a session or having a school group perform at the 2026 NYSSMA Winter Conference in Rochester is a great way to get involved with our statewide organization. See [Zone 1 website](#) for links to applications and information. **Deadlines approaching!**

Adjudicator Feedback Form

- Teachers are encouraged to use the adjudicator feedback form (available at all festivals) to provide feedback to adjudicators for both positive comments and areas of concern. **Click here for digital version.**



Other Updates

PMB Scholarship

[Click on this link for more information on the Phi Beta Mu Mid-West Clinic Festival.](#)

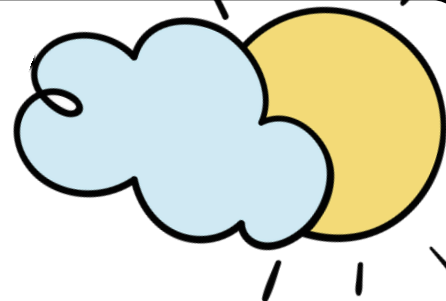
Any Questions? Reach out to Shawn Halquist at shalquist@gmail.com

Houghton String Festival per Paul Monaco

The Houghton Spring String Festival is Friday and Saturday, May 15 & 16 (Friday and Saturday) this year, and is open to all string players in grades 5-12.

It is a fantastic opportunity for your school district's string students to play in an overnight "All-County" type festival with string students from other districts in Western New York.

Please share this [information brochure](#) with the string students of your school district to see if any of them are interested in participating. This does not have to go through the school music teacher or the district - students can sign up individually as this is a NY State Sponsored Camp with chaperones. The students would just need their own transportation.



All-State Student Showcases

Applications for All-State Student Showcases (piano, modern band, composers, song writers, electronic music) are open and live. See [Zone 1 website](#) for links to applications and information. **Deadlines Quickly approaching!**

NYSSMA Awards

- Nominate and celebrate your deserving colleagues with a NYSSMA Award (presented at the 2026 Winter Conference). [Click here for more information on NYSSMA awards.](#)



Tentative Zone 1 Festival Calendar

Event	Date	Location	Chairperson
Area All-State Application	Sep 18, 2026	-----	-----
JH Area All-State	November 6-7, 2026	Akron Central School	Brendon Bardo
SH Area All-State	November 20-21, 2026	SUNY Fredonia	Kevin Duncan
Solo Festival	Apr 17, 2027	Lewiston-Porter MS	Amanda Burdick
Solo Festival (ONLY All-State Jazz Festival)	April 23-24, 2027	Erie County (TBD)	TBD
Solo Festival	May 7-8, 2027	Cattaraugus County (TBD)	Lauren Kirchner
Solo Festival	May 21-22, 2027	Jefferson MS (Jamestown)	Gina Wakefield
Solo Festival (non-All State)	June 4-5, 2027	Erie County (TBD)	TBD

This schedule is also available on the [Zone 1 website](#)
Majors Festivals will be added to the website ASAP!

Groovy Word Search

ENJOY THIS WHIMSICAL WORD SEARCH!
 HAPPY FRIDAY!

