NYSSMA NEWS

BACK to SCHOOL

ZONE 11
SEPTEMBER 2026

NYSSMA ELECTIONS

Watch your mailbox for your ballot This year, members will vote on:

- 2nd Vice President
- 3rd Vice President
- Transition to electronic voting

Not a member yet? Please consider joining! Your vote matters—stay informed and make your voice heard!

NYSSMA ACADEMY SERIES

This free, online workshop series runs throughout the school year and provides CTLE credits for music teachers. The sessions are hosted by Brian J. Wagner-Yeung, who serves as NYSSMA Neurodiversity & Accessibility Chairperson.

The overall calendar and the flyer for the first workshop (Sat, 10/3) are linked below.

Full Series Details: Click here
Session 1 Info: Click here
Registration: Click here



AREA ALL-STATE

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14
Rehearsal 1 from 4:00-9:00

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 21
Rehearsal 2 from 4:00-9:00

SATURDAY OCTOBER 24
ORCHESTRA:
Rehearsal 3: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
Concert: 12:30-1:30 PM

BAND:
Rehearsal 3: 12:15-3:15 PM
Concert: 4:00-5:00 PM

CHORUS:
Rehearsal 3: 4:15-7:15 PM
Concert: 8:00-9:00 PM

All events at New Rochelle HS

AAS CONDUCTORS

BAND: Dr. Gregory X. Whitmore

STRING ORCH: David West

SYMPHONY: Tanya Chanphanitpornkit

CHOIRS: Alex Canovas/Dr. Liz Olson

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WINTER CONFERENCE AND ALL-STATE

85 students from Zone 11 were accepted into All-State ensembles, or listed as alternates. There were 6427 applications statewide (5847 students) and roughly 800 students were selected. We also have 1 student in the Piano Showcase, 4 in the Composer Showcase, 4 in the Electronic Music Showcase, 1 in the Songwriting Showcase, and 3 in Modern Band. Bravo!

RECEPTION IN ROCHESTER

If you are attending the NYSSMA Winter Conference in Rochester, please join us at our annual WCSMA reception! WCSMA will provide some light bites and a drink. Stop by and say hello! Stay tuned for more details. Hope to see you there.

BUS TO ROCHESTER

WCSMA is offering round-trip bus transportation for Zone 11 All-State students for **$165.** Details were emailed on 9/11.

Teachers: Chaperone the bus and ride for FREE!

Payment due 11/6.



IMPORTANT

CHANGES IN FEES

IMPORTANT

Due to rising piano rental and fuel costs, NYSSMA is implementing a new fee schedule, which also addresses concerns regarding adjudicator compensation. Please see the next page for a detailed breakdown of fees for the next four school years, and be sure to account for these changes when planning your budgets. **Please note these changes will NOT affect the current school year, and will be implemented in the 2027-2028 school year.** Questions? Please email me.

NEW

NYSSMA

PARTICIPATION FEES & ADJUDICATOR HONORARIA

FESTIVAL

	FESTIVAL SEASON			
SOLO	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**	**2030**
Level 1-4 / Piano 1-4 (Piano has its own fee starting 2028)	$20 / $26	$22	$25	$30
Level 5-6 / Piano 5-6 (Piano has its own fee starting 2028)	$30 / $36	$32	$35	$40
Piano (All Levels) (New Pricing Starting 2028)	N/A	$45	$50	$55
All-State	$36	$40	$44	$48
MAJORS				
Level 1-3	$210	$250	$275	$300
Level 4	$245	$280	$300	$325
Level 5-6	$315	$350	$380	$400
CLINICS				
Grades 4-5	$210	$250	$275	$300
Grades 6-8	$245	$280	$300	$325
Grades 9-12	$315	$350	$380	$400

AREA ALL-STATE

	FISCAL YEAR			
	26/27	**27/28**	**28/29**	**29/30**
AREA ALL-STATE	$30	$40	$45	$50

ADJUDICATOR HONORARIA

	2027	2028	2029	2030
Local	$18	$20	$22	$24
NYSSMA Adjudicator	$22	$30	$32	$35
All-State / Majors / Zone Rep	$28	$35	$38	$40

SCHOOL PARTICIPATION FEES

SCHOOL SIZE	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029
1 - 250	$250	$250	$300
251 - 500	$500	$500	$600
501 - 1000	$750	$750	$850
1001 - 1500	$1000	$1000	$1100
1501 - 2500	$1250	$1250	$1400
2501 - 5000	$1500	$1500	$1600
5001 - 10000	$1750	$1750	$1900
10001+	$2000	$2000	$2200

ALL-STATE STUDENT FEE

2025	ACTUAL COST 2025	2026	2027	2028
$900	$1050 Per Student	$950	$975	?

The breakdown for **2026** is **$550** for Registration and **$400** for Housing and Food

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2027 SOLO FESTIVALS

March 12-13: STRINGS I-IV (+harp/guitar)
- Hillside Elementary School (Hastings)
- Jon Riss, host
- Registration: Dec 21 - Jan 29

April 16-17: PIANO
- Walter Panas HS (Lakeland)
- Patrick Murphy, host
- Registration: Jan 25 - Mar 5

May 7-8: UP-COUNTY
- Westlake HS (Mt. Pleasant)
- Erin Sica, host
- Registration: Feb 8 - Mar 19

May 14-15: DOWN-COUNTY/JAZZ*
- Rye MS/HS
- Lizbeth Burrow & Matt Strang, co-hosts
- Registration: Feb 8 - Mar 19

* jazz alternates up/down county each year

STAY UPDATED: RENEW!

To continue receiving updates at the state and national level, please make sure that your NYSSMA/NAfME membership does not lapse.

Renew here.

2027 MAJORS FESTIVALS

INSTRUMENTAL: Sleepy Hollow HS
- March 30-April 1
- Abby Ferri, host

CHORAL: Fox Lane MS (Bedford)
- May 17-18
- Kevin Larsen, host

NEW MANUAL (AGAIN!)

NYSSMA listened to your feedback and introduced a new manual created by Da Capo developer Patrick Hait. It's significantly faster, more user-friendly, and features a familiar Da Capo-style interface. Content errors from previous versions have also been addressed.

HAVE A GREAT YEAR!

Wishing everyone a wonderful school year! If we haven't met, please come say hello if you see me at a festival, conference, or other NYSSMA event. I always enjoy connecting with Zone 11 members!

zone11@nyssma.org