

MIDDLE COUNTRY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AT CENTEREACH

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, FINE ARTS &
COMMUNITY MEDIA RELATIONS
DISTRICT ARTS SUITE @ NEWFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
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January 2019

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Congratulations! Your child has indicated his/her desire to participate in the Annual **NYSSMA All-State Solo & Ensemble Festivals** to be held as follows:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Type of Festival</u>	<u>Location</u>
May 10 & 11, 2019 Friday - Saturday	All-State Only (Classical)*** DEADLINE THURSDAY JANUARY 31, 2019	Ward Melville High School Three Village

*Sessions will run from approximately 4:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. on Friday and
9:00a.m.-4:30p.m on Saturday.*

In order to register, please complete the attached application form and return it to your child's Music teacher no later than **January 31, 2019.**

Prior to registering your child, you should know the following information: NYSSMA stands for New York State School Music Association, which annually sponsors Solo & Ensemble Festivals throughout the State.

Participation in the Solo & Ensemble Festival is a pre-requisite for selection to participate in All-County Festivals, All State Festivals, All Eastern Festivals and All National Festivals. The purpose of the Solo & Ensemble Festival is to allow the student to perform in front of a certified Music Teacher/Adjudicator so they may receive an objective evaluation of their performance capabilities and skills.

This evaluation not only reinforces the positive aspects of a student's performance, but also offers helpful suggestions for improvement and validates the instruction students receive in school or from private music lessons addressing those musical concepts inherent in quality playing.

Audition fees for the NYSSMA Solo & Ensemble Festival are listed below. Please make your check or money order payable to the ***MCCSD Friends of Music***. Cash is acceptable.

All-State Soloists – Grades 10 & 11 Only (15-minute audition) \$30.00 each

***PLEASE NOTE: ONCE STUDENTS ARE REGISTERED, THERE CAN BE
NO REFUNDS.***



Roberta A. Gerold, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

Francine McMahon
Deputy Superintendent
for Instruction

Herbert B. Chessler
Assistant Superintendent
for Business

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Assistant Superintendent
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Diana Cook, Ed.D.
Director of Music, Fine Arts and
Community Media Relations

Jennifer Harrison, Ed.D.
Director of Pupil Personnel Services

Joseph Mercado
Director of Physical Education,
Health, and Athletics

Vincent Raicovi, Ed.D.
Director of Technology,
Business, and Information Systems

Jonathan Singer
Director of Curriculum

The mission of the MCCSD is to empower and inspire all students to apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to be creative problem solvers, to achieve personal success, and to contribute responsibly in a diverse and dynamic world.

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Please plan to have your child scheduled to perform at any time during the festivals – Requests for specific times may not be honored due to the quantity of students participating in the festivals. If you absolutely must request a specific day for your child's adjudication, a note of explanation must be attached to your child's application.

Please also note that the District will not provide transportation to and from the Festivals.

Please be aware that all NYSSMA participants should:

1. Prepare the required solo piece. Be certain that the solo piece and required movements are listed in the **NYSSMA Manual Edition 32 (July 2018)**. A manual is available at each school.
2. Memorize all the required scales for your level.
3. Provide original copies of the music – one for the adjudicator, one for the piano accompanist if piano accompaniment is used, and one for the student (if not performing from memory.) **PHOTOCOPIES ARE NOT ALLOWED** in the adjudication room.
4. Provide one's own piano accompanists if performing an All-State audition. Only All-State, voice audition rooms, & piano rooms are guaranteed to have a piano.
5. Make certain that one's instrument is in good working condition.
6. Be prepared to sight read two lines of music for the adjudicator.
7. Plan to arrive 45 minutes before the scheduled time to allow for paperwork and warm-up. You will receive your appointment time from your school music teacher several days before the festival.
8. Perform at your assigned time and room – switching is not permissible.
9. Maintain a regular practice regimen of at least 30 minutes per day in preparation for the festival.

If you have any further questions regarding the NYSSMA Solo & Ensemble Festival, please feel free to contact your child's Music teacher or my office.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. I hope the NYSSMA evaluation experience will be positive for your child in his or her development as a musician!

Sincerely,
Dr. Diana Cook
Director of Music and Fine Arts

