

# MIDDLE COUNTRY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AT CENTEREACH



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, FINE ARTS &  
COMMUNITY MEDIA RELATIONS  
DISTRICT ARTS SUITE @ NEWFIELD HIGH SCHOOL  
145 MARSHALL DRIVE \* SELDEN, NY 11784  
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January 2019

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Congratulations! Your child has indicated his/her desire to participate in the Annual MCCSD Satellite NYSSMA **Solo & Ensemble Festival** to be held on:

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

Francine McMahon  
Deputy Superintendent  
for Instruction

Herbert B. Chessler  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Business

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Type of Festival</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b>Wednesday, May 15, 2019</b>	MCCSD Satellite Festival Level 1-6 NON-All-State DEADLINE Wednesday, March 6, 2019	Centereach High School 14 43 <sup>rd</sup> Street Centereach

*Session will run from approximately 4:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.*

In order to register, please complete the attached application form and return it to your child's Music teacher no later than **March 6, 2019.**

James G. Donovan  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Human Resources

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.

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

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.

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

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.

Joseph Mercado  
Director of Physical Education,  
Health, and Athletics

**Level 1-4 = \$16**  
**Level 5-6 = \$24**

**Level 1-4 Piano = \$22**  
**Level 5-6 Piano = \$30**

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

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

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 needed. (Only All-State, some voice audition rooms, & piano rooms are guaranteed to have a piano. **Voice auditions should notate on the form it they need a room with a piano or if they are using a CD accompaniment**)
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, Fine Arts and  
Community Media Relations

