

# North Salem Middle/High School Music Department

January 17, 2012

Dear Parents,

Below is information for the 2012 New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Festival. At NYSSMA students select and perform a solo or small ensemble piece from the NYSSMA Manual Volume 29 (2009) and are evaluated by state adjudicators. See your teacher for the list of solos for each instrument and level. Students are also required to perform memorized scales and rudiments, as well as sight-read. The results from these evaluations assist students in improving their musical skills, and depending on the level of solo and score, some students are invited to participate in All-State, Area All-State or All-County bands.

**\*\*It is highly recommended that students take private lessons in order to prepare properly. Preparation does not occur during band classes, and preparing for NYSSMA is a year-round process. As solo levels increase, a higher level of technical and musical skill is required to be successful. Studying and practicing an instrument only a few months before NYSSMA will not provide the consistency in improvement for students to continually progress through NYSSMA levels. If you are interested in private lessons, contact me for a list of area professionals.**

Auditions for **piano** will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at Lakeland High School. Auditions for **voice, brass, woodwind, strings, jazz, guitar, harp and drum set**, will be held on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> at Briarcliff High School in Briarcliff Manor, NY. Students auditioning for All-State (level 6 only) must have a piano accompanist. **You may indicate your preference for a Friday or Saturday audition time, but there is no guarantee that your preference will be scheduled. Please keep both days open in your calendar.**

Students must provide for their own transportation to the Festival site. Fees for the audition are as follows:

<b>Fees for Piano Only</b>	<b>Fees for all other Instruments</b>
Levels 1-4: \$19.00	Levels 1-4: \$14.00
Levels 5 & 6: \$26.00	Levels 5 & 6 (non-all state): \$21.00
	Level 6 All-State: \$26.00

Please read the attached information and complete and return the Student Information Form along with a check for the proper amount by **Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012**. Make checks payable to **NS Music Club**.

If you have any questions about the NYSSMA festival please email or call Mr. Austin at x2057 [austins@northsalem.k12.ny.us](mailto:austins@northsalem.k12.ny.us) or Mr. Coates at x2117 [coatesd@northsalem.k12.ny.us](mailto:coatesd@northsalem.k12.ny.us)

Sincerely,

Stephen Austin  
Instrumental Music

Douglas Coates  
Vocal Music

# STUDENT INFORMATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in School: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument that Solo will be performed on: \_\_\_\_\_

Level of NYSSMA solo: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of NYSSMA solo: \_\_\_\_\_

Composer or Arranger: \_\_\_\_\_

Page number from NYSSMA Manual: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you performing more than one solo? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what instrument is your other solo being performed on? \_\_\_\_\_

List your preferred day and circle your preferred time for the audition. (Please note that this serves only as a request and there is no guarantee that all requests can be fulfilled.)

Day \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Times : 4pm-6pm 7pm-9pm

Saturday Times: 9am-11am 11am-1pm 2pm-4pm

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_