

WCSMA

Westchester County School Music Association

Inside this Issue...

Fall 2011

Letter from the President

Words from President
Bill Eckfeld

Page 1

Membership News

Important Electronic
Membership
Information!

Page 2

AREA ALL-STATE INFORMATION

Page 3

News from your NYSSMA ZONE REP

Fall Open House Info

Page 4

News from the All- County Coordinators

Page 5

2011- 2012 Calendar of Events

All the years' events!

Page 6

Board of Directors

Note: There are two
Current Board
Vacancies

Page 7

A Message from the President

Dear WCSMA Members,

As we prepare to start the school year, my hope is that you've had a restful and fulfilling summer and feel re-invigorated to start anew with classes, concerts, and lessons. It's no secret that we all are entering a challenging time of tighter budgets, expanded schedules, and heavier workloads. Many of us are being asked to do more with less, teach classes outside our chosen field of expertise, and sadly, a few of us have been laid off from our positions. As we enter this new year, let us remain hopeful. Because good music education programs are vital to the development of students and the quality of their education, in the long run they will prosper and prevail. We have always been and will always be the best advocates for what we do. WCSMA is committed to serving its members! Our new board and chair-people have already been hard at work planning this year's concerts, festivals, and other activities. We encourage all our members to be active in our organization and share with us whatever ideas they may have. I would like to invite you all to our Open House on October 4 where you can share with us all your ideas and hopes for the coming year. The Open House is back at Sam's of Gedney Way, and while details of this were e-mailed to the membership, they can also be found on page 4. If you have a colleague who hasn't been a member, invite them to come along. The more members we have, the stronger WCSMA will be as the public face of music education in our county. I would also like to offer a very big welcome to our new and continuing members of the Board of Directors. All the best for the coming school year and beyond!

Bill Eckfeld
WCSMA President

ELECTRONIC MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

2011-2012

September, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

This year, WCSMA membership registration continues in a more eco-friendly approach! As done in the past, membership registration materials have been sent to all documented e-mail addresses of each member. We encourage all music administrators to forward/copy the included registration information to any new music teachers in their district. We look forward to many new and active members this year! In addition, please provide me the mailing addresses of any music teachers that may have retired from your district in the past recent years, as I will send them a hard copy of our membership registration mailings if they are no longer active on solochair.com or using their e-mail regularly.

We will be continuing to use an electronic registration process for membership in the Westchester County School Music Association. WCSMA will be using the resources of Solochair.com to register its members. By registering electronically, your membership information can be quickly and accurately entered. Additionally, you will have the ability to change your information as needed at any time. **However, all members will still need to send the fee (check) and a printed copy of the completed membership form through the postal mailing system.**

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT ALL MEMBERS REGISTER FOR MEMBERSHIP VIA THE SOLOCHAIR.COM WEBSITE. ANY MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION NOT COMPLETED THROUGH SOLOCHAIR.COM WILL NOT BE VALID AND THEREFORE NOT INCLUDED IN THE 2011 – 2012 WCSMA DIRECTORY.

WCSMA requests that all contact information (home address, home phone, home e-mail, school address, school phone, school e-mail) be submitted. **If any member feels uncomfortable with any part of their contact information being made available in a membership directory, they may omit those parts on the solochair.com website, however, please write it in on the printed form that is mailed with payment.** This information is needed for administrative contact purposes only (festival mailings, etc.). WCSMA promises confidentiality with any and all contact info that is not volunteered by the member on solochair.com.

Please read the instructions below to accurately enter your information. Those of you who used Solochair.com last year to register already have an account. All you will need to do is to verify your information **and check the appropriate boxes** to activate your 2012 – 2012 WCSMA membership. Your continued membership will help perpetuate WCSMA as a strong and vital force in music education throughout Westchester County and the State of New York.

Dues for the 2011 – 2012 school year will be \$50.00 for regular members and \$30.00 for retirees. However, those who renew their membership prior to the **October 30th, 2011** deadline will pay a discounted membership of \$40.00 for regular members and \$25.00 for retirees. **Dues for new members will be \$40.00 for the entire year.**

If you do not have an account at Solochair.com, you can easily create your own account by using the "Create a new teacher account" link at Solochair.com.

Directions for Electronic Registration

Log on to Solochair.com. Current users should use the same email address and password that you used last year. If you have forgotten your information, there is a link on the Solochair.com site that will send you your information.

Once logged on, go to the 'Edit account info' link. Verify that your information is correct.

There is new information to enter at the bottom of the page. Please carefully review and check the appropriate boxes to indicate your teaching areas for WCSMA purposes.

When you have finished verifying and updating this page, click the submit button at the bottom of the page. At the next prompt, click the return to 'My Account' page.

On the 'My Account' page, click the 'Print Your Membership Invoice' link on the left side of the page.

Print the invoice page and complete the bottom section of the page indicating your membership status (new, renewal, retired). At the bottom of the page, indicate the method of payment for your membership. Mail your membership invoice form as soon as possible.

Special note for those teachers who plan to have their school district pay for their membership: Please mail me one copy of your invoice as soon as possible. Submit a separate copy of your invoice page to your district for processing. Include the purchase order number with your registration form by October 30th, 2011 to qualify for the discount. We will be unable to offer the discounted membership for purchase order numbers submitted after October 30th, 2011.

Thank you for your support. Best wishes for a happy, healthy, and rewarding school year!

Sincerely,
Mark Zizolfo, Membership

NYSSMA ZONE 11

AREA ALL-STATE 2011

Dear Colleagues,

Below, please find information about the 2011 Area All-State Festival in Westchester. Be aware that because this school year begins at its relative latest for many schools, the deadlines for Area All-State registration are one week closer to the start of school than in previous years.

DO NOT DELAY in distributing information about the festival and filling out student applications online. The deadlines are firm, and late submissions will not be considered for admission to the festival.

Who can Apply: Students in grades 10, 11 or 12 during the 2011-2012 school year, who performed a solo at a Spring 2011 NYSSMA evaluation festival.

How to register your students:

Sign onto www.solochair.com

Select NYSSMA Zone 11 Area All-State

Fill in all information for each student

Print out all signature/confirmation forms and send them to John Catoliato

ALL ONLINE APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY SEPTEMBER 20th, 2011

SIGNATURE FORMS MUST BE PRINTED OUT AND POSTMARKED BY SEPTEMBER 23rd, 2011

****IMPORTANT* NO STUDENT WILL BE SELECTED IF HIS/HER SIGNATURE FORM IS MISSING!***

ALL AREA ALL-STATE APPLICATIONS MUST BE DOWNLOADED FROM SOLOCHAIR.ORG. ONLY USE THIS FORM!

You can expedite the registration process by having your students' Solochair registration numbers from the spring festivals handy. That number can be found on the white label on each individual sheet.

If you do not have the registration number, you are still able to register your students using the "STANDARD" registration option.

Confirmation and Signature Forms must be sent to:

John Catoliato
Edgemont Jr/Sr. High School
200 White Oak Lane
Scarsdale, NY 10583

Be sure to include ONE (1) confirmation form AND a completed signature form for EACH STUDENT (if a student is applying for more than one ensemble, a separate application is needed for each). ***There is no need to include copies of adjudication sheets UNLESS the student attended a festival outside of our zone.*** Vocalists who performed vocal jazz solos may use their scores to apply to the Women's and Mixed Choirs.

Message from Adam Shatraw, Your NYSSMA Zone Rep:

ALERT:

THERE IS NO FESTIVAL CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR DOWN-COUNTY.

Down-county districts will not be permitted to register for the up-county festival as it always runs at capacity. If your district would like to act as host, please contact me by phone (914) 273-9200 X4507, or e-mail, zone11@nyssma.org

All **AREA ALL-STATE** AND **NYSSMA** registrations must be done on-line at Solochair.com. Teachers must register at solochair and follow instructions for their assigned festival.

YOU MUST ATTEND THE FESTIVAL TO WHICH YOUR DISTRICT HAS BEEN ASSIGNED. All exceptions must first be cleared with the Zone Rep.

See important information regarding the Spring 2012 Festival Season on the NYSSMA website's [Zone 11 Page](#).

Navigate to nyssma.org, then click members>zone maps>zone 11

Thank you for all you do for the students of Zone 11. I consider it a honor to represent such a dedicated and talented group of educators on the NYSSMA Executive Council. I wish you all the best of luck going into the new school year and hope that you continue to support and inspire the students as you have for so long!

Warmly,
Adam Shatraw
NYSSMA Zone 11 Representative

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY SCHOOL MUSIC ASSOCIATION
31st ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE**

**Tuesday, October 4, 2012
4:00-6:00 PM**

**Sam's of Gedney Way
52 Gedney Way
White Plains, NY 10605
914-949-0978**

Delicious food, old friends and new ones, door prizes...and a *meeting!*
Please help us by making your online RSVP no later than September 30th at WCSMA.org.

NEWS FROM THE CHORAL COORDINATOR

Dear Colleagues!

Hopefully you have all had a chance to rest, relax, and you are ready for another exciting year of music making!

The dates for our choral festival are as follows:

Pre-Festival Rehearsal
Tuesday, February 7th, 2012
(Snowdate Thursday, 2/9)
3:30-6:30

Rehearsal #2
Tuesday, March 6th, 2012
(Snowdate Friday, 3/9)
3:30-6:30

CONCERT

March 10, 2012 - SUNY PURCHASE
1:00 call, 4:00 Concert

All of the forms have been sent to our webmaster - so they should be available for your use. Please adhere to the deadlines for the forms. The sooner everyone's form is in, the sooner you all will receive your music! As always, please feel free to email me with any questions or concerns.

Take care,
Jennifer Irlen
WCSMA EAC/IAC Choral Festival
Coordinator

BAND NOTES

COORDINATOR: LISA SABLE

Welcome back to another year of music in our schools!

We are continuing to communicate through the web so please visit the WCSMA website (www.WCSMA.org) frequently to find answers to your questions and check for updates.

Important items to take note of...

Elementary Band: Chairperson needed! If you would like to serve as chairperson please contact me at lsable@wcsma.org.

All registration materials for the December auditions will be available as a download through WCSMA.org shortly. Registration materials will NOT be sent through the mail. Make sure to check the deadline dates. No late registrations will be accepted, please check back frequently!

Intermediate Band: Acceptance notifications will be sent through e-mail this year. Please check the website to see when these notifications will be sent out. *Make sure your WCSMA registration (through solochair) has your current email information to expedite this process.*

Call for adjudicators.... As you know, the elementary auditions cannot happen without your help. If you are interested in judging the elementary all county band auditions please let me know by e-mail at lsable@wcsma.org or by phone, 914-980-3875

Spread the word. If there are new teachers in your school district, please encourage them to get involved! Thank you for all the work you do. I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming auditions and festivals.

NOTES FROM THE ORCHESTRA COORDINATOR

COORDINATOR: SARA WORDEN

Editor's Note: Please note the change in date for the Elementary Auditions.

The Elementary Orchestra Auditions will be held on Saturday November 19, (Snow Date 12/3) at PVC Middle School in Croton. Stay tuned, as information packets will be sent out soon. Best wishes for a successful school year!

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

WCSMA Open House

Sam's of Gedney Way, White Plains

4:00-6:00

(Exec. Board Meeting to follow)

Wednesday, October 19, 2011

Area All-State Pre-Festival Rehearsal

White Plains High School

4:00-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Area All-State Festival Rehearsal

White Plains High School

4:00-9:15 p.m.

Thursday, November 3, 2011

Area All-State Festival

SUNY Purchase Performing Arts Center

Rehearsal 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 3, 2011

Area All-State Festival Concert

SUNY Purchase Performing Arts Center

8:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 19, 2011

(Snowdate 12/3)

Elementary All-County Auditions

STRINGS ONLY

PVC Middle School, Croton

8:30-11:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 10, 2011

(Snowdate 12/17)

Elementary All-County Auditions

WINDS AND PERCUSSION

PVC Middle School, Croton

8:30-11:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 7, 2012

(Snowdate Monday, 1/9, 3:30-7:30 p.m.)

Senior High All-County Jazz Festival

Auditions

Mamaroneck HS

10:00a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

(Snowdate Thursday, 2/9)

Elementary & Intermediate Choral Pre-Festival Rehearsal

Highlands Middle School, White Plains

3:30-6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

(Snowdate Thursday, 2/16)

Elementary & Intermediate Band and Orchestra Pre-Festival Rehearsal

Seven Bridges Middle School, Chappaqua

3:30-6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 29, 2012

(Snowdate Thursday, March 1)

Senior High All-County Jazz Festival Rehearsal #1

Mamaroneck High School

6:00-9:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

(Snowdate Friday, 3/9)

Elementary & Intermediate Choral Rehearsal

Highlands Middle School, White Plains

3:30-6:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 8, 2012

(Snowdate Friday, March 9)

Elementary & Intermediate Band and Orchestra Rehearsal

Seven Bridges Middle School, Chappaqua

3:30-6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 10, 2012

Elementary and Intermediate All-County Music Festival

SUNY Purchase Performing Arts Center

Orchestra Concert 11:00 a.m.

Choral Concert 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 11, 2012

Elementary and Intermediate All-County Music Festival

SUNY Purchase Performing Arts Center

Band Concert 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

(Snowdate Wednesday, 3/14)

Senior High All-County Jazz Reh. #2

Mamaroneck High School, Mamaroneck

6:00-9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 14, 2012

(Snowdate Thursday, 3/15)

Senior High All-County Jazz Festival Rehearsal #3

Mamaroneck High School

6:00-9:30 p.m.

Friday, March 16, 2012

(Snowdate March 19)

Senior High All-County Jazz Concert

Mamaroneck High School

8:00 p.m. (Workshop 6:15-7:15)

Wednesday March 21, 2012

Thursday March 22, 2012

NYSSMA Majors (Choral)

Blind Brook High School

March 23 & 24, 2012

NYSSMA Majors (Instrumental)

Blind Brook High School

Friday/Saturday, ? 2012

NYSSMA Solo & Ensemble Evaluation Festival (Down- County)

Location ?, Host ?

Friday/Saturday, May 4 & 5, 2012

NYSSMA Solo & Ensemble Evaluation Festival (Up- County)

Briarcliff, Host: John Banks

Friday/Saturday, May 18 & 19, 2012

NYSSMA Piano Festival

Lakeland HS, Host: Robert Schwartz

WCSMA Board of Directors 2011-2012

PRESIDENT: BILL ECKFELD
PRESIDENT-ELECT: KATHLEEN COLETTA
PAST PRESIDENT: ANN FOSTER
AREA ALL STATE COORDINATOR: JOHN CATOLIATO
SENIOR HIGH JAZZ FESTIVAL COORDINATOR: TIM HOOKER
ELEMENTARY & INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL
COORDINATOR: SARA WORDEN
ELEMENTARY & INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL
COORDINATOR: JENNIFER IRLIN
ELEMENTARY & INTERMEDIATE BAND FESTIVAL
COORDINATOR: LISA SABLE
*CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: **VACANT**
RECORDING SECRETARY: DAVID THOMAS
TREASURER: MICAH SPRAGUE
MEMBERSHIP: MARK ZIZOLFO
*PUBLICITY: **VACANT**
NYSSMA REPRESENTATIVE: ADAM SHATRAW
WEBMASTER: MARNA ELLEN WEISS
SPECIAL ADVISOR: MARNA ELLEN WEISS
SPECIAL ADVISOR: BERNIE KLINGER

*Board Vacancies: If you would like to be considered to serve as a current Board Member, please contact Kathleen Coletta, President-Elect, kcoletta@wcsma.org.

Public Relations

**Westchester County
School Music
Association**
P.O. Box 604
Mount Kisco, NY 10549
www.wcsma.org