



WCSMA



WESTCHESTER COUNTY SCHOOL MUSIC ASSOCIATION

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Dear Colleagues,

A warm welcome to all of our new and returning WCSMA members! As we begin this school year in a time of continuing uncertainty and concern, I hope this letter finds you all safe and well.

I'd like to take a moment to thank our outgoing Elementary and Intermediate All-County Orchestra Festival Co- Coordinators. Jaclyn Elliott and Katelyn Odierna served their terms during a very difficult time for us and for music education in our county and state. Your hard work is greatly appreciated!

Also leaving us is Nancy Torrente who has been a long time WCSMA member and has served in many capacities on the Executive Board during her tenure as Strings and Orchestra Teacher in the Yorktown Central School District. Most recently our Zone 11 Representative, she has worn many hats on the WCSMA Board including Treasurer, President, AAS Festival Coordinator as well as AC and AAS Orchestra chair. Thank you, Nancy, for your service and dedication to Music Education and to the students of Westchester! We wish you and Al all the best in this new chapter in your lives.

Joining us from the Ossining Schools is our new All-County Orchestra Coordinator, Shadman Mirza. Shadman has served as WCSMA Intermediate Orchestra Coordinator and is a cellist currently teaching orchestra, piano, guitar, and AP music theory classes at Ossining High School. Welcome aboard Shadman!

We are very happy to have as our new NYSSMA Zone 11 Representative Kimberly Dunkin, General and Choral Music teacher in the Hedrick Hudson Schools. Her introduction can be found further on in this newsletter. Please make sure to read her column for important information and updates from NYSSMA. We look forward to working with you, Kim!

Congratulations to our Corresponding Secretary Jessica Yeung and her family on the birth of her second child, Madison Belle, on Sept 24! Mother and daughter are both doing well.

We received confirmation regarding the SUNY Purchase Performing Arts Center that we will not have a venue for our AAS and AC festivals: "Please note that we will not be able to support rentals with audiences or crowds before May of 2022, and we will not be taking any bookings for such events until March 1, 2022. We are currently exploring alternatives and opportunities as we endeavor to provide meaningful experiences, most likely virtual, for our students. In addition, we are working on a series of professional development opportunities for our members. Details will be forthcoming as soon as they become available.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our Virtual Open House events on Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 4th and 5th! Please make sure to RSVP and share the invitation with new colleagues. If you did not receive the invitation in your email it can be found on the WCSMA website.

Our annual membership renewal drive is underway and I encourage you to help others become active in our organization. If you haven't already done so, make sure to register or renew soon, and please share the registration information within your departments, especially with colleagues who are new to your districts. The more members that we have, the stronger WCSMA will be as the public face of music education in our county. You should have received an email from our Membership Chair, TJ Bastone, with information and instructions.

Please take advantage of the valuable resource that is our website, [WCSMA-Westchester County School Music Association](https://www.wcsma.org). It contains important information regarding all things WCSMA and NYSSMA as it pertains to our zone 11. All of the information in this newsletter can be found there. Profound thanks go to our webmaster, Marna Weiss, who designed, maintains, and keeps our website current!

Lastly, I urge those of you who many have done so to join our State and National organization. The New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) and The National Association for Music Education (NAfME) work tirelessly, especially during the pandemic, in support of Music Education and Music Educators. Information for joining both can be found at www.nyssma.org.

Over my years as a member of WCSMA I've had the pleasure of getting to know many of you and to have worked with you during our festival seasons. I look forward to the opportunity of continuing to serve with all of you, the wonderful music teachers that make up our organization, and meeting our new members as the year progresses.

Best wishes,

Suzanne Forman
WCSMA President

Dear WCSMA Member:

On behalf of the Westchester County School Music Association, I would like to invite you to our 40th Annual Open House! This event will be a virtual meet-and-greet: an opportunity to meet the WCSMA Board and many of our colleagues from Westchester County.

The details are:

- Monday, October 4th from 4:00 – 4:30: Elementary General/Choral Teachers**
- Monday, October 4th from 7:00 – 7:30: Elementary and Secondary Instrumental Teachers**
- Tuesday, October 5th from 4:00 – 4:30: Secondary Choral/General Teachers**



Please use the link below to RSVP for this year's Open House, which will be held virtually on Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

Feel free to attend the session that your current teaching role is most identifiable with or attend multiple sessions to get to know many others from throughout Westchester County.

Zoom links will be sent out prior to the event, and RSVP is highly encouraged. Please be on the lookout for more information in your inboxes.

Thank you for your membership and participation in the Westchester County School Music Association. We hope you have had a great start to the school year and we are looking forward to seeing you in the coming weeks!

Sincerely,
Jamie Stroffolino

Find more details on our Website!

Westchester County Music School Association

www.wcsma.org

- President
- President-Elect
- Past President
- Area All-State Coordinator
- Senior High Jazz Festival Coordinator
- Elementary & Intermediate Band Festival Coordinator
- Elementary & Intermediate Choral Festival Coordinator
- Elementary & Intermediate Orchestra Festival Coordinator
- NYSSMA Zone Representative
- Corresponding Secretary
- Recording Secretary
- Treasurer
- Membership
- Publicity
- Webmaster
- Special Advisor
- Special Advisor

- Sue Forman
- Jamie Stroffolino
- Janet Corvini
- Jonathan Riss
- James Mullen
- Caitlin Clarke
- Jennifer Giustino
- Shadman Mirza
- Kimberly Dunkin
- Jessica Yeung
- Dana Celestino
- Bill Eckfeld
- TJ Bastone
- Charlie Bennett
- Marna Ellen Weiss
- Kathleen Coletta Feldman
- Stephanie Merkado-Weiss

Dear Colleagues,

I hope your school year is off to a smooth start! It has reached the time of year to renew your WCSMA membership! We look forward to many new and active members this year.

In addition, *please forward this message to any new music colleagues in your district, and please provide me with contact information for any music teachers that may have recently retired from your district.*

Membership Registration

GREAT NEWS! - If you are an existing member looking to renew your membership, you DO NOT need to re-register on DaCapo! Instead, please log into your existing account, and follow the prompts for payment:

- a. **Payment via credit card** - follow the prompts on the screen
- b. **Payment via check** - click the green button, "Click here and print this invoice."
Print the invoice, and mail the check to the address on the invoice.
- c. **Payment via district** - click the green button, "Click here and print this invoice."
Print the invoice for district processing. It is important that your district-issued invoice or PO includes the names of every teacher that is being paid for.

*For clarification, you can watch **THIS VIDEO** starting at 1:47 for video instructions.

NEW MEMBERS & RECENT RETIREES:

If you are a new member, or someone who has retired in the 2021-22 school year, please click **HERE for a step-by-step video explaining how to create your DaCapo membership account, or follow the steps below:**

2. Visit <https://wcsma.dacapomusicfestivals.com/>
3. Click "Register"
4. Type in the Access Code "wcmateacher"
5. Click "Click here to enter access code"
6. Complete the Personal Membership Information
7. Click "Click here to register for WCSMA Festival Nominations"
8. Log in using your newly created username and password
9. Follow the prompts for payment at the bottom of the screen
 - a. **Payment via credit card** - follow the prompts on the screen
 - b. **Payment via check** - click the green button, "Click here and print this invoice."
Print the invoice, and mail the check to the address on the invoice.
 - c. **Payment via district** - click the green button, "Click here and print this invoice."
Print the invoice for district processing. It is important that your district-issued invoice or PO includes the names of every teacher that is being paid for.

ALL CHECKS MUST BE MADE OUT TO WCSMA

Below are some important notes regarding membership for this school year:

1. If your district pays for your dues, please ensure that your district issued invoice or PO includes the names of every teacher that is being paid for.
2. Dues for active/new members will remain at \$40.00. Membership dues for retirees will remain at \$25.00. Payment may be made via personal check or through a school purchase order. Payments should be made to WCSMA.
3. You are able to pay for your membership dues via credit card through AffiniPay (in lieu of PayPal) directly on the DaCapo site if you choose. Due to the electronic fees required by AffiniPay, the membership fee will be in the amount of \$42.00 for active/new members and \$27.00 for retired members.
4. **All membership registrations and dues will need to be submitted by November 1, 2021.** If you register after **November 1**, the fee will be \$50.00 for active/new members and \$35.00 for retirees if paid by personal check. If you pay via AffiniPay, there will be an additional \$2 surcharge.

WCSMA requests that all contact information (phone, personal and school email, school address) be submitted. If any member feels uncomfortable with any part of their contact information being made available in a membership directory, please email me individually. However, ALL CONTACT INFORMATION IS NEEDED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACT PURPOSES ONLY (festival mailings, etc.). WCSMA promises confidentiality with any and all contact information of the membership via DaCapo.

If you need any additional assistance renewing your 2021-2022 WCSMA membership, please email me at bastonet@harrisoncsd.org.

As always, we thank you for your support and partnership. I wish you all the best in the year ahead!





Dear WCSMA members,

My name is Kimberly Dunkin and I am your new NYSSMA Zone 11 Representative. I have been teaching in the Hendrick Hudson school district since 2006, initially as a K-5 General/Choral teacher, and for the past seven years I have been teaching Chorus and General Music at the middle school level.

As a WCSMA member, I have been active on the Board of Directors as the Hospitality Chairperson for the past three years. In the spring of 2019, my colleagues and I hosted the Up County NYSSMA Festival at Hendrick Hudson. I'm sure we have seen one another at the All-County and Area All-State festival rehearsals and performances, as I'm often at the piano bench accompanying!

Former Zone Rep Nancy Torrente and I have been working closely this past school year and it is a sincere honor to fill her shoes in this position as your representative. She has been an incredible mentor and friend and I am humbled to follow in her footsteps. Please feel free to reach out to me with any NYSSMA concerns if needed. I can be reached at: zone11@nyssma.org.

Here are some updates for the 2021-2022 school year in regard to festivals:

- Similar to most other zones across the state, the **November Area All-State festival will not take place** this year.
- At this time, All-State ensembles in Rochester are still scheduled to be in-person this December. However, there will be **no bus** offered from WCSMA this year and students/districts must provide their own transportation.
- Decisions about All-County festivals have not been made at this time.
- As of right now, our spring NYSSMA solo festivals are scheduled for in-person. Please note the dates/locations below:

Location TBD - please let me know if you are interested in hosting, as we do not have a location at this time.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we try to navigate another year of uncertainty. I wish you all a wonderful school year.

Down - County Festival

March 4-5, 2022

Lisa Forte, Host
Scarsdale School District

All-State, Solos, Ensembles,
No Level 1-4 Strings
No Piano

Strings Levels 1-4 Festival

March 25-26, 2022

Pete Pauliks, Host
Byram Hills School District

Level 1-4 String Solos and Ensemble Only
No level 5-6 or All-State Adjudications

Up - County Festival including Jazz/Guitar/Harp

April 1-2, 2022

Dr. John Banks, Host
Briarcliff School District

All-State, Solos, Ensemble,
Instrumental Jazz, Vocal Jazz, Harp,
and Guitar
No Level 1-4 String Solos
No Piano

Piano Festival

June 3-4, 2022

TBD Host & Location

NYSSMA Manual Edition 32, effective July 2018 (yellow & white colored pages) is required for use in all NYSSMA Festivals, starting with the Spring 2019 Festival Season and **will be in effect until the end of the Spring 2022 Festival Season (June 2022).**

Please Note: Printable fliers containing all of the following ordering information are below under "Related Documents."

Prices

Edition 32 Complete (Binder & Insert Pages)	\$60.00*
Edition 32 Insert Pages Only	\$55.00*
Binder Only	\$10.00*

*This price includes Ground shipping & handling for orders shipped within NY State.

For all orders outside of NY State:

Please add \$18.00 per item for Ground shipping & handling.

(Bulk or Express shipping, please see below).

For orders outside of the US, please contact the NYSSMA Manual Chairperson for a shipping fee quote.

Out of State Bulk Shipping:

Out of state orders of 3 or more manuals qualify for a flat rate bulk shipping & handling fee.

Please click on the Out of State ordering information flyer below in "Related Files" for more information.

Optional Shipping & Handling Fees:

NY State Express shipping \$18.00 per item**

Out of State (within the Continental U.S.) Express shipping is \$25.00 per item**

**One item is one Complete Manual, one Insert Page Only, or one Binder Only.

Please Note: All NYSSMA Manual sales are final. No returns will be accepted. No credits will be issued. Damaged items may be exchanged for the same item only. Please contact the NYSSMA Manual Chairperson, Kathryn Struzik (Manual@nyssma.org) for further details.

NYSSMA MANUAL

Three Ways to Order

Online

Click here to [Order Online](#)

Please note: Credit card orders are accepted through online purchases only. Credit card orders by phone or fax will NOT be accepted.

Mail

Mail a check or a purchase order (made out to: NYSSMA)

Send to:
Kathryn Struzik,
NYSSMA Manual Chairperson
535 Rondo Lane
Webster, New York 14580-1214

Fax

Fax a purchase order (made out to: NYSSMA)

Fax to:
(585) 670-0214

WCSMA Virtual Open Houses

[RSVP Here](#)

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Elementary General/Choral Teachers

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Elementary and Secondary Instrumental Teachers

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Secondary Choral/General Music Teachers

NYSSMA FESTIVAL DATES

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March 4-5, 2022

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Scarsdale School District

All-State, Solos, Ensembles

No Level 1-4 Strings

No Piano

Strings Levels 1-4

March 25-26, 2022

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Level 1-4 String Solos and Ensembles Only

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No Piano

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All-State, Solos, Ensembles, Instrumental Jazz,

Vocal Jazz, Harp, and Guitar

No Level 1-4 Strings

No Piano

Piano Festival

June 3-4, 2022

TBD Host & Location