

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
(631) 285-8685 / FAX (631) 285-8586
E-MAIL: DCOOK@MCCSD.NET

January 2024

Dear Parent or Guardian:

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

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

Francine McMahon
Deputy Superintendent
for Instruction

Beth Rella, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent
for Business

James G. Donovan
Assistant Superintendent
for Human Resources

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

Mark Palios, Ed.D.
Director of Guidance and
Student Support Resources

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

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Type of Festival</u>	<u>Location</u>
Wednesday, May 15, 2024	MCCSD Mid-Week Festival Level 1-6 NON-All-State DEADLINE Wednesday, March 1, 2024	Centereach High School 14 43 rd 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 1, 2024.**

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.

Level 1-4 = \$16

Level 5-6 = \$24

Level 1-4 Piano = \$22

Level 5-6 Piano = \$30

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

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 **NEW NYSSMA Manual Edition 33 (July 2022)**. 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, vocalist 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/Midi accompaniment**)
5. If using an online accompaniment track, you must **DOWNLOAD** it to your device. **NO GUEST WI-FI ACCESS WILL BE AVAILABLE.**
6. Make certain that one's instrument is in good working condition.
7. Be prepared to sight read two lines of music for the adjudicator.
8. 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.
9. Perform at your assigned time and room – switching is not permissible.
10. 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

Dr. Diana Cook

Director of Music, Fine Arts and
Community Media Relations

**MIDDLE COUNTRY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
AT CENTEREACH**

**NYSSMA SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL @ MCCSD
STUDENT APPLICATION 2024**

Please use a separate form and a separate check for each instrument/voice evaluation

 Please check here if student plans to perform in more than one time spot at the same festival.
Please list what other instrument/small ensemble(s) student will be requesting: _____

This form must be completed and returned to your child's school music teacher with the appropriate fees no later than Friday, March 1, 2024.

Student First Name	Student Last Name	Grade in School
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Home Phone Number	Parent Work or Cell Phone Number	Parent E-Mail Address
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School Your Child Attends	School Music Teacher	Accompanist Name (for Vocalist) or CD Or online accompaniment track
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Instrument or Voice Category	NYSSMA Level
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Solo Level 1-4 = \$16 Level 5-6 = \$24	Composer/Arranger Level 1-4 Piano = \$22 Level 5-6 Piano = \$30	NYSSMA Manual Page
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 *Check here if you can add a much appreciated \$5 donation to the MCCSD Friends of Music.
Your generosity is most appreciated.*

Solo/Ensemble Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
Friends of Music Donation: \$ _____
Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Cash acceptable or please make checks payable to: MCCSD Friends of Music
Please note: It can take 1-10 weeks for checks to be deposited.
All Payments Are Non-Refundable

Parent Name	Parent Signature
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Please list siblings that are also requesting NYSSMA time(s) at this same festival:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Instrument(s)</u>