

Levittown Public Schools

**2019 NYSSMA Information & Registration Form: PIANO ONLY**

Dates	Location	Classification	Registration	Due Date
March 1-2, 2019	Nassau Community College	PIANO ONLY (no jazz)	PaySchools tab on LevittownSchools.com	January 4, 2019

**\*PLEASE NOTE THAT TEACHERS WILL ENTER DATA ONTO REGISTRATION SITES**

• **NYSSMA Overview:**

- *Participating in the NYSSMA Festival is an extracurricular activity designed to supplement and enhance the student's music education, not act as a substitute for it.*
- NYSSMA (New York State School Music Association) hosts festivals each year to provide students with an opportunity to prepare a solo and/or ensemble composition for an evaluation by a professional adjudicator.
- Participating in the NYSSMA Festival gives students a chance to challenge themselves as players and receive an objective critique of their performance.
- The festival offers students the invaluable experience of having to present themselves in a one on one "interview" type environment.

• **Commitment:**

- *While participating in the NYSSMA Festival can be a rewarding experience, students and their parents/guardians should carefully consider the commitment involved in preparing a solo before registering.*
- A substantial amount of time must be devoted to practicing over the course of the months preceding the festival.
- Depending on the level of the music selected and the ability of the student, private instruction may be a helpful resource in order to successfully prepare for the evaluation.
- NYSSMA Festivals take place over a two-day period. **Students must be available both days.**
- NYSSMA will send your teacher the day and time no later than one week prior to the NYSSMA Festival.

• **Music Selection:**

- It is strongly recommended that students who wish to participate in the NYSSMA Festival select their music as soon as possible so they have sufficient time to find a vendor from which to purchase their sheet music.
- Music may have to be ordered from a vendor and could take a considerable amount of time before it is received.
- NYSSMA requires two **original** copies of the composition, (**PHOTOCOPIES NOT PERMITTED**) – one for the performer(s) and one for the adjudicator. Downloaded solos are permissible providing a paid receipt is shown to the adjudicator.
- Make sure your prepared solo appears in the **current NYSSMA Manual (XXXII)** by checking with your school music teacher or private teacher.

- **Fees (Non-Refundable):**

- The Levittown School District does not pay NYSSMA registration fees.
- Payment **MUST** be made online at [www.LevittownSchools.com/district/PaySchools](http://www.LevittownSchools.com/district/PaySchools). All payments are **non-refundable**. PLEASE NOTE THAT TEACHERS WILL INPUT DATA ONTO REGISTRATION SITES.
- **If your child is planning on participating in this NYSSMA Festival, he/she must hand in the completed information form and payment by January 4, 2019. No registrations will be accepted after this date.**
- **PRINT your Payschools receipt and attach a copy to your registration form.**
- NYSSMA Solo and Ensemble Fees:
  - Levels 1-4 Piano: \$22.00
  - Levels 5-6 Piano: \$30.00

- **Preparation:**

- Solos are graded by difficulty from Level 1 (easiest) to Level 6 (most difficult). Choose your solo carefully with the help of your music teacher.
- Students are responsible for preparing solos outside of school time. Most soloists find that a private music teacher is the best way to prepare. Teachers will be available as time permits during the school day for extra help.
- Practice must be regular and consistent.
- Participating students will be given a "Playing Permit" containing a map to the site, date, time and room designation. Take the completed "Playing Permit" to the festival registration desk at least twenty minutes before you are scheduled to play. After you are registered, go to the "warm-up room" and review your prepared solo.
- Go to the audition/evaluation room fifteen minutes before your scheduled time.

- **Audition/Evaluation:**

- Instrumentalists must have two original publications of their solo. Each instrumental student will be required to learn scales based on NYSSMA level. Check with your teacher. **All scales must be memorized.**
- A short sight-reading example (unfamiliar music) will be performed. Students should use this time to look at the time signature, the key signature, rhythms, dynamics, tempo and phrasing.
- Solos are evaluated with several categories.
  - Tone - the quality of the sound produced
  - Intonation - playing in tune
  - Technique - the physical skill to accurately perform the music
  - Accuracy - accuracy of notes and fingerings, bowings, rhythms, etc.
  - Interpretation - musical qualities of dynamics, style, tempo, phrasing & expression
  - Scales (Instrumentalists) - playing the prepared scales
  - Sight Reading - playing music you have never seen before with correct notes, rhythms, articulation and dynamics.
- You will receive your graded evaluation from your music teacher approximately one week after the festival.
- PLEASE NOTE THAT TRANSPORTATION IS NOT PROVIDED FOR NYSSMA

**NYSSMA Spring  
Piano Festival  
Registration Form**

**Due: Friday, January 4, 2019**

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

NYSSMA Level of Solo/Ensemble: \_\_\_\_\_ School Music Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name of Composition: \_\_\_\_\_ NYSSMA Manual 32 Page #: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are performing with an ensemble, list the student(s) that are in your ensemble: \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you take private lessons: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Private Instructor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this form I am stating that I have read and understand the NYSSMA guidelines and  
will attach a PaySchools receipt.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

THIS FORM **AND** ONLINE PAYMENT RECEIPT MUST BE SUBMITTED  
TO YOUR MUSIC TEACHER NO LATER THAN **Friday, January 4, 2019.**

A separate form is needed for each solo or ensemble.  
All Payments must be made online at **www.LevittownSchools.com/district/PaySchools**