

Levittown Public Schools

**2024 NYSSMA Information & Registration Form**

Dates	Location	Classification	Registration	Due Date
April 3-4, 2024	Garden City High School	Classical Guitar	MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com	2/12/2024
April 5-6, 2024	Massapequa High School	All-State	MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com	2/14/2024
April 15 -16, 2024	East Meadow High School	Non-All-State Levels I-VI Solo & Ensemble/Regular Instrumental Jazz I-VI	MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com	3/1/2024
May 3-4, 2024	Syosset High School	Harp	MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com	3/20/2024
May 10-11, 2024	Freeport High School	All State Instrumental Jazz/ALL Vocal Jazz (Level I-All-state)	MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com	3/27/2024

• **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.

• **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.

• **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.
- Make sure your prepared solo appears in the **current NYSSMA Manual (XXXIII)** 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](http://www.LevittownSchools.com). If your child is planning on participating in any NYSSMA Festival, he/she must hand in the completed information form and payment (MySchoolBucks) receipt by the due date specified above for non-All-State (regular solos and ensembles), All-State/All-State Jazz/Vocal Jazz, Classical Guitar. No registrations will be accepted after this date.

- **NYSSMA Solo and Ensemble Fees:**

- Solos and Ensembles Levels 1-4 \$16
- Non-All-State Solos and Ensembles Levels 5-6 \$24
- All-State Solo \$30
- Ensembles: ONLY ONE PAYMENT OF \$16/\$24 is necessary, regardless of the number of students.
- Please note that all NYSSMA vocalists and most All-State level evaluations require accompaniment.
- Accompaniment can be a paid professional pianist (fees are relatively standard) or a recording (student must provide their own). See information below.

- **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.

- **Audition/Evaluation:**

- The festival is in person.
- COVID protocols may be in place and specified by each location.

- **Additional Criteria:**

- 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 will be performed.
- 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 after the festival.

**NYSSMA Spring  
Solo/Ensemble/All-State Festivals  
Registration Form**

**Due Dates: All-State – 2/14/2024; Classical Guitar – 2/12/2024; Solo & Ensemble – 3/1/2024;  
Harp – 3/20/2024; Jazz/Vocal Jazz – 3/27/2024**

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

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

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Name of Composition: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Movement(s) to be performed (if required): \_\_\_\_\_

Composer: \_\_\_\_\_ Arranger (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**NYSSMA Manual 33** Page #: \_\_\_\_\_ (school music teacher will provide if unknown)

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

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Are you preparing more than one NYSSMA adjudication? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Accompanist Name (required for vocalists and All-State level evaluations): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

If a sibling is also participating, please indicate name and school: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this form, I am stating that I have read and understand the NYSSMA guidelines and will attach a MySchoolBucks receipt. I permit my child to participate in the 2024 NYSSMA Festival.

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

THIS FORM **AND** ONLINE PAYMENT RECEIPT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO YOUR MUSIC TEACHER  
NO LATER THAN THE DATE SPECIFIED ABOVE FOR EACH CLASSIFICATION.

*A separate form is needed for each solo or ensemble.*

All payments must be made online at [www.LevittownSchools.com](http://www.LevittownSchools.com)