

Levittown Public Schools

2021 NYSSMA VIRTUAL FESTIVALS Information & Registration Form:

Non-All-State/All-State/All-State and Regular Jazz/Vocal Jazz/ Classical Guitar

Dates	Location	Classification	Registration	Due Date
Upload Period: April 30- May 7, 2021	East Meadow High School (VIRTUAL)	Non-All-State Level 1-6 Solo & Ensemble/Regular Jazz/Jazz Voice/ All-State Jazz No Classical Piano!!!	www.LevittownSchools.com via MySchoolBucks	January 22, 2021
Upload Period: April 9- 16, 2021	Massapequa High School (VIRTUAL)	All-State No Classical Piano!!!	www.LevittownSchools.com via MySchoolBucks	January 22, 2021
Upload Period: March 17- 24, 2021	Westbury High School (VIRTUAL)	Classical guitar only!	www.LevittownSchools.com via MySchoolBucks	January 22, 2021

• **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 safe "virtual" 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.

• **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 (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. 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 **January 22, 2021 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:**

This festival is virtual. Students will UPLOAD four “tasks.” See upload period above; dates vary for each festival!

Task #1: student will complete filed prompts for general registration and upload a scanned copy of their solo or ensemble score.

Task #2: scales, check with your music teacher:

Task#3: solo, one restart permitted

Task #4: sight reading (Sight-Reading Factory), two attempts permitted

- **The Platform will allow students their work samples in one of two ways:**
 - 1. Work Samples may be submitted in real time. The platform offers the student the ability to select the “record” button when they are ready to perform.**
 - 2. Work samples may be pre-recorded and may be submitted in MP4, MOV and WMV video formats. Students may upload their pre-recorded work samples.**

*****Information regarding the uploading platform will be provided by the music teacher once the festival host provides this information.**

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 (unfamiliar music on **Sight-Reading Factory-task #4**) 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 after the festival.

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

Due: Friday, January 22, 2021

Name: _____ Grade: _____ SOLO or ENSEMBLE (circle one)

Instrument/Voice Type: _____(No Piano) NYSSMA Level of Solo/Ensemble: _____

School Music Teacher: _____

Name of Composition (Movement if applicable): _____

NYSSMA Manual (Edition **32**) Page #: _____ (if a private teacher is working with the child)

Composer: _____

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

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 2021 NYSSMA Virtual Festivals.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

THIS FORM AND ONLINE PAYMENT RECEIPT MUST BE
SUBMITTED TO YOUR MUSIC TEACHER NO LATER THAN **FRIDAY, January 22, 2021**
A separate form is needed for each solo or ensemble.
All Payments must be made online at www.LevittownSchools.com