

Levittown Public Schools

2025 NYSSMA Information & Registration Form

| Dates | Location | Classification | Registration | Due Date |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| March 28 – 29, 2025 | Kellenberg Memorial High School | Regular NYSSMA Levels 1-6 (solos + ensembles) & All-State | MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com | 2/10/2025 |
| April 25-26, 2025 | Hicksville High School | All State Instrumental Jazz/ALL Vocal Jazz | MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com | 3/7/2025 |
| April 29-30, 2025 | West Hempstead High School | Classical Guitar | MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com | 3/18/2025 |
| May 2-3, 2025 | Syosset High School | Harp | MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com | 3/21/2025 |

• **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. 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 \$20
- Non-All-State Solos and Ensembles Levels 5-6 \$30
- All-State Solo \$36
- Ensembles: ONLY ONE PAYMENT OF \$20/\$30 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: Solo & Ensemble & All-State – 2/10/2025; All State Inst. Jazz & All Vocal Jazz – 3/7/2025;
Classical Guitar – 3/18/2025; Harp – 3/21/2025**

Name: _____ Grade: _____

NYSSMA Level of Solo/Ensemble: _____ School Music Teacher: _____

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: _____

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 2025 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