

Levittown Public Schools

**2025 NYSSMA Information & Registration Form: PIANO ONLY**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Registration</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
March 7 – 8, 2025	Nassau Community College <b>(In Person)</b>	PIANO ONLY <b>(no jazz)</b>	MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com	January 24 <sup>th</sup> , 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.
  - 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 (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) through MySchoolBucks.com. 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 24, 2025. No registrations will be accepted after this date.**
- **PRINT your MySchoolBucks receipt and attach a copy to your registration form.**
- NYSSMA Piano Solo Fees:
  - Levels 1-4 Piano: \$26.00
  - Levels 5-6 Piano: \$36.00

- **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.

**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.
  - 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  
Piano Festival  
Registration Form**

**Due: Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

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

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

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

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Name of Composition: \_\_\_\_\_ NYSSMA Manual 33 Page #: \_\_\_\_\_

Composer/Arranger: \_\_\_\_\_

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 MySchoolBucks receipt. I permit my child to participate in the 2025 NYSSMA Piano Festival.

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

**THIS FORM AND ONLINE PAYMENT RECEIPT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO YOUR MUSIC TEACHER NO LATER THAN Friday, January 24, 2025.**

A separate form is needed for each solo or ensemble.  
All payments must be made online at [www.LevittownSchools.com](http://www.LevittownSchools.com)