

SYOSSET CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SYOSSET, NEW YORK

Level I-IV APPLICATION for participation in the NYSSMA SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL Cold Spring Harbor High School, March 17-18, 2023

The New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) sponsors a festival each spring in which students have the opportunity to perform solos and small ensembles (duets, trios, etc.) for an impartial adjudication. Judges, most of whom are chosen from outside the area, hear each student play a graded selection from the NYSSMA manual, prescribed scales and a short sight reading selection (8 measures). Students are then given a written report with comments on their performance and a grade. Grades range from the relatively rare Outstanding through Excellent, Good, and Needs Improvement (A+ through D- in Levels V and VI). In some cases, where it is determined to be in the best interest of the child or due to a serious infraction of the festival rules, a student may receive comments-only. Levels of difficulty range as follows:

- Levels I - Very Easy - elementary
- II - Easy - advanced elementary, middle school
- III - Medium - middle school
- IV - Medium Difficult - advanced middle school, high school
- V - Difficult - advanced high school
- VI - Very Difficult - only for the most advanced soloists

NYSSMA festival grades provide a standard that is used for acceptance to All-County festivals, many music camps, and can be included in college applications. The festivals also serve as the audition sites for the All-State band, chorus and orchestra. (Only students in grade 10 and 11 are eligible to apply for All-State.)

Students participating in the NYSSMA festival (and their parents) should be aware of the following: (More detailed information on preparation is available through our individual music teachers.)

1. The **2023** festival will be held at **Cold Spring Harbor High School on March 17 & 18.**
2. Audition times may be at any time from Friday afternoon through Saturday evening.
3. The school does not provide transportation.
4. All solos must be listed in the current NYSSMA Manual. The current manual is **Vol. 33.** **Check this carefully with your school music teacher, as private teachers do not always have the current manual.**

LEVELS 1 – 4

5. **Two purchased, original copies of the solo should be provided** (one for the student and one for the adjudicator). A piano part may be used as one copy. **Photocopies are not permitted.**
6. Check the NYSSMA Manual for specific regulations on scales, sight reading, etc. Be especially careful of requirements for percussion. Level I-IV solos will be given 10 minute audition times except for Percussion which get 15 minutes regardless of level.
7. Vocal students will be assigned rooms with pianos. All others will not have pianos available.
8. **There will be no piano auditions at this site except Jazz Piano.** (All other piano auditions will be held at Jericho HS on March 10 & 11 – use the separate form for that festival to register)
9. Students will receive their grades from their teachers the following week at school.

Last year Syosset sent over 1300 students to NYSSMA festivals! That represents the greatest participation of any school district in Nassau County.

Participation fee: Level I – IV solos & ensembles: \$16.00

NYSSMA fees cannot be refunded.

PLEASE RETURN CHECKS ONLY MADE OUT TO:

STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND.

USE SEPARATE CHECKS FOR EACH STUDENT AND EACH AUDITION.

PLEASE INCLUDE THE STUDENT’S FIRST AND LAST NAME ON THE “MEMO” LINE OF EACH CHECK.

PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE CHECKS!

LEVELS 1 – 4

Levels I – IV

Cold Spring Harbor High School

March 17-18, 2023

Please return this form to your music teacher by: **Friday, January 6, 2023**

NAME: _____ SCHOOL: _____ GRADE: _____

INSTRUMENT OR VOICE: _____

NAME OF SOLO: _____ COMPOSER OF SOLO: _____

LEVEL OF SOLO _____ PAGE NUMBER IN NYSSMA MANUAL _____

(This must be specified)

(from Volume 33)

Check if you have a sibling performing at this festival _____

If yes, Sibling name and school _____

Check if you are performing more than one solo or ensemble at this festival _____

I give my child _____ permission to participate

(First and last name)

in the NYSSMA Solo & Ensemble Festival to be held at **Cold Spring Harbor High School on March 17 & 18, 2023**. I understand that I will be responsible for my child's transportation.

Enclosed is a check (made out to STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND) for **\$16.00** for the registration fee.

Include the student's first and last name on the "Memo" line of each check.

(Signature of parent or guardian)

(Date)

You may request a specific day and time, but please note that NYSSMA can not guarantee that they will be able to honor such requests. Please only do so in the event of an unavoidable conflict. Attach a note to this form if you are in this situation.