

North Merrick UFSD **Music Department**

2023 NYSSMA **SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL**

Festival Dates

**Friday, April 28th &
Saturday, April 29th**

Location

**Grand Avenue Middle School
2301 Grand Avenue
Bellmore, NY 11710**

Application deadline is Friday, March 3, 2023!

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION GOOGLE FORM LINKED
BELOW AND SUBMIT A CHECK(S) FOR THE APPROPRIATE
REGISTRATION FEE(S), MADE OUT TO: NORTH MERRICK UFSD, TO
YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL BAND, ORCHESTRA, AND/OR GENERAL MUSIC
TEACHER NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, March 3, 2023.
PLEASE USE SEPARATE CHECKS FOR EACH STUDENT AND EACH AUDITION.**

Participation fees:

All woodwind, brass, percussion, string, & vocal solos:

Levels I – IV: \$16.00

Levels V-VI: \$24.00

Piano Solos

Levels 1-4 \$22

levels 5-6 \$30

[NYSSMA Registration Form](https://forms.gle/DgMrmFQsi1p4jK2F7) (<https://forms.gle/DgMrmFQsi1p4jK2F7>)



What is the NYSSMA Solo and Ensemble Festival?

The New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) sponsors a festival each spring which provides students the opportunity to perform solos and small ensembles (duets, trios, etc.) for an impartial adjudication. Judges hear each student play or sing a graded selection from the NYSSMA manual, a short sight-reading selection (8 measures), and instrumentalists will need to perform scales. 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, Satisfactory, and Fair (A+ through C- in Levels V and VI).

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. Students participating in the NYSSMA festival (and their parents) should be aware of the following:

1. **The 2023 festival will be conducted in-person at Grand Avenue Middle School.**
2. All solos must be listed in the current NYSSMA Manual. Check this carefully with your **school music teacher**. The current manual is **Edition 33**. Private teachers do not always have the current manual.
3. **Private lessons are strongly encouraged**, but not required for NYSSMA participation. We can provide a list of private tutors whom we recommend. **4th grade band and orchestra students should have a private tutor** to be adequately prepared for the festival.
4. **It is your responsibility to purchase an original copy of the solo. IF YOUR PIECE IS MEMORIZED you will still need an original copy. Photocopies are not permitted**
5. Scores will not be posted at the festival. Students will receive their scores and comment sheets from their teachers during the following week at school.

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levels 5-6 \$30

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PLEASE USE SEPARATE CHECKS FOR EACH STUDENT AND EACH AUDITION.

As always, if you have any questions, email us at gbeck@nmerrick.org, abrunson@nmerrick.org, rlajara@nmerrick.org, rsouthard@nmerrick.org, or ewillis@nmerrick.org