Levittown Public Schools

2026 NYSSMA Information & Registration Form

Dates	Location	Classification	Registration	Due Date
March 27 – 28, 2026	**Division Avenue High School**	**Regular NYSSMA Levels 1-6 (solos + ensembles) & All-State Sector 13E**	MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com	2/6/2026
May 1 – 2, 2026	**Syosset High School**	**All Jazz (East)/Harp**	MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com	3/13/2026
May 18 – 19, 2026	**Wantagh High School**	**Classical Guitar**	MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com	3/20/2026

- **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 (XXXIV)** 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 – 2/6/2026; All State Inst. Jazz, All Vocal Jazz & Harp – 3/13/2026; Classical Guitar – 3/20/2026

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): _____

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 _____

Preferred Date:_____ (**NOTE:** Providing a preferred date does not ensure or guarantee that you will be scheduled on that date.)

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 2026 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**