

Levittown Public Schools

2026 NYSSMA Information & Registration Form: PIANO ONLY

Dates	Location	Classification	Registration	Due Date
March 6 – 7, 2026	Nassau Community College (In Person)	PIANO ONLY (no jazz)	MySchoolBucks on LevittownSchools.com	Friday, January 16, 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.
- 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 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 Friday, January 16, 2026. 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 16th, 2026

Name: _____

Grade: _____

NYSSMA Level of Solo/Ensemble: _____

School Music Teacher: _____

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: _____

Do you take private lessons: Yes _____ No _____

Private Instructor's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Preferred Date: _____

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

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 Piano Festival.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

THIS FORM **AND** ONLINE PAYMENT RECEIPT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO YOUR MUSIC
TEACHER NO LATER THAN **Friday, January 16, 2026.**

A separate form is needed for each solo or ensemble.

All payments must be made online at www.LevittownSchools.com