



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Dr. John J. Gallagher
631-294-2279 (cell)
PR@nyssma.org

 @OfficialNYSSMA

**N
e
w
s

R
e
l
e
a
s
e**

July 21, 2018 - Westbury, NY – The New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) is proud to support legislation created by New York Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez that – if passed - will ensure equal access to music education by all students.

Rep. Velazquez’s (D-NY-7) *Guarantee Access to Arts and Music Education (GAAME) Act (H.R. 6137)* provides support to students in lower income neighborhoods who do not always have equal access to music education. It would encourage school districts to use their federal Title I funds to improve access to music education and be taught by certified music educators.

The GAAME Act has thirty-seven (37) co-sponsors from around the country including thirteen (13) from New York.

“The need to increase access to music education for students in lower income communities is at the top of our priority list, and we are asking our legislators to sign on to it.” said NYSSMA President Michael Salzman. “We are happy to endorse this piece of legislation sponsored by Brooklyn Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez, and stand ready to assist her as needed.”

NYSSMA, the New York State School Music Association, is the largest state affiliate of the National Association for Music Education. NYSSMA’s mission is to advance music education across New York State for its membership and students in member school programs.

#