

**TO: Collegiate NYSSMA Advisors and Chapters**

**FROM: Dr. Keith Koster, State Collegiate NYSSMA Advisor  
Austin Stroup, NYSSMA State Collegiate President**

**MEMO: Greetings & Information for Fall 2023**

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On behalf of NYSSMA, we would like to extend to you and your students greetings and best wishes for a successful 2023-2024 academic year.

Here are a few updates:

- Your State Executive Board has been working tirelessly this past summer. Make sure to check out the following:
  - Updated collegiate webpage
    - [www.nyssma.org](http://www.nyssma.org) and click the Collegiate Tab
  - Handbook for your Collegiate Chapter
  - Updated social media links for chapters, websites, etc.

Please find enclosed the following information:

- Welcome letter and contact information for your State Collegiate Officers.
  - *Please pass or duplicate and distribute this letter to your collegiate chapter officers and members.*
- 2023-2024 Collegiate membership registration instructions
  - *Students can join or renew by locating the “Membership” link on either one of the following websites:*

**National Association for Music Education (NAfME)**

**For membership: <https://nafme.org/membership/>**

**OR**

**New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA)**

**For membership: [www.nyssma.org](http://www.nyssma.org)**

**COST to join or renew: \$42.00**

***Covers both state and national dues.***

If you are contacted by any one of our Province Representatives requesting information about your chapter, please respond. It will only take a moment of your time. They gather information to report to collegiate membership at NYSSMA Executive council meetings. Help make their

positions rewarding, valued, and fulfilling. If you don't feel that you have the time to respond, pass that request on to your collegiate chapter officers or another responsible student member. Thank you.

Should you need any assistance in getting your chapter members to attend in-services and conferences scheduled this year or if you need any suggestions about how to establish or maintain an active chapter, please feel free to contact our State Collegiate officers:

President: Austin Stroup  
*he/him*  
Email: [astroup4@mail.naz.edu](mailto:astroup4@mail.naz.edu)  
Email: [collpres@nyssma.org](mailto:collpres@nyssma.org)

State President-Elect: Taylor Kelly  
*she/her*  
Email: [kell3639@fredonia.edu](mailto:kell3639@fredonia.edu)

Secretary-Treasurer: Greta Hansen-Schwoebel  
*they/she*  
Email: [ghansen9@mail.naz.edu](mailto:ghansen9@mail.naz.edu)

Web Editor: Madison Garraffo  
*she/her*  
Email: [mgarraffo1@pride.hofstra.edu](mailto:mgarraffo1@pride.hofstra.edu)

*NOTE: Institutions listed below receive the newsletter. If there is a discrepancy, please reach out to the Province representative to make changes. Thank you.*

Province Rep Area 1: Jake Miller  
*he/him*  
Email: [mill1625@fredonia.edu](mailto:mill1625@fredonia.edu)

*Province 1 Colleges and Universities*  
#456 SUNY University at Buffalo (Elizabeth Etopio, Advisor)  
#1107 SUNY Buffalo State University (Victoria Furby, Advisor)  
#151 SUNY Fredonia School of Mus (Christian Bernhard, Advisor)  
#1211 SUNY Niagara County Community College (Brad Wingert)

Province Rep Area 2: Emily Overacker  
*she/her*  
Email: [eoverac6@mail.naz.edu](mailto:eoverac6@mail.naz.edu)

*Province 2 Colleges and Universities*

#50 Eastman School of Music (Sangmi Kang, Advisor)  
#150 Greatbatch School of Music – Houghton University  
(Sara Massey, Advisor)  
#1043 Monroe Community College (Roland Fisher)  
#328 Nazareth University School of Music (Rich Tilley, Advisor)  
#218 Roberts Wesleyan University  
#980 Rochester Institute of Technology (Erica Haskel)  
#858 SUNY Brockport  
SUNY Geneseo (Gerard Floriano)

Province Rep Area 3:

Kaycie Romano

she/her

Email: [kromano@syr.edu](mailto:kromano@syr.edu)

*Province 3 Colleges and Universities*

#219 Ithaca College School of Music (Matthew Clauhs, Advisor)  
#566 Onondaga Community College (Jennifer Greene, Advisor)  
#3 Crane School of Music – SUNY Potsdam (Judy Lewis, Advisor)  
#215 Setnor School of Music – Syracuse University

Province Rep Area 4/5:

Nicolas Auxila

he/him

Email: [nauxila1@pride.hofstra.edu](mailto:nauxila1@pride.hofstra.edu)

*Province 4 & 5 Colleges and Universities*

#261 Hartwick College (Meghan K. Sheehy, Advisor)  
#502 Manhattanville College  
#12 Schenectady County Community College School of Music (Christopher Brellochs)  
#1138 SUNY Binghamton (William Culverhouse)  
#1242 SUNY Broome Community College  
#1273 SUNY New Paltz (Joel Evans)  
Siena College (Tim Reno)  
SUNY at Albany (Nancy Newman)

Province Rep Area 6:

Sylvia Hunt

they/them

Email: [shunt9@mail.naz.edu](mailto:shunt9@mail.naz.edu)

*Province 6 Colleges and Universities*

#856 Baruch College  
#624 CUNY Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music  
#1263 CUNY City College of Technology  
#1083 CUNY Lehman College (Diana Mittler-Battipaglia, Advisor)

#504 Aaron Copland School of Music – CUNY Queens College  
(Claudia Cali, Advisor)  
#1276 CUNY York College (Mark Adams, Advisor)  
#975 Hunter College (Victor Bobetsky, Advisor)  
#1174 Mannes College of Music  
#22 New York University  
#111 Teachers College, Columbia University (Kelly Parkes, Advisor)  
#713 Wagner College (Jose Diaz, Advisor)

Province Rep Area 7: Sophie Wood  
*she/her*  
Email: [swood11@pride.hofstra.edu](mailto:swood11@pride.hofstra.edu)

*Province 7 Colleges and Universities*

#783 Adelphi University (Heather Waters, Advisor)  
#1021 Five Towns College (James Dragovich, Advisor)  
#589 Hofstra University  
#663 Long Island University (Jennifer Miceli, Advisor)  
#1133 Molloy University (Michelle Rampal, Advisor)  
#730 SUNY Nassau Community College (Garry Ouellette, Advisor)  
SUNY Purchase College (Jennifer Undercofler)  
SUNY Stony Brook University (Perry Goldstein)

We would be delighted to visit your campus virtually and visit with your collegiate members or arrange for state collegiate officers to be present. We wish you a very successful school year and hope to see you and your students at the 2023 Winter Conference in Rochester.

With best wishes,  
Keith and Austin  
NAfME Collegiate New York State Advisor & NYSSMA State Collegiate President

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**Make sure to nominate your chapter for a  
NAfME National Award;**

**Here's how!!**

For more information, visit the NAfME Collegiate link: Click [here](#).

*Criteria for Chapter of Excellence or Professional Achievement Award (for a student):* Click [here](#).

*Chapter of Excellence Application:* Click [here](#).

# *Please share & post*

## Renew Your C-NAfME/NYSSMA Membership<sup>1</sup>

### Online: Here's how!

Greta Hansen-Schwoebel, Collegiate NYSSMA State Secretary & Treasurer

Any Questions? E-mail Greta at:

[ghansen9@mail.naz.edu](mailto:ghansen9@mail.naz.edu)

1. Go to [www.nafme.org](http://www.nafme.org)
2. Click on the Join/Renew tab link (located on the top right-hand side).
3. Click Renew
4. Enter your e-mail address<sup>2</sup>
5. Enter your Password
6. A screen will open with options to check out your information.
7. Make sure to update or double check all information, especially your addresses so that documents and newsletters arrive at the proper place.
8. Once you have updated your information, click "Next".
9. Click "memberships/print membership confirmation" on the left hand side.
10. Scroll down to your most recent membership box and click "renew" on the top right hand corner.
11. Then, select "Collegiate" membership and choose your Collegiate State.
12. Input your college into the college selection box on the next page.
13. If you wish, you can choose between two subscriptions to music journals offered at a special price for NAFME members. You may also choose to *make a donation*.
14. Once you click "Checkout", your total cost will be displayed. If you just chose a basic renewal of membership and no additional items, your total should be \$42.00.
15. Enter your credit card or payment information below that.
16. Click the blue "Submit and process credit card payment" at the bottom right of the page.
17. Confirm and finish - You should receive an email acknowledging your renewal.  
Congrats! You are good to go.

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<sup>1</sup> Your dues are for joint membership in NYSSMA at the state level and NAFME at the national level. You will belong to **both** organizations. Make sure to add these memberships to your resume. You can also renew your membership on [www.nyssma.org](http://www.nyssma.org) with a very similar procedure *rather* than doing this on the NAFME website.

<sup>2</sup> Enter the e-mail address that you use on the NAFME website. The one that you receive NAFME emails from.

# Important C-NYSSMA/NAfME Dates 2023-2024

*Mark your Calendars!*

## **NOW**

*Join or Renew your Membership: \$42.00*

Complete your chapter Membership Drive by getting students to join or renew their memberships at [www.nyssma.org](http://www.nyssma.org) OR [www.nafme.org](http://www.nafme.org) [See instructions on previous pages.]

NOTE: While students can join at any time throughout the year, we do encourage students to make an early commitment to professional membership.

## **September 11 – 15, 2023**

*NAfME Collegiate Kickoff Week*

For more information, click [here](#).

## **October 12 – 14, 2023**

*2023 Symposium on Music Teacher Education*

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

For more information, click [here](#).

## **November 30 – December 3, 2023**

*NYSSMA Winter Conference*

NYSSMA/NAfME members can attend the Winter Conference at the Rochester Convention Center in Rochester, NY. Collegiate sessions will be presented as well as the Annual Business Meeting and Dinner for Collegiate members. For more information, go to [www.nyssma.org](http://www.nyssma.org)

*Collegiate Sessions at the 2023 Winter Conference*

### **Thursday, November 30**

3:30 p.m. “Their Own Voices: Supporting transgender students”

*With Alex Zappavigna*

4:45 p.m. “Wait, that wasn’t in the reading! Learning by doing”

*With Joseph Ianaconi*

7:15 p.m. “Beyond the Baton: Empowering student agency in your ensembles”

*With Rich Tilley and Jon Schaller*

### **Friday, December 1**

8:15 a.m. “Building your Teacher’s Toolbox Part I: Here’s how”

*With Heidi Welch*

- 9:30 a.m. “A Cappella: The power of student voice”  
*With Sarah Staebell*
- 9:30 a.m. “Practice Makes Perfect: Speed interviewing to get the job!”  
*With Lori Orestano-James and NY Music & Arts Coordinators*
- 10:45 a.m. “The Things You Don’t Learn Until the Real World”  
*With Sarah Fischer-Croneis*
- 1:15 p.m. “Realities of Teaching Music: What college couldn’t cover”  
*With Collin Smith*
- 2:30 p.m. “Requisite Understandings for Success in ALL Music Settings: Special education and support services”  
*With Elise Sobol and Brian Wagner-Yeung*
- 6:00 p.m. Collegiate NAfME/NYSSMA Dinner and Meeting  
*With the 2023-2024 State E-Board*  
*NOTE: Dinner is FREE!!*
- 7:15 p.m. “Meet your State Eboard and Members of the NYSSMA Executive Council”  
*With the 2023-2024 State E-Board*

### **Saturday, December 2**

- 9:30 a.m. “Let’s Get This Party Started! Landing the teaching job of your dreams”  
*With Brent Chiarello and Valerie Massimo*
- 1:15 p.m. “I’m Still Standing: Navigating your first job”  
*With Marc Bridon and Jessica Wheaton-Bridon*
- 2:30 p.m. “Urban Education 101”  
*With Jennie Knight and Jessica Sisti*
- 3:45 p.m. “What do I NEED to KNOW? Pointers for new teachers”  
*With Courtney Sack and Pasquale Iannelli*

### **March 1 - 31, 2024**

*Music in Our Schools Month (MIOSM)*

**PRACTICE-A-THON EVENT** [www.hcpracticeathon.com](http://www.hcpracticeathon.com); *Contact your Province Rep for more information.* Stay tuned for a cash winning opportunity for your chapter during MIOSM. State Collegiate President, Austin Stroup will provide more details at the Collegiate Business Meeting at the 2023 Winter Conference in Rochester.

### **Weekends of March 4 & March 11, 2024**

*Joseph Sugar Day in Albany, NY*

NYSSMA members as well as collegiate students meet with State Legislators to promote music education, arts education. For more information, click [here](#).

### **March 25, 2024**

*Deadline to run for State Office*

Deadline to run for State Executive Board; To complete an application for state leadership, see the last page of this document.

**April 1 - 8, 2024**

*State Office Elections (E-ballot)*

Annual E-Elections for State Executive Board; *Terms run from May 1 to May 1*; NOTE: Each collegiate chapter advisor will be sent a secure link to the ballot. Send the link to your student members so that they can vote. VOTING ENDS ON APRIL 8, 2024 at midnight. Results will be announced on April 15, 2024.

**June 2024**

*NAfME Collegiate Summit, Washington DC*

For more information, E-mail Dr. Koster (kkoster8@naz.edu) OR click [here](#) for updates from NAfME.

**September 25 – 28, 2024**

*NAfME Biennial Research and Teacher Education Conference*

The Westin Peachtree Plaza, Atlanta, Georgia

For more information, click [here](#).

**Spring 2025**

*All Eastern Conference*

Hartford, CT

**Spring 2027**

*All Eastern Conference*

Providence, RI

IMPROVING COMMUNICATION

BETWEEN CHAPTERS??

HERE'S HOW!



*Visit [www.nyssma.org](http://www.nyssma.org) & check out social media links for all of our collegiate chapters. Click the Collegiate tab and check out the new layout.*

*Follow us!*

### State C-NYSSMA/NAfME Links

Facebook Group: [NYSSMA-Collegiate](#)

Facebook Page: [NYSSMA-Collegiate](#)

Instagram: [@collegiatenyssma](#)

Gmail: [nafmecollegiateny@gmail.com](mailto:nafmecollegiateny@gmail.com)

Website: <https://www.nyssma.org/collegiate-nyssma/>

### Ideas for your Chapter Meetings and Events for the Year

- Once you join or renew your Collegiate Membership, add the following to your e-mail signature: *Member, Collegiate NYSSMA/NAfME*
- Once you join or renew your Collegiate Membership, post a picture on social media indicating that you're a member of Collegiate NYSSMA/NAfME.
- Promote a Collegiate NAfME-NYSSMA drive at your school. Be prepared to speak about the value of membership in our largest music organization for music educators! Use the promotional materials that were sent to your Chapter Collegiate Advisor.
- Reach out to area high schools to establish partnerships with an area Tri-M Chapter. If area schools don't have a Tri-M Chapter, assist the Music Teachers there in establishing one.

- Invite Tri-M students to your meetings, attend theirs and consider joint-sponsored events (guest speakers, service activities, Music In Our Schools Month (MIOSM) events, etc.
- Create social media accounts for your Chapter; Follow other collegiate chapters; Create a collegiate chapter website which can serve as the primary source for all things Collegiate NYSSMA/NAfME
- Need a meeting agenda item? Lead your chapter members in a walk-through of the NAfME website, noting special events and opportunities for collegiate members.
- Consider a meeting where members watch an NAfME Academy Webinar OR other online podcast brought to you by NAfME.
- Collaborate with other Collegiate Chapters in your Province. Reach out to your Province Representative to assist.
- Make plans to establish the Harry Chapin Practice-A-Thon event on your campus. This would be a wonderful activity for Music In Our Schools Month (MIOSM).
- Invite a state collegiate officer OR Dr. Koster to attend your next collegiate chapter meeting. State officers and Dr. Koster can assist you with just about any aspect of your chapter.
- Promote events mentioned in the Fall and Spring Newsletters that your Chapter Advisor receives. (NOTE: Make sure that your Chapter Advisor circulates each newsletter with you.)
- Host a Mini-Afternoon Province Conference: Invite state officers, area NYSSMA members, and students from your Province. NOTE: Coordinating this kind of event is always good practice should your chapter want to host a state collegiate conference in the future!!
- Need a road trip? Consider a trip to Washington DC with a visit to NAfME headquarters in Reston, VA.
- Host a student teaching panel with student teachers from your school.
- Invite area teachers to speak at an upcoming meeting.

- Invite area music vendors to speak at an upcoming meeting.
- Invite area music supervisors to a meeting and present a session about the job interviewing, hiring processes.
- Host a Music Education Alumni Recital and Reception event. It's a great way to connect with former graduates and current teachers from your school.
- Don't see the conference sessions that you would like to see at a conference? Reach out to presenters, teachers, etc., and encourage them to submit conference session proposals for future conferences. The process is easy! Information about conference session proposals can be found at [www.nyssma.org](http://www.nyssma.org) OR e-mail Dr. Koster ([kkoster8@naz.edu](mailto:kkoster8@naz.edu))

## Interested in running for State Office?

To complete an application for state leadership, review the information below and click any of the hyperlinks.

State President-Elect: Information about the position, click [here](#).

State Secretary-Treasurer: Information about the position, click [here](#).

State Web Editor: Information about the position, click [here](#).

State Province Representative: Information about the position, click [here](#).

*Applications for State Office: Click the links below.*

[State President-Elect](#)

[State Secretary-Treasurer](#)

[State Web Editor](#)

[State Province Representative](#)