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**Liberty, NY Educator Elected as Local Representative**

Westbury, NY - January 30, 2025 - The New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) is proud to announce that veteran educator Timothy Hamblin has been elected by his peers to serve as area *Zone Representative* to the Executive Council. Tim will serve a three-year term and liaise with music educators from forty (40) school districts to service 7,000 students throughout Greene, Orange, Rockland, Sullivan, and Ulster counties.

Tim's first experience with NYSSMA began as a student having solos adjudicated at local festivals. In 1989, Tim was trained by NYSSMA to adjudicate piano and vocal solos.

"NYSSMA has always been a valuable resource to me as a music educator. I've seen my students develop self-confidence and artistry through music while gaining valuable feedback through the adjudication process," Mr. Hamblin said. "My tenure as a NYSSMA adjudicator, an advocate for music education, and the professional relationships with the music educators in this area of New York State made the decision to serve as representative an easy one.

Mr. Hamblin retired from the Liberty Central School District in 2021 after a thirty-three (33) year career. He taught vocal music education at all levels K-12, the last sixteen (16) conducting the high school's mixed chorus & honors choir, and teaching Music Appreciation, piano and vocal lessons. He also supervised the district's music program for several years.

"Our Zone Representatives provide an invaluable line of communication between their areas of New York State and the Executive Council of NYSSMA. The leadership skills that Timothy has are outstanding and we are proud to have him on our team," said Edmund Chiarello, NYSSMA president.

He earned his undergraduate degree in Music Education with a Piano concentration from Ithaca College, his graduate degree from SUNY New Paltz, and returned to Ithaca College to earn additional graduate credits in conducting, piano pedagogy, and vocal pedagogy.

NYSSMA, the New York State School Music Association, is the largest state affiliate of the National Association for Music Education.

The Mission of the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) is to advance music education across New York State for its membership and students in member school programs.

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