



April Notes

NAFME 2025 EASTERN DIVISION CONFERENCE: ADVOCATE! ELEVATE! CELEBRATE! NYS GUEST PERFORMING GROUPS & PRESENTERS

Last month in the March 2025 *School Music News* we honored our 2025 NAFME Eastern Division student musicians from New York State who were selected to perform as members of the 2025 Eastern Division honors ensembles.

NYSSMA[®] is proud to also acknowledge the following New York State guest performing groups along with their conductor who will be featured at the 2025 NAFME Eastern Division Music Conference / Advocate! Elevate! Celebrate! April 24-27, 2025 - Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford CT

*Please refer to the schedule of performances/sessions available at the conference for the most up-to-date day/time schedule.

NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL ENSEMBLES PERFORMING AT THE 2025 NAFME EASTERN DIVISION CONFERENCE

Central Islip HS Concert Choir, John Anthony - Thurs, April 24th
Denton Ave 4th & 5th Grade Band, Mark Bligh -Thurs, April 25th
Freeport HS Select Chorale, Monique Retzlaff - Fri, April 25th
Nazareth University Chamber Singers, Eric Rubinstein - Fri, April 25th
Shaker Select, Amy Kimbler - Thurs, April 24th
Strings for Success, Hannah Garfield - Fri, April 25th
Syosset HS Wind Ensemble, Paul Caputo - Fri, April 25th

NEW YORK STATE PRESENTERS AT THE 2025 NAFME EASTERN DIVISION CONFERENCE

NYSSMA[®] is proud to acknowledge the following New York State session presenters featured at the 2025 NAFME Eastern Division Music Conference / Advocate! Elevate! Celebrate!
Bach, Broadway, and Beyonce: Creating a Space for Popular Music in Choir - Eric Rubinstein
Band Director's Quick Fix Toolkit: Essential Solutions for Common Challenges -Angela Antersol
Beyond Aunt Rhody: Enhancing Instruction with Popular Music -Angela Antersol
Building a Culture of Creativity Through Arranging in Secondary Instrumental Music Education -Alden Snell & Lisa Caravan
Collegiate Chapter Engagement at the State Level: Here's How - Keith Koster, Taylor Kelly, Richard Tilley
Don't Just Stand There! -Dan Di Pasquale
Eclectic Ensembles for an Evolving Music Curriculum - Nils Klykken
El Mundo Es Mi Casa: Spanish Poems and Songs - Laura Koulish
Elevating Hope: Transforming Music Education with Trauma & Mental Health-Informed Practices - Lydia Geiger
General Music for the Self-Contained Classroom: Meaningful Approaches for Engaging the Self-Contained Class and Non-Verbal Population - Kristen Freriks & Lauren Polansky
Job Readiness: Thinking About the Before, During, and After of the Interview - Malcolm Jones
Positive Psychology Tools for Music Educators - Peggy Rakas
Reach Every Student: Successful Strategies for Secondary General Music - Rebecca True

Rethinking Voice Classification - Carl Ferrara
Second-Puberty Singing: Measuring Vocal Change on Exogenous Testosterone - Evan Montemayor
Strategies for Interprofessional Collaboration with Related Service Providers: Supporting Music Students with Disabilities -Mara Culp
Surviving a Concert Day Woodwind Repair Emergency - Miles Decastro & Nicole Davidson
Ten Minutes A Day to a Better Band or Orchestra! - Peter Boonshaft
The Magic of Singing with Your Band - Andrew Pease
The Making of a Scribe: Memoirs of Raw Rome - Andrew Wang
The Multi-Styles String Teacher: Visions and Strategies for First Steps - Matthew Rotjan
Usable Public Relations Tools to Advocate for your Music Program - John Gallagher

NECROLOGY: PATRICIA WHITE

Word came to NYSSMA[®] last month of the passing of Patricia White. Pat White was a graduate of the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam and was a much loved and talented music educator (classroom music, chorus, music theory) in the Southern Cayuga School District from 1972-1996. Pat was also an early pioneer in developing computer-assisted music technology curriculum for the school music classroom. NYSSMA[®] President Peter Brasch appointed Pat to serve on NYSSMA's very first music technology committee back in the mid-1990s which subsequently led to her appointment as chairperson of NYSSMA's music technology committee. In addition, Pat also served as the music technology review editor for the NYSSMA[®] *School Music News* magazine.

After retirement from teaching Pat contributed numerous articles to the NYSSMA[®] magazine and led many technology workshops which educated and enabled music educators across our state to implement music technology in their school music programs.

In honoring her steadfast dedication to the music education profession, NYSSMA[®] presented Pat White with its Distinguished Service Award at the 2011 NYSSMA[®] Winter Conference held at Rochester, NY.

NYSSMA[®] extends its condolences to Pat White's husband Dan and to the members of her family. Pat was truly an innovator and will be remembered for her wonderful contributions and commitment to our profession.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I believe that the arts are as important to a student's overall educational experience as core subjects such as English, math, science and social studies.

The arts must be more than electives serving a small subset of students. We must ensure that arts education plays an essential role in public education, helping all students become well-rounded, culturally literate and empathetic individuals."

-Lester W. Young, Jr., Chancellor: NYS Board of Regents
From the NYSSBA OnBoard Newspaper, February 3, 2025
Chancellor's Commentary - Why arts education is as important as English, STEM and social studies