N.M.E.A. Nassau Music Educators Association

All-County & Peak Nomination and Selection Guidelines

1. All nominations for All-County and PEAK MUST be completed online at www.nassaumusic.org. The online system will not accept nominations after the deadline of October 1, 2026

    a. All-County/PEAK deadline 10/1/26, nominations will close at 12:01 am on 10/2/26.
    b. All-County Student Commitment forms must be postmarked to the chair people by 11/20/26.

2. Follow all online prompts very carefully. Please remember to individually upload each student's current year's NYSSMA sheet(s) as you complete their nomination. No material needs to be printed and mailed to the chairperson for the **nomination process.** NYSSMA® Jazz solo forms **will not** be accepted for any application.

3. Student nominations will be accepted from NMEA Members ONLY.

4. Nominations for All-County must be submitted by the student's performance group teacher. If there is no performance group for that instrument/voice, the nomination must come from an active NMEA member from their home district. The teacher must be directly employed by the district.

5. A student MUST be a participating member of their corresponding school music organization at the time of the nomination and at the time of the All-County concert. Participation is defined as a minimum of 50% attendance and practice at in-school rehearsals where such rehearsals are offered and at concert performances with the same school organization.

6. For PEAK nominations, the registration must come from the student's classroom music teacher. The maximum number of students per teacher is six.

7. Please be sure to double-check the spelling of students' names. Students' names will be printed in the program exactly as they are entered into the database.

8. Major ensemble teachers of multiple grade levels are guaranteed representation in only one division.
    i.e.: Teaching grades 5-6 will have representation in Division 1 or 2, but not necessarily both.
    Teaching grades 6-7 will have representation in Division 2 or 3, but not necessarily both.
    Teaching grades 9-12 will have representation in Division 4 or 5, but not necessarily both.

9. Final ensemble selections are at the discretion of the selection committee on the day of selections.

10. There are no teacher substitutions and no refunds.

All-County & Peak Nomination and Selection Guidelines

Chorus

Major ensemble teachers of multiple grade levels are guaranteed representation in only one division. (i.e.: Teaching grades 5-6 will have representation in Division 1 OR 2, but not necessarily both. Teaching grades 6-7 will have representation in Division 2 OR 3, but not necessarily both.)

Division 1

- A maximum of NINE students per building can be chosen.
- Selections will be filled based on teachers' rank/comments.
- Consideration may be given to students with NYSSMA® grades.
- Voice parts will be divided according to district.

Division 2

- A maximum of NINE students per building can be chosen.
- Selections will be filled to balance the part voicing.
- Consideration will be given to students with NYSSMA® grades.

Division 3 & 4

- Every teacher who is a member of NMEA and adheres to the nomination guidelines will have representation in an All-County organization, but not necessarily their first-choice student.
- List students in the order in which you feel they deserve to be selected into an All-County ensemble. Use the NMEA Ranking order unless you feel that a student is more qualified than the NYSSMA® score (or non-NYSSMA® score). Please fill in supporting commentary to explain.
- If students of like voice parts are selected based on Teacher Rank over NMEA Rank, it is the responsibility of the nominating teacher to support that decision with students/parents.
- Teachers are advised to recommend more than one student and represent a variety of voice parts.

Division 5

- Every teacher who is a member of NMEA and adheres to the nomination guidelines will have representation in an All-County organization, but not necessarily their first-choice student.
- All-State participants and alternates will be accepted automatically; however, their names must be submitted. Please state in the comments if All-State or Alternate.
- List students in the order in which you feel they deserve to be selected into an All-County ensemble. Use the NMEA Ranking order unless you feel that a student is more qualified than the NYSSMA® score (or non-NYSSMA® score). Please fill in supporting commentary to explain.
- If students of like voice parts are selected based on Teacher Rank over NMEA Rank, it is the responsibility of the nominating teacher to support that decision with students/parents.
- Teachers are advised to recommend more than one student and represent a variety of voice parts.
- Selection for Mixed or Treble Chorus will be based on district and will rotate each year.

Band

Divisions 1 & 2

- Every teacher who is a member of NMEA and adheres to the nomination guidelines will have representation in an All-County organization, but not necessarily their first-choice student.
- List students in the order in which you feel they deserve to be selected into an All-County ensemble. Use the NMEA Ranking order unless you feel that a student is more qualified than the NYSSMA® score (or non-NYSSMA® score). Please fill in supporting commentary to explain.
- If students of like instruments are selected based on Teacher Rank over NMEA Rank, it is the responsibility of the nominating teacher to support that decision with students/parents.
- Teachers MUST nominate at least two students and represent a variety of instruments for consideration. **FLUTISTS, PERCUSSIONISTS AND ALTO SAXOPHONISTS CANNOT BE YOUR ONLY NOMINATION. If your nominations do not follow this guideline, you may not receive representation. Please reach out to your chairperson with any questions or concerns.**
- If a student is nominated on an instrument that does not match the instrument on the NYSSMA® sheet, the student may not be accepted. If the student had not participated in NYSSMA® on that instrument, please elaborate in the comment section.
- NYSSMA® Jazz solo forms **will not** be accepted for any application.
- Major ensemble teachers of multiple grade levels are guaranteed representation in only one division. (i.e.: Teaching grades 5-6 will have representation in Division 1 OR 2, but not necessarily both. Teaching grades 6-7 will have representation in Division 2 OR 3, but not necessarily both.)
- Students already selected into Jazz Band may constitute teacher representation.

Divisions 3, 4 & 5

- Every teacher who is a member of NMEA and adheres to the nomination guidelines will have representation in an All-County organization, but not necessarily their first-choice student.All-State participants and alternates will be accepted automatically; however, their names still must be submitted.
- Please use the NMEA Ranking order unless you feel that a student is more qualified than the NYSSMA® score (or non-NYSSMA® score). Please fill in supporting commentary to explain.
- If students of like instruments are selected based on Teacher Rank over NMEA Rank, it is the responsibility of the nominating teacher to support that decision with students/parents.
- Teachers MUST submit at least two names and represent a variety of instruments for consideration. **FLUTISTS, PERCUSSIONISTS, AND ALTO SAXOPHONISTS CANNOT BE YOUR ONLY NOMINATION. If your nominations do not follow this guideline, you may not receive representation. Please reach out to your chairperson with any questions or concerns.**
- If a student is nominated on an instrument that does not match the instrument on the NYSSMA® sheet, the student may not be selected. If the student had not participated in NYSSMA® on that instrument, please elaborate in the comment section.
- NYSSMA® Jazz solo forms will not be accepted for any application.
- Major ensemble teachers of multiple grade levels are guaranteed representation in only one division. (i.e.: Teaching grades 9-12 will have representation in Division 4 OR 5, but not necessarily both. Teaching grades 6-8 will have representation in Division 2 OR 3, but not necessarily both.
- Students already selected into Jazz Band may constitute teacher representation.

Orchestra

All Divisions

- Every teacher who is a member of NMEA and adheres to the nomination guidelines will have representation in an All-County organization, but not necessarily his/her first-choice student.
- All-State participants and alternates will be accepted automatically. However, their names still must be submitted.
- Please use the NMEA Ranking order unless you feel that a student is more qualified than the NYSSMA® score (or non-NYSSMA® score). Please fill in supporting commentary to explain.
- If students of like instruments are selected based on Teacher Rank over NMEA Rank, it is the responsibility of the nominating teacher to support that decision with students/parents.
- Teachers MUST submit at least two names and represent a variety of instruments for consideration.
- If a student is nominated on an instrument that does not match the instrument on the NYSSMA® sheet, the student may not be accepted. If the student had not participated in NYSSMA® on that instrument, please elaborate in the comment section.
- NYSSMA® Jazz solo forms will not be accepted for any application.
- Harp students will be considered for selection based on the instrumentation needs of the selected program.
- Major ensemble teachers of multiple grade levels are guaranteed representation in only one division. (i.e.: Teaching grades 9-12 will have representation in Division 4 OR 5, but not necessarily both. Teaching grades 6-8 will have representation in Division 2 OR 3, but not necessarily both. Teaching grades 5-6 will have representation in Division 1 OR 2, but not necessarily both.)
- Students already selected into Jazz Band may constitute teacher representation.
- Division 5 Only: Selection for Symphony or String Orchestra will be based on district and will rotate each year.

BAND, ORCHESTRA, CHORUS AND JAZZ SELECTIONS

Please be aware of the level of music played and choose students who will be able to perform at that level comfortably. We want every student to have a positive musical experience.

Division 1: equivalent to a NYSSMA® Majors level 1
Division 2: equivalent to a NYSSMA® Majors level 2/3
Division 3: equivalent to a NYSSMA® Majors level 3/4
Division 4: equivalent to a NYSSMA® Majors level 5/6
Division 5: equivalent to a NYSSMA® Majors level 6

NMEA RANKING

In an effort to encourage students to participate in the NYSSMA® Solo Evaluation Festival on the appropriate grade level and to strive for excellence, the following guidelines will be used for All-County selections.

NMEA RANKING

1.	*AS 6A+ 100*	***15.***	*All 6A 94*	***30.***	*4E 25*	***45.***	*3E 21*
2.	*AS 6A+ 99*	***16.***	*All 6A 93*	***31.***	*4E 24*	***46.***	*2E 25*
3.	*Non-AS 6A+ 100*	***17.***	*5A 96*	***32.***	*3O 28*	***47.***	*2E 24*
4.	*Non-AS 6A+ 99*	***18.***	*5A 95*	***33.***	*3O 27*	***48.***	*1O 28*
5.	*AS 6A+ 98*	***19.***	*All 6A- 92*	***34.***	*3O 26*	***49.***	*1O 27*
6.	*AS 6A+ 97*	***20.***	*All 6A- 91*	***35.***	*4E 23*	***50.***	*1O 26*
7.	*Non-AS 6A+ 98*	***21.***	*All 6A-90*	***36.***	*4E 22*	***51.***	*2E 23*
8.	*Non-AS 6A+ 97*	***22.***	*5A 94*	***37.***	*4E 21*	***52.***	*2E 22*
9.	*5A+ 100*	***23.***	*5A 93*	***38.***	*3E 25*	***53.***	*2E 21*
10.	*5A+ 99*	***24.***	*4O 28*	***39.***	*3E 24*	***54.***	*1E 25*
11.	*All 6A 96*	***25.***	*4O 27*	***40.***	*2O 28*	***55.***	*1E 24*
12.	*All 6A 95*	***26.***	*4O 26*	***41.***	*2O 27*	***56.***	*1E 23*
13.	*5A+ 98*	***27.***	*5A- 92*	***42.***	*2O 26*	***57.***	*1E 22*
14.	*5A+ 97*	***28.***	*5A- 91*	***43.***	*3E 23*	***58.***	*1E 21*
		29.	*5A- 90*	***44.***	*3E 22*		