

Band Division

Dear Colleagues,

We hope your first days back to school have been rewarding and successful and that you feel renewed for the upcoming year! We are looking forward to a very exciting year for the band division. The band division welcomes Timothy Rausenberger as the new co-chairperson. We are also welcoming Lewis Kelly and Todd Nichols as the new festival coordinators. Special thanks go to Christopher DeWilde, David Aulenbach, and Dawn Russo for their years of service to NJSMA.

NJSMA is pleased to announce the conductors for its 2010 honor bands. Dr. Adam Brennan from Mansfield University of Pennsylvania will conduct the High School Wind Ensemble, and Todd Nichols from Roxbury High School will conduct the High School Symphonic Band. Curt Ebersole from Northern Valley Regional High School at Old Tappan will conduct the Junior Band, and Gregory Mulford from Bergenfield Public Schools will conduct the Intermediate Band. The high school concert will be hosted by Randolph High School on Sunday, January 31, 2010 at 3:00 PM. The junior high concert will be on Sunday, March 7, 2010 at 3:00 PM at a location to be announced shortly. We hope to see you at one or both of these fabulous concerts.

This year the high school band and chorus concert will be held the same weekend due to scheduling conflicts later in the year. Unfortunately this means that students will not be able to participate in both band and chorus, they will have to choose one or the other. ***This is for high school only.*** There is a place on the band application to select the preference. Please double check that your students fill out this section.

The high school festival will be held on March 16, 17, and 18, 2010. We will be implementing a day-time performance opportunity on Wednesday pending interest. The junior high festival will take place on May 6, 2010. Please check the web site for updated information and registration forms.

This year we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the All North Jersey Region I Junior High School Concert. The concert will include a world premiere commission by renowned composer Michael Colgrass. Please see the reverse side of this letter for more information.

It has been brought to our attention that several NJSMA members would like to see a percussion ensemble instituted at the region level. Region II and Region III currently have select percussion ensembles performing as part of their region. We would like to have a meeting for anyone interested in voicing their comments, suggestions, and concerns about such an ensemble. This meeting will be held at Randolph High School on Monday, November 23, 2009 at 7:00 PM. Please consider attending.

All audition, festival and concert information can be found online at the region website, www.njsma.com. We look forward to working with you this year. If you would like to get more involved with the organization, there are many opportunities available. We are always looking for schools to host rehearsals, concerts and festivals in addition to individuals to conduct, manage, and volunteer for the many different jobs that need to be accomplished on a yearly basis. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Timothy Rausenberger
Band Division Co-Chair
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Band Division Co-Chair
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NJSMA Band Division
50th Anniversary All North Jersey Region I Junior High School Concert
Commissioned Composition Consortium
Michael Colgrass, composer

NJSMA is commissioning Michael Colgrass to write a composition in honor of the 50th Anniversary All North Jersey Region I Junior High School Concert. This work, which will be performed by the Junior Band, will have its world premiere at the Concert on March 7, 2010. The Junior Band will be conducted by Mr. Curt Ebersole from Northern Valley Regional High School at Old Tappan. The ensemble will interact with Mr. Colgrass in a live video conference in one of their rehearsals. This should prove to be an exciting musical and learning experience for all involved, especially the students in the Junior Band.

We would like to extend the opportunity to be involved in the commission process to any NJSMA member or organization within the region. To that end, NJSMA will be creating a consortium to help defray the cost of the commission. We will be listing all contributors and consortium members in the program. Those members/organizations who contribute a minimum of \$250.00 will receive a complete copy of the score and parts and unlimited performance rights for their ensemble.

If you are interested in contributing to the consortium please fill out the form below. All music will be emailed to contributors after the concert date. All contributions are tax deductible. Please feel free to contact Matthew Spatz at 973-376-3600, ext. 311 or m spatz@njsma.com if you have any questions. We hope to see you at the concert!

----- cut on dotted line -----

NJSMA Colgrass Consortium Contributor Form

Name (as it should appear in the program): _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____ Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Checks payable to: NJSMA

Send Completed Form and Check to: Matthew Spatz
Millburn High School
462 Millburn Ave
Millburn, NJ 07041