



# North Jersey School Music Association

Region I of the New Jersey Music Educators Association

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## Orchestra Division

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to what will be a great year! We are pleased to announce our conductors for this year. Patrick Burns, Director of the Symphony of Winds and Percussion at New Jersey City State University, adjunct teacher of theory, composition and orchestration at Montclair State University *and* instrumental teacher in the Caldwell-West Caldwell School District, will conduct the 2012 HS Orchestra. Kristen Ciambrone, from the Frelinghuysen MS in Morristown, a veteran manager of two years, will return again. Our guest conductor for the Junior HS Orchestra will be Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Music Director of the Empire State Youth Orchestra and a professional organist. Kim Chiesa, from the Randolph Township School District, another seasoned manager, will also be back.

**HOSTS:** Our long-time colleague in Region I, Eric Schaberg, has again volunteered to host at Randolph HS for the first three high school rehearsals. For the second year in a row, Todd Urban has agreed to host the junior high orchestra rehearsals at Eisenhower MS in Wyckoff. As for the concert weekend locations, we hope to return to Sparta HS and West Essex MS.

**CHORUS CONFLICT:** Again this year, the high school orchestra and chorus rehearsals have scheduling conflicts. Unfortunately, this means that students will not be able to participate in both orchestra and chorus. Students will have to choose either orchestra or chorus. **This is for high school only.** There is a place on the orchestra application to select the preference. Please double check that your students fill out this section.

**NEW** at both the high school and junior high levels: a re-seating audition on the orchestra music will take place during the second rehearsal for each group. Both the initial score and the re-seating score will be combined for final seating.

**FESTIVAL:** We would like to invite you and your ensemble to participate in the annual Region Orchestra Festival which takes place at Millburn HS, hosted by Karen Conrad. This is an *excellent* venue for stage performance and a wonderful opportunity to receive invaluable insight on improving performance from accomplished adjudicators. Sandra Dackow and Jeff Grogan were the guest clinicians last year and gave recorded feedback to each participating group. They also had a chance to work with each group and as a result, musical interpretation and performance ability moved to a higher level. The festival date for this year is May 24, 2012. An application is available on the region website. We are looking to increase the number of high school orchestras in attendance this year. This is a great opportunity for directors and students alike to meet prominent string educators in our tri-state area. Try it, *you'll love it!!!*

**Finally**, thank you to Nate Lienhard who has joined the Orchestra Division as a co-chair. He has added a lot of great ideas and opinions as we strive to make our region the best it can be! Cross your fingers for no snow delays this year!

### Mark your calendars!

February 12, 2012 - Region I HS Orchestra Concert, 3:00 PM (site to be announced)

March 4, 2012 - Region I Junior HS Orchestra Concert, 3:00 PM (site to be announced)

May 24, 2012 – Region Orchestra Festival at Millburn High School

*See you at auditions!*

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