



# North Jersey School Music Association

Region I of the New Jersey Music Educators Association

[www.NJSMA.com](http://www.NJSMA.com)

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Dear colleagues,

I hope this mailing finds you all well and enjoying a successful start to your 2013-2014 school year. This mailing, which is the only US mail item you will receive this year, has been sent to music teachers in all schools from the seven counties of North Jersey that make up the NJSMA territory. You are encouraged to participate in our activities with only one prerequisite – that you join our organization. Membership includes the national group, the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), the state group, the New Jersey Music Educators Association, and the region group, the North Jersey School Music Association. By virtue of our organization title, we support participation in your school music ensembles. Student involvement is determined by their participation in your ensembles and of course, your sponsorship, but all this is contingent upon your membership. If you have not already renewed your membership for this school year please do so as soon as possible.

Included in this mailing is a newsletter page from each division (elementary on the back of this letter), detailing many of the exciting offerings we have planned for you and your students this year. From our festivals to our many prestigious auditioned honors ensembles, our goal is to bring the finest musical experiences in New Jersey to you and your students. We are fortunate to have the strongest and most active music programs in the state in our region and the board and I stand ready to partner with you in any way we can to continue to provide our students with lifelong and life lasting musical experiences.

I would also like to take a moment to mention our board and note some changes that took effect at our reorganization meeting in June. First, we thank Mike Kallimanis for his years of dedicated service to the NJSMA Presidency and are happy to have him as past President and orchestra audition chair. We welcome Russ Batsch, band director at Madison High School, as our new President-Elect. We also welcome Irene Lahr from the Mahwah school district, who will be assisting Austin Vallies as choral division co-chair. We bid farewell to Nate Lienhard who stepped down from the Orchestra division and, we thank him for his service to the region. We are currently looking for a second orchestra division chair to assist Mike Holak, so if you are interested in assisting in this capacity please contact anyone on the board.

From this point on all other communications will be made on the region website and/or by e-mail. Also, if you do not receive *TEMPO EXPRESS* e-mail notices from the NJMEA State Board, then you are not on their e-mail list. The e-mail you supplied when you first became a NAfME member is the e-mail that is used. To add or change your e-mail, or sign-up, contact NAfME headquarters at 1-800-828-0229. Their website is [www.NAfME.org](http://www.NAfME.org).

Please take a moment to mark your calendars for our honor ensemble auditions this year. The high school auditions on Saturday, January 4, 2014 at Paramus High School, and the junior region auditions will take place on Saturday February 1, 2014 at Clifton High School. We look forward to another tremendous year as we bring together the finest student musicians in New Jersey with world-class conductors and educators to make some of the greatest music in our state.

On behalf of the board I wish you all great success for this school year. Be sure to visit our website often for updates, further information on all of our activities and contact information for the organization officers. Please feel free to contact me at any time if there is anything I can do help or if you have question about any of the region's events this year.

Sincerely,

Peter F. Bauer, President  
North Jersey School Music