



North Jersey School Music Association

Region I of the New Jersey Music Educators Association

www.NJSMA.com

Dear colleagues,

I hope you are well and enjoying a successful start to your 2014-2015 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 region. 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, 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 detailing many of the exciting offerings we have planned for you and your students this year. From our prestigious honors ensembles to our many festivals, 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 some executive board changes that took effect at our reorganization meeting in June. First, we bid a formal farewell to Gary Quam, who served the region and the NJSMA board for decades, and thank him for his years of selfless service. We welcomed Bonnie Hendricks as she began her full two-year tenure as NJSMA treasurer, and thank her for filling the unexpired term from last year. We also welcome Michael Saias who is repeating in the position of Corresponding Secretary and also assumed the responsibilities of publicity for our region. We are still looking for a second orchestra division chair and renamed our elementary division to Classroom Music. If you are interested in filling either of these positions please contact anyone on the board – we would love to work with you. Lastly, at the end of this year we will be seeking candidates for President-Elect and Recording Secretary, so if you are interested in running for this position please contact any member of 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. Be on the lookout for our new “Round the Regions” reports in your email, one new way we’re looking to keep on touch with everyone throughout the school year.

Please take a moment to mark your calendars for our honor ensemble auditions this year. The high school auditions on Saturday, January 10, 2015 at Paramus High School, and the junior region auditions will take place on Saturday February 7, 2015 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. Please look for our new online application process that we anticipate going “live” at the beginning of October!

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 Association