

**New York City Wide Honors High School
Music Festival
A MEANYC, NYC Department of Education Partnership**

Save The Date: March 7th and 8th 2014.

The New York City Wide Honors High School Music Festival will take place at the Grand Street Campus High School

The talented music educators who have been engaged for this event are:

Chorus: Jana Ballard, LaGuardia High School

String Orchestra: Dr. Susan Davis, Brooklyn College, (CUNY)

Symphonic Band: Dr. Raymond Wheeler, Stuyvesant High School.

Instrumental Jazz Ensemble: Dr. Tom Zlabinger (York College, CUNY)

For the second year, your students will have the opportunity to explore challenging repertoire beyond the scope and ability of their schools' ensembles. The social opportunity this event provided for students and the brilliant performances at last years festival had students asking when the festival would be this year as soon as they left the stage.

Seniors may use their participation in the NYC High School Music Festival as one of the two required outside performances for the Department of Education Commencement Exam in Music.

High School directors are asked to recruit students who can learn and perform repertoire at NYSSMA Level 5

and, for all ensembles except string orchestra whose members can be at level 4 and above.

Nomination forms will be sent to you near the first of the year. The deadline for sending these back to me is anticipated as being January 15th 2014.

High School Directors will be notified which of their students have been selected and will receive their students music and ticket order forms for distribution about February 1st. Last year, many of you joined us to support your students, help out and observe the rehearsal techniques of the festival conductors and have the opportunity to break bread with your professional friends, old and new. We will continue to sponsor a hospitality room during the dinner break on Friday and the lunch break on Saturday.

Participants will arrive for rehearsal on Friday March 7th at 4 PM and rehearse until 9 P.M. Rehearsals will resume at 9 AM on Saturday. The performance will commence at 2:30 PM. Students will remain in the building at all times.

It is not too soon to get your students excited about taking part in the first of what we hope to be an annual event!

Suggestions, questions, ideas and best of all offers of assistance are welcome.

Please e mail me at Zone12@NYSSMA.org

**Michael Pitt
NYSSMA Zone 12 representative**

