

Niagara County Music Educators' Association

A County Unit of the New York State School Music Association

Participation Policy (Approved by Executive Council, May 1, 2002)

1. School District Participation: All public and private schools in Niagara County are eligible to participate as members of NCMEA. Districts wishing to participate will complete a registration form and submit it to the treasurer of NCMEA with the appropriate fee. See attached form and fee schedule.

2. Teacher Participation: Music teachers (school and studio) are invited to become members of NCMEA. A completed application and membership fee should be submitted to the Vice President for Membership. See attached membership application.

3. Student Participation: All students participating in NCMEA festivals must be enrolled as a full-time student in a Niagara county school district that is a participating member of NCMEA. A participant must be a participating member of his or her corresponding school music organization at the time of the audition, teacher recommendation, or NCMEA activity. Specifically:

- a. An All-County Choral applicant must be a member of his/her school chorus where such chorus exists.
- b. An All-County String applicant must be a member of his/her school orchestra where such orchestra exists.
- c. An All-County Band applicant must be a member of his/her school band where such band exists.

Participation is defined as a minimum of 50% attendance and practice at in-school rehearsals where such rehearsals are offered and at all concert performances with this same organization.

4. Exceptions or variances regarding district, teacher and/or student participation must be approved by the Executive Board of NCMEA prior to participation in the NCMEA sponsored activity.

5. As a county unit of NYSSMA, the Executive Board and membership of NCMEA will adhere to and follow the policies of NYSSMA as they pertain to student participation in sponsored activities.

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As of 2/13/02/, the following procedures/practices are being followed by NCMEA as a result of prior Executive Board rulings:

1. String students from the Akron School district are allowed to participate in the all-county orchestra programs sponsored by NCMEA. Approval to do so was based on the fact that part of the Akron school district is in Niagara County and that there are few string programs in Niagara County. Participating students will pay an additional \$1 participation fee ($\$4 + 1 = \5).

2. By Executive Board action on 5/1/02, string students from the Batavia City School District will also pay a \$5 participation fee. String students from Batavia were invited to participate in the 2002 festivals, and their continued participation will be reviewed by the Executive Board in October, 2002.