To: Students of Band & Chorus

From: Ms. Roswell & Ms. White

Re: NYSSMA Solo Festival

New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Solo Festival will be held at Boyton Middle School in Ithaca on **Fri May 3rd and Sat May 4th, 2019**. The festival is a sanctioned event which rates students by standards set by NYSSMA. It is expected that students who choose to go to the festival will attend lessons and scheduled practices regularly so they will be well-prepared.

**What happens at the festival?**

 At the NYSSMA solo festival, students will present the solo(s) they have been studying in their small group lessons for a judge. This judge is a music teacher like Ms. Roswell or Ms. White- they want to support you! They listen and evaluate students on several categories such as rhythm, pitch, tone, interpretation, and sight-reading. Ms. White or Ms. Saroka will play the accompaniment for vocal solos and instrumental solos will be unaccompanied.

 **How do I sign up?**

 Please inform Ms. Roswell and/or Ms. White by **FRI 2/1** if you are interested. You may choose to perform a vocal AND an instrumental solo if you wish. Each solo does have a fee, however.

**Payment will be due THURS 3/1**.

 Levels 1-4 (Usually grades 6-9): $16

 Level 5 (Usually grades 9-12): $24

 Level 6 (Usually grades 10-12): $30

This fee is *nonrefundable*. (*If you fail to participate after registering, you will not get your money back*.) If you plan to perform both a vocal and instrumental solo, the GVPA will pay for one of them.

Instrumentalists: when you bring in your registration fee, we will order your solo music for you.  **Due to strict adherence to copyright laws, students with photocopied music are not allowed to perform.** We will provide the students with a copy for the judge to use. It is heart breaking when students are not allowed to perform because they have illegal music.

Agreement forms and registration fees are due by Friday, March 1st, 2019. **Make checks payable to Groton Visual and Performing Arts Boosters (GVPA).** Please put your money in a clearly marked envelope.

***You will be responsible for transportation. Please inform us if this is an issue.***

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I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have agreed to accept the privilege and challenge of participating the solo festival. My parents and I understand that I am only competing against myself. Along with this slip is $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for solo fees.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please circle: Vocal Solo Instrumental Solo Both

Please circle preferred performance time:

**Friday May 3rd**: 4-6pm 7-9pm

**Saturday May 4th**: 9-10:30am 10:30-12pm 1-2:30pm 2:30-4pm