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# PRESS RELEASE: All-Eastern Honor Ensembles

## January 20th, 2021

Congratulations to 719 of the finest high school musicians from Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont for their acceptance into the NAFME 2021 All-Eastern Honor Ensembles.

These musicians were selected from 1150 All-State applicants and ranked by their state presidents to fill five ensembles. The Orchestra (165), Symphonic Band (146), Mixed Chorus (270), Treble Chorus (120) and Jazz Ensemble (18), will be participating in a "Virtual Weekend" experience March 4-6, 2021 that will include keynote speakers, masterclasses with professional musicians, rehearsals with their conductors as well as opportunities to learn and network with colleges and universities of various types and participate in mock auditions.

This non-traditional and unique experience will be very different from the in-person rehearsals and concert that have, in the past, coincided NAFME Eastern Division biennial conference. This year, students will individually record their performance from home led by a virtual performance of their conductor. The recordings will be edited together to produce a virtual ensemble for the concert performance. The concert will be premiered on April 23rd at 8:30pm during the designated concert hour at the 57th NAFME Eastern Division Virtual In-Service Conference.

This year's conductors are:

- Band: Dr. Cynthia Johnston Turner from the University of Georgia
- Orchestra: Dr. James Tapia, Syracuse University
- Mixed Chorus: Dr. Cory Ganschow, Bradley University
- Treble Chorus: Dr. Amanda Quist, University of Miami
- Jazz Ensemble: Terell Stafford, Temple University



The NAFME Eastern Division is excited about this new experience for our students and hopes that they enjoy all that is being planned. A special thank you goes to Dennis Emert (PA) our BOCJ All-Eastern Manager and to Sue Barre (ME) our overall BOCJ Coordinator. In addition, we thank our individual Ensemble Managers for all their service and dedication.

- David Neves (RI), Band
- Colin Wheatly (ME), Orchestra
- Rebecca Sensor (PA), Treble Chorus
- Ruthann Pyle (DE), Mixed Chorus
- Clint Williams (DE), Mixed Chorus
- Robert Traough (PA), Jazz Ensemble

  
Keith W. Hodgson  
Eastern Division President