RIMEA Coronavirus Statement: All-State Festival

March 11, 2020

Dear Educators, Parents and Students,

The Rhode Island Music Education Association (RIMEA) has continued to monitor developments regarding the spread of novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). We have been in contact with the Rhode Island Department of Health, the National Association of Music Education and other groups in our state. We know the seriousness of the situation and requested a directive from the Department of Health. That was given today.

Because the health of our students and community comes first, RIMEA will be canceling All-State weekend. This includes the rehearsals on Friday and Saturday and the concerts on Sunday. It pains us to cancel our most celebrated week of the year, but we will not question the Department of Health’s directive regarding social distancing.

Students are welcome to keep their music and All-State t-shirts that were given out during the last rehearsal. (Elementary All-State students, RIMEA will get your shirts to your sponsors.) Elementary Chorus was the only group to presell tickets and we will be in contact about ticket refunds. The Jr. Jazz and Sr. Jazz concert, scheduled for TONIGHT, will be rescheduled at a later date. Additionally, Sr. Jazz is playing again at Newport Jazz Festival this summer.

One of the traits that is so special about Rhode Island is that we are all connected by two (rather than six) degrees of separation. Making music together has unified our communities in such a positive way. Please take care of yourself, your family and your neighbor as we struggle through this health crisis together.

Respectfully,

Toni-Annette Silveira

President, Rhode Island Music Education Association