



# New Mexico Music Educators Association

## Award of Distinction & Certificate of Recognition

An award and presentation to be made annually to an outstanding school district, who has demonstrated support for and commitment to high-quality music education programs district wide. The priority such a district places on music education is a major factor in the quality of programs within that district. One school district may be selected to receive the Award of Distinction however multiple Certificate of Recognition awards may be given each year. Districts receiving these awards will be notified by NMMEA and a presentation honoring them will take place at the NMMEA general membership meeting.

All candidates should apply for the Award of Distinction, the review committee will determine if the district is eligible for the Award of Distinction. In the event that the committee doesn't feel the district is to be awarded this award, they can opt to award the certificate of recognition.

### **Selection of the NMMEA Committee will be based on the following criteria:**

- District must have exemplary music programs
- Music must be offered at all levels (elementary, middle school and high school)
- Multiple music disciplines must be present (band, choir, orchestra, guitar and etc)
- A financial commitment to music programs must be demonstrated in the district
- Districts creating the highest level of supportive environment will be awarded the *Award of Distinction* while districts that are supportive but not to the fullest degree will be awarded the **Certificate of Recognition**

### **Nominators must submit the following for each school district nominated:**

- Completed award of recognition nomination form verified and signed by the nominator;
- Accurate and current contact information including address, phone numbers and email for the superintendent of the district;
- Exactly two letters of support both from music education faculty within the district;
- Name and address of the district's local newspaper, television and radio station where applicable;
- Addition support materials such as press clippings, if available.

### **Procedures for Nomination of Award of Distinction**

- District NMMEA organizations at a regular spring meeting of its membership may nominate a school district from their area.

- Each District President will appoint a three member committee from the District membership to screen and recommend that District's nomination.
- Each NMMEA District upon determination of the candidate for the Award of Recognition will instruct the committee to prepare the nomination form supporting the district's nomination. The District President will forward six (6) copies of the nomination form, six (6) copies of the letters of recommendation, one (1) copy of the names and addresses of local newspapers and (1) copy of other media for publication purposes to the members of the selection committee, which consists of the five NMMEA Vice Presidents, President, and past President no later than July 1, each year. All material should be assembled in three-ring binders, no larger than ½" thick, or in "flexible binders" only.
- A standing committee for final selection will be composed of the five NMMEA vice-presidents and the immediate NMMEA Past President, who will serve as selection committee chairman. The committee will make the final selection and announce the name of the recipient to the NMMEA Board of Director's at its summer meeting.
- The State Selection Committee will select one recipient per calendar year for this award.

### **The Award:**

- A traveling plaque engraved with each district having received the award.
- Publication of district's name and appropriate recognition will be made in the winter issue of the *NEW MEXICO MUSICIAN*.
- Public recognition will be made by presenting the award to a district representative at the annual All-State general membership meeting. Lunch for one representative and spouse will be at NMMEA expense.
- Publication of the district's name will be included in the official All-State Music Festival and In-Service Conference program for at least ten years.