The NJMEA Board of Directors has initiated a Distinguished Service Award for those members who have honored themselves with faithful service to music education in public, private, and parochial schools of New Jersey. Past and present members of the NJMEA Board of Directors are also eligible for the DSA since they have dedicated much time and effort toward State projects related to music education. The third and fourth DSA categories include individuals and organizations outside the field of Professional Music Education and NAfME officers on both the National and Regional level.

The final decision on DSA recipients will be made at the November meeting of the NJMEA Board of Directors. The criteria below should be carefully read and studied to insure maximum consideration by the DSA Committee.

**CRITERIA FOR SELECTION**

**Recipients Can Be Nominated From Any One Of These Categories**

1. Members who have accumulated a total of 25 years in the service of Music Education and have distinguished themselves through service to the regions and/or NJMEA. Eighty percent of the years must represent full time service in the schools of New Jersey. The member does not have to be currently active as a teacher.

2. Members who have ten years of meritorious service and outstanding leadership in Music Education as a member of the NJMEA State Board of Directors. It is not necessary to have accumulated these years in a continuous sequence.

3. Individuals and organizations outside the field of Professional Music Education in recognition of their service to Music Education.

4. National and Regional NAfME elected officials who have initiated programs and projects that have benefited our state members and Music Education on a national and regional level.

**Eligibility:** Any member, person or group who has not previously received the award.

**Nominations:** The nomination plus required data must be submitted by an NJMEA member. The nomination is then endorsed by the DSA Committee and presented for acceptance to the NJMEA Board. However, the NJMEA Board may recommend or authorize the award if no nomination forms have been received from the membership by the DSA Committee. This board authorization must receive a 70% majority vote of the board membership.

**Number:** DSA Committee discretion (to be decided annually)

**Presentation:** To the recipients by the NJMEA President or his or her designee at a mutually agreeable occasion such as the annual state workshop/conference, region meetings, region concerts or festivals, local concerts, and retirement affairs.

**ESSENTIAL DATA**

The Following Information MUST Be Included:

Nominee's Name: ___________________________________ Title/Position: __________________________________________________

Telephone: ________________________________________ Home Address: # & Street _________________________________________

City/Town: ________________________________________ State & Zip: ____________________________________________________

Application must be postmarked by October 15th

Please provide the following information on separate sheets in the listed sequence.

1. This application
2. Name, address, phone and affiliation of nominee or group.
3. Name, address, phone of nominator.
4. Attach a vita for the nominee or group that is as complete as possible.
5. Summarize the achievements, contributions, or service on which the proposed award would be based. Include any evidence that the nominee or group would be receptive to such an award.

Please send two copies of these materials to:

NJMEA
1806 HWY 35
Suite 201
Oakhurst, NJ 07755