2020 NJMEA Music Technology Expo

Bring your students to a memorable live event, and showcase their creative accomplishments making music with technology! The New Jersey Music Educators Association will be sponsoring the 10th Annual Student Music Technology Expo and Competition in three locations! Expo North will be held Wednesday, May 20, 2019, 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM at Montclair State University, Expo Central will be held on Monday, May 18, 9:00 – 1:30 PM at Rutgers University, and Expo South will be on Tuesday, May 19, 2019, 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM at Rowan University. Music teachers and students in grades 3-12 are invited to this live event featuring hands-on workshops and performances.

“Science fair” style exhibits will showcase student compositions, remixes, multimedia, and applied technology projects. Projects submitted in advance for adjudication will be evaluated using a festival rating scale (gold, silver, bronze). The day will include an on-site ‘live’ production contest and ‘student choice award.’ Students will have opportunity for hands-on workshops with tech gear. Electronic/alternative ensembles are invited to perform.

All participants should bring their own lunch and headsets/earbuds.

Teachers should follow their school district policies for field trip approvals and chaperone requirements. (Chaperones are admitted to the Expo at no additional cost.) Student attendance per district may be capped based on registrations.

Registration will open on January 2, 2020. (email njmeatechexpo@gmail.com to ensure that you are in the communication loop)

Project Categories for Adjudication:

Please note that projects must represent the work of individuals or groups no larger than 4 students.

1-Original Compositions created using technology including works for traditional and/or electronic instruments. Compositions should prominently illustrate creative use of technology. Projects incorporating use of prerecorded loops will not be considered in this category. All compositions, including those intended for live performance, should be rendered or synthesized in some digital manner (MP3, CD, laptop) as there will be no space provided for live performance.

2-Covers, Remixes & Loop-Based Projects including arrangements/recordings of pre-existing songs, song samples and projects incorporating a combination of original material and prerecorded loops. Projects should demonstrate originality in musical choices and creative use of technology. All projects should be rendered or synthesized in some digital manner (MP3, CD, laptop) as there will be no space provided for live performance.

3-Multimedia works demonstrating the convergence of music with more than one discipline, which may include art/photography, video, broadcast journalism, digital storytelling and so on. Works need not be original compositions, but should reflect creative use of technology.

4-Applied Technology encompasses distinctive projects that utilize technology for a specific purpose. Works may include the creation of new electronic musical instruments, interactive music systems,
software projects to aid in composition, performance, and music instruction, and more. Projects should be self-contained for a simple demonstration. Submission must include a brief description of the design/development process and relevant photos or video.

5-Production/Engineering Students entering this category will demonstrate their skills in production or engineering created within a digital audio workstation (DAW). Students will be provided prerecorded tracks for a recording in advance of the Expo, and work must be completed and submitted by the deadline provided. Individuals and teams of up to 4 students may enter this category.

Participation Requirements:

- Sponsoring teacher must be a current NJMEA/NAfME member
- School participation fee ($30)
- Registration cost per student ($10)
- Per project application cost ($10)

TIMELINE:

January 6 Online registration begins. Preliminary registration will include an estimated number of students attending and anticipated number/type of projects to be entered.

March 23 Registration deadline. **Hard-copy registration forms including principal/supervisor signature must be postmarked by this date.** Confirmation and instructions for project submission will be sent after this preliminary registration. Project submission instructions will be sent.

March 30 **Project submissions begin.** Confirmation of finalized number of students attending and projects to be submitted. Invoices will be sent to each teacher electronically based on these finalized numbers so that attendees can bring a school check to the event they are attending (Expo Central on May 18, Expo South on May 19, or Expo North on May 20) or arrange for payment by purchase order.

April 22 **Project submission deadline for categories 1-4.** Instructions for Production/Engineering will be provided to schools entering this category.

April 30 Production/Engineering submissions due.

May 18 Expo Central at Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University

May 19 Expo South at Wilson Hall, Rowan University

May 20 Expo North at Cali School of Music, Montclair State University

The first-ever Student Music Tech Expo was held on March 15, 2011. The idea for the Expo emerged from a brainstorming session held during an in-service for music technology teachers held on October 12, 2009. The goal was to provide a venue to showcase students' creativity and accomplishments, starting with the premise of a "music tech science fair."

For additional information, please contact: Dr. Andrew Lesser, NJMEA Technology Chair

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NJMEA is a 501c3 non-profit educational organization dedicated to the advancement of music instruction, and is an affiliate of NAfME.

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