



### Joshua Mercer Selected As An Alternate

## Rachel George Will Participate In All-State Conference

Newark High School senior Rachel George has been selected to virtually participate in the New York State School Music Association's (NYSSMA) All-State Conference later this year.

George, who has been playing the French horn since she was in fourth grade, recently learned she was selected to participate as second chair in the Wind Ensemble based on her near perfect 99 score at the NYSSMA spring solo festival when she was a sophomore.

The solo festival was not held last spring because of the COVID-19 shutdown.

*"I'm excited and I'm happy there is still an opportunity to do this virtually. It's great that we have music in our lives."*

NHS senior Joshua Mercer, a percussionist, was selected as an alternate based on his 98 score on a snare drum at the NYSSMA spring solo festival when he was a sophomore.

*"I am so happy that these wonderful students have a chance, albeit atypical, to perform in this honored festival," said NHS instrumental music teacher Bob Humphrey. "It's so important to find a way to keep music in their lives, and we are thankful to NYSSMA for arranging a way they can participate and be celebrated."*

George, who also plays piano, participates this year in the Newark High School Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band and Brass Quartet, directed by Humphrey and the NHS Mixed Choir directed by NHS Vocal Music teacher Kate Flock.

Mercer is a member of Jazz Band, Marching Band, Wind Ensemble and *"Downbeat."*

This summer George and Mercer played in the Newark Park Band and the Seneca Falls Community Band.

