

President's Message

Welcome to summer and the 2019-2020 term of NYSSMA!!!

Our 60th annual diamond anniversary NYSSMA Convention offered opportunities to earn 12.5 CEUs and network with colleagues, educators, students and potential employers throughout New York State, while conducting the business of the organization at our General Assembly and making time for fun and fellowship at our "Buffalo Style" Tailgate Party.

I have been a member of this organization since 2001 and have had the opportunity to meet and network with medical assistants and medical assisting educators from various parts of New York State and across the country. I thank my predecessors for the paving my path, providing direction and imparting invaluable advice. I am grateful for these friendships and inter-professional relationships. Some of these people have served as mentors to me over the years and have encouraged me to take a more active role in NYSSMA. Because of their dedication, guidance, and support, I have served in several positions in the State Society and my local Chapter, and it is my sincere pleasure to serve as NYSSMA President again this year.

As an educator, I am a life-long learner and my involvement with this Society has helped me to grow as a medical assistant, a professional, and more importantly, as a person. I encourage each of you to assume a more active role in the NYSSMA, and share with colleagues and coworkers, the excitement that invigorates us at each Convention. With your help, together, we will build a stronger society that can benefit us all for years to come.

We each own our page in history and our actions, words, and deeds become a composition, of sorts, for others. NYSSMA has afforded me the opportunity to become part of something larger than myself, give back to a community that has helped shape who I am, do meaningful work and make a difference in the lives of the people I meet—students, patients and especially the members of this Society. Medical Assisting has become more than what I do and what I teach—It is who I am, and I hope to leave a lasting impression that casts the New York State Society in a positive light for generations to come.

The NYSSMA continuously provides opportunities to welcome new leadership. If your heart is moved to do so, please consider serving as an officer, committee chair and/or committee member— yours are the hands that help conduct the business of this Society and ensure that things run smoothly.

Over the course of the coming year I would like to do more than merely prepare agendas, take notes and address committees—I want to be remembered for listening to, hearing and respecting the views of the members of NYSSMA in an environment of cooperation and productivity, generating the best possible outcomes for this Society and the Medical Assisting profession. Hopefully, the page I leave is one that inspires others to reach out to a new future with hope and optimism.

Warm regards,

B. David Sylvia, BBA, CMA (AAMA)
NYSSMA President