



Eastern Region Newsletter

Winter 2016

2016 Eastern Region Conference and Student Auditions

March 11-13, 2016

Hosted by John J. Cali School of Music, Montclair State University

Dr. Lori McCann – Eastern Region Governor

Dr. Jan Prokop – Conference Chair

Dr. Steven Ng – Auditions Chair

Please visit www.easternregionnats.com/conference.htm for complete information on the 2016 conference.

National Student Auditions

Many of you and your students will be taking advantage of this performance and learning opportunity. Adjudicated auditions are at the heart of what we do at NATS. Winners at the regional level are invited to participate in the National Student Auditions (NSA), which will be held at the National Conference in Chicago, July 8-12, 2016. Semi-Final and Final rounds will be held July 9 and 10.

This year we have a new category, the Hall Johnson Spiritual Category which has been made available through a very generous donation to NATS from the Hall Johnson Estate. The best performance of a Hall Johnson spiritual at the National Finals in July will earn a \$2000 prize. To advance to the finals, contestants must first place at the Regional Auditions. (for more information on the NSA please visit:

http://www.nats.org/national_student_auditions.html)

Chapter News - What's going on around the Region?

Greater Philadelphia

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter Inaugural Student Auditions took place on November 1, 2015 at Temple University in Philadelphia.

We hosted 65 students from 14 of our Greater Philadelphia NATS member's studios who competed in 10 categories for \$1350.00 in prizes. The day began at noon and finished with an Honors Concert at 6 p.m. in Rock Hall Auditorium. Throughout the day, Temple's professors and students provided a number of extra activities for the auditioning students and their parents. This included a lecture on developing voices K-12 with Music Education's Dr. Elizabeth Cassidy Parker, a pop up concert with performances from our Voice and Opera, Theater, Choirs, and Jazz departments and an opera scene masterclass with Valery Ryvkin and Brandon McShaffrey. Throughout the day Temple, Penn State, USciences, and West Chester University provided recruiting tables with information about their programs.

We have also launched our new SNATS chapter under the mentoring of Dr. Lawrence Indik, one of our board members and faculty member at Temple.

On January 10, 2016 we were pleased to present a master class with Peggy Barody on the challenges of teaching the aging voice.

We are proud to report these accomplishments to you in this, our first official year, after a five-year hiatus. It would not have been possible to accomplish what we have without the dedication of our officers and board: Stephen Ng, Vice President, Nancy Jantsch (Sec/Treas.), Kim Robson, Lawrence Indik, Patricia Vigil, Desmond Moulton, Angie Felliciano, and Katherine Mallon-Day. We are truly fortunate to be starting out with such a talented and serious group of people, who I know are dedicated to the art of teaching and the mission of NATS.

Lehigh Valley

The annual Fall workshop took place on Sunday, November 8, 2015 at Moravian College and featured Joan Barber, who presented a master class entitled "Using All of Your Singer/Actor Modes of Expression in Communicating a Song." A "Mix and Mingle" session was held afterward for chapter members.

The annual Student Auditions will take place on Saturday, February 13, 2016 at Moravian College. The event has grown to include over 100 students, and will also feature a master class on Alexander Technique with Ariel Weiss.

The chapter's annual Gala Recital originated in 2010 with the purpose of giving performance-ready high school and college age students the opportunity to perform in a non-competitive formal setting. Repertoire for the event includes art song and musical theatre. The recital will take place on Sunday, March 20, 2016 at 2:30 pm at Moravian College.

National Capital Region

The National Capital Region will be holding its 24th Annual Student Auditions (formerly known as The Student Vocal Festival), February 19-21, 2016. All events will take place at the University of Ottawa. They will be held at the School of Music, Pérez Building. The winner's concert will take place on Sunday, February 21st at 2 pm in Tabaret Hall, 550 Cumberland Street. For further details, please visit our website at www.natsottawa.com.

New Jersey

On Saturday, October 17 2015, the New Jersey Chapter hosted its annual Doris Lenz Festival for High School Students at Red Bank Regional High School. Ninety-three high school-aged singers participated in both Classical and Music Theater Divisions, adjudicated by twenty-two of our teacher-members. The young singers were invited to participate in a master class presented by baritone Sean McCarther, and attend Kathy Kessler Price's fascinating presentation on Vocal Anatomy and Health. Students were also able to hear Sean McCarther in performance present a recital of 20th Century American song.



Doris Lenz Festival Winners

New York City

NATS-NYC opened our season with our Second Annual “Meet and Greet” on September 18th. The topic was “Technology and the 21st Century Voice Studio”. We were pleased to welcome David Sabella, internationally recognized voice teacher and David Sisco (winner of the 2010 NATS Composition Competition) as presenters.

Our very successful Student Auditions were held on Sunday, November 22nd at Teachers College Columbia University.

As many of you know, NATS-NYC was planning on launching our first Teacher Mentoring Program during February of 2016. Due to time constraints and our current involvement in the Regional Conference in March, we have decided to postpone the launch of this program until next year. We will update you as soon as we have definite dates scheduled.

World Voice Day – April 16, 2016 -Teachers College Columbia University

NATS-NYC will be presenting a stellar panel of Master Teachers for World Voice Day, April 16, 2016.

Deborah Birnbaum is an internationally established teacher. Her expertise in breath technique originates from her own private vocal studies with renowned soprano, Montserrat Caballé. Widely sought after as a teacher/clinician, Ms. Birnbaum has a unique ability to help singers assimilate the mechanics of bel canto breath support while working within the context of their vocal technique.

Dr. Jan Prokop, Adjunct Professor at Montclair State University, teaches musical theater voice, Vocal Tech and Performance Practicum. She is also Associate Adjunct Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology & Surgery at the University of Utah.

Dr. Prokop will present a Master Class on Body Mapping, the conscious correcting and refining of your personal body map to produce efficient, graceful, coordinated, effective movement by acquiring knowledge of the structure and use of your body.

Dr. Robert C. White, Jr. is currently on the voice faculties of The Juilliard School, the Lindemann Young Artist Program of the Metropolitan Opera, and New York University. He has performed in recitals, oratorio and chamber music concerts in the New York metropolitan area and given lecture recitals and master classes throughout the United States, Canada, Italy and Germany. Born and raised in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, he attended Susquehanna University for his undergraduate degree and received his master’s degree and doctorate from Columbia University.

Dr. White’s master class will focus on applying knowledge and experience to voice pedagogy.

NATS-NYC SNATS

During the Fall of 2016, NATS-NYC will reach out to our young aspiring voice teachers in New York City. NATS fosters the creation of Student NATS (SNATS) chapters to help student singers and student teachers bridge the gap between their own training and the demands of the profession - performance, education, coaching, directing, etc. Student NATS chapters are encouraged to hold their own events and develop governance structures that meet the needs of its members. Student NATS members are not members of the national organization and therefore do not pay fees to national NATS.

Our New Members

New Jersey

Tory Browers - Princeton
 Donata Cucinotta - Howell
 Robert Minor - Kinnelon
 Rebecca Oehlers - Collingswood
 Amanda Pabyan - Warren
 Ryan J. Ratliff - Union City
 Sophie Taillefer - Lawrenceville
 Kristin Titus - Voorhees
 Kimberly Valde - Cherry Hill

New York

Colette Boudreaux-Easton
 Jeanai La Vita-Bronx
 Heather Petruzelli-Jackson Heights
 Caitlin Mathes-Albany
 John Michael Russell-New York
 John Holiday-Ithaca
 Andrew Byrne-New York
 Robert Yacoviello-York
 Pamela Thomas-New York

Ontario

John Avey, Ottawa

Pennsylvania

Kristen Seikaly-Philadelphia
 Deborah Anderson-Lykens
 Liz Filios-Philadelphia
 Colette Boudreaux-Easton
 Robert Yacoviello-York
 Carrie Greer-State College
 Kaitlyn Tierney-Philadelphia
 Sara Bartholomew-Williamsport
 Jessica Ewell-Pittsburgh
 Bryan DeSilva-Philadelphia

Quebec

Danielle Pullen-Candiac

Regional Officers

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Remember to renew your NATS Membership!