

Vision Statement:**Dr. Caroline Schiller, Nomination for Vice President for Outreach**

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for this nomination. I am honoured to be nominated for a position that has reached so many young singing professionals. I am dedicated to continuing and building on the excellent work that has been done, with a view to an expansive and student-centred future.

Vision Statement

To foster an inclusive, responsive, and forward-thinking community of young singing artists and pedagogues. Passionately advocating for mentorship and innovative partnerships; equitable access; and celebrating diverse voices and teaching paths, I look to support the work of SNATS members and provide a bridge between training and practice. The aim, to empower the next generation of knowledgeable, creative, and compassionate teachers of singing.

SNATS Membership & Community Growth

I will continue to strengthen partnerships with members, chapters, and external organizations, while expanding access to our broader, global audience. Given our evolving professional landscape, it is important to determine areas of current need and interest among members to enhance and build our young professional community. I will engage with both undergraduate and graduate level singers/teachers, with a clear focus on supporting emerging private studio teachers through mentorship and community-building.

Mentorship

I am drawn to Outreach work in SNATS as it has student mentorship at its core. I recognize the importance of creating connections between students and the broader professional world to bridge the gap between academic training and real-world application. In particular, expanding access to mentors from diverse fields beyond the traditional western classical canon, fosters meaningful exchange, broadens our perspectives, and opens doors to innovation and entrepreneurship.

Student Engagement

Successful teaching is founded in relationship. Encouraging regular connection opportunities through SNATS chapters and SNATS Chats is key in building and maintaining connection. In addition to supporting graduate students, I believe in amplifying the voices of undergraduate and emerging teachers, who are already active in private (independent) studio instruction. Programming that supports their unique needs is both timely and practical.

Equity and Diversity

Now, more than ever it is incumbent on us to ensure that we are exploring strategies to ensure diversity is valued and all voices are heard. Encouraging a diverse community, built on mutual respect and the support of our differences is essential. Engaging in open dialogue, questioning, and fostering connection with pedagogues, professionals in adjacent fields, and SNATS chapters from a variety of countries and perspectives will serve to teach, broaden, and strengthen our community.

Everyone's path and interest in singing varies and requires support and encouragement. This includes actively supporting the work and growth of singing in all styles and encouraging the sharing of information to help singers expand their own skill set. By promoting dialogue and access to expertise beyond the western classical canon, we stimulate new interests, pursuits, and entrepreneurship opportunities.

Background

I have over 30 years of experience teaching young singers, 25 of those at Memorial University of Newfoundland. My career has been dedicated to developing and creating student-centered voice instruction and mentorship. I teach voice, direct the opera program, and teach undergraduate and graduate pedagogy seminars (as my teaching load allows). I also teach at our university's UK-based summer residency (as scheduled). My primary research focus is on voice repertoire of under-represented composers; the pedagogical applications of contemporary repertoire in studio teaching; as well, I am founder and director of a 20-year, opera touring program, *Opera RoadShow/Opéra en tournée*, that provides university students with paid, performance opportunities and brings traditional and newly commissioned operas to rural communities.

Thank you for considering me for this position. I look forward to serving the NATS membership for years to come.

All best wishes to you all,

Caroline

Dr. Caroline Schiller
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Recent Relevant Committee Service:

Membership Committee, NATS (2025-)

District Membership Director, NATS Canadian Atlantic Provinces-CAP (term completed, 2025)

Committee Member, Carolyn Bailey Argento Vocal Competition, National Opera Association (2025-)

Past Chair Research, National Opera Association (term completed, 2025)

Past New England Representative, National Opera Association (term completed, 2025)