

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION *of* TEACHERS *of* SINGING



JOAN FREY BOYTIM

ENCORE! SOCIETY

FOUNDING MEMBER

As I look at my career, I feel blessed to have had a serious private grass-roots career BY CHOICE. NATS was there all along the way, and I believe in the value it can have for private teachers. - Joan Frey Boytim, June 16, 2022

I spent nine years as a public-school music teacher, grades 9 through 12, and I taught private students after school. At this time due to a new scheduling school problem, I decided it was time to build a private voice studio full time in my home.

In my earlier years I had as many as 50 some students, but I prefer a studio of about 30. At my age of 89 I still teach five.

One of those years my husband and I spent a summer at Western Michigan University where I found a real music library and I discovered NATS. I was elated when I was accepted as a member because I was "only" a public-school music teacher with about six students. My many years since 1964 as a member of NATS have provided me with opportunities that have totally impacted my career as a "grass roots" teacher - more than my good formal college experience.

All my encounters with NATS printed materials and contact with other teachers throughout the country gave me the confidence which led to the time to develop workshops, doing more solo singing, giving recitals, giving master classes, and doing some adjunct college teaching.

My husband and I have attended over 20 conventions and I participated in 21 week-long NATS workshops. These were so valuable to share techniques and repertoire with teachers throughout the country.

Many of these experiences led to my future publications of 60 song anthologies with Editor Richard Walters for the Hal Leonard Publisher and G. Schirmer.

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In 2015, I made a commitment to provide financial support for the professional development of independent teachers through attendance at NATS National Conferences. My scholarship is addressing those beginning private teachers like I was or teachers who have never had the opportunity to experience the benefits of the National Voice Conference.

GIVING to NATS

To contribute to the Joan Frey Boytim Awards for Independent Teachers, contact the NATS Executive Office at (904) 992-9101 for assistance.

