

My Summer With NATS: Intern Amanda Zasada

by Amanda Zasada

In July nearly one thousand NATS members from all over the world gathered in Boston for a few days of vocal music bliss. Master classes were held, learning sessions were abounding, and inspiring performances were given. It was an intense few days, but they seemed to go by all too quickly. I was fortunate enough to be in attendance, and this conference was assuredly the highlight of my summer. While most attendees were present solely to soak in all that was offered, my primary role was behind the scenes as a student intern with the NATS executive office staff.



in my classes! I am looking forward to developing these new connections and staying involved with NATS throughout my career.

Upon returning from Boston, the last half of my internship consisted of a wonderful cluster chord of duties. I worked on a wide variety of projects with most falling under three general areas of focus: post-conference wrap-up, administrative tasks, and a touch of IT maintenance (a lightning bolt attempted to

My time in the office began in June, a mere one month before the national conference. I jumped head first into the conference preparations, and soon the immense depth of work which goes into a conference was revealed to me. My projects were primarily finishing touches such as proofing programs and working on a mobile app. Once in Boston, I spent most of my time behind the registration desk. I helped coordinate volunteers, processed onsite sales, and answered general questions. My favorite part was meeting and getting to know all the attendees. I met everyone from students to teachers, presenters to NATS Board Members, and even a few authors of books I have used

become a NATS member, but left a bit of damage behind!). Each day was different with all of these duties, so by the end of my internship I had acquired an extensive knowledge of this organization.

Looking back at my time with NATS, I can say that this has been an experience of a lifetime. It has been wonderful to learn about the ins and outs of this organization and to work beside the magnificent executive office staff. I am grateful for NATS opening their doors to me, and now I am left counting down the days until I become eligible for official membership.

Be on the lookout for my application, Dan and Amanda!



Call for Submissions

Short articles on relevant topics are being accepted for inclusion in the independent teacher section of future issues of *Inter Nos*. Submissions should be sent by email and will be reviewed by Independent Teacher Associate Editor Nancy Bos, nancy@studiobos.com.