



75
YEARS

1944 · 2019

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF SINGING

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"Between Us"

WWW.NATS.ORG

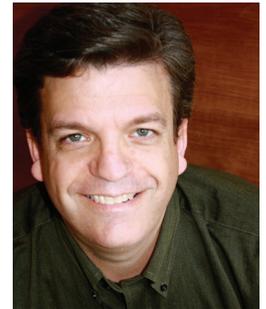
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ASSOCIATION NOTES

75 Years and Counting...What's next?

As one "matures" there is a certain change in perspective that occurs. What once seemed very old suddenly is younger. One used to remark about a particular habit of their parents that they would never adopt, yet they now find themselves doing that very thing. The senses change as some may heighten and others may diminish. Some parts need replacing. Other parts need some conditioning in order to stay in good working order. And so it is with the life cycle of organizations such as NATS. In its infancy, there was a small group of voice teachers who formed an association that they envisioned would be broad in scope and reach, uphold the highest ideals of the profession, serve to educate and encourage cooperation, and would conduct research and disseminate the findings. As the framework they created began to expand the organization evolved, sometimes leading change and other times following change occurring in the profession. Largely run by volunteer leaders and transacting business by what we now call "snail mail" (and the snails were much slower in the 1940s), NATS now employs professional staff and incorporates the latest technologies that allow us to transact the business of our association efficiently.



Allen Henderson
NATS Executive Director

Looking back on the past 75 years of NATS history the single crowning achievement of the National Association of Teachers of Singing was our role in establishing voice teaching as a professional discipline. Creating professional standards and ethical practices for the profession was at the heart of the founders when establishing NATS and all our programs, whether long established or new, seek to further those aims. NATS members helped establish some of the first DMA degrees in voice performance. Our membership has expanded in scope, reaching teachers of all styles who teach in varying settings; their leadership and active involvement have broadened NATS' reach and its scope of work. Realizing the need to begin training future voice teachers even earlier, NATS members began to recognize and organize student led efforts in NATS. Our recognition of the importance of promoting new art song composition has assisted the careers

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