

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION *of* TEACHERS *of* SINGING



JEAN WESTERMAN GREGG

THE JEAN WESTERMAN GREGG FUND

PROVIDES UNRESTRICTED GENERAL SUPPORT FOR NATS PROGRAMS

Jean Westerman Gregg WAS NATS for me for many years. She embodied a dedication to, and an effort for, NATS, that is beyond description. She was smart, circumspect, unpretentious, honest, supportive, fun-loving, and an extremely valuable asset to NATS. She always said, "Yes, I will." We often roomed together at NATS Conferences and workshops, and did we ever have a good time! I admired her enormously. Her spirit will remain with me for the rest of my life. – Leslie M. Holmes

Westerman Gregg was the second woman to serve as president of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. She served two terms. She served NATS in various other capacities throughout her career, including as New England Regional governor, chair of two national workshops, chair of the 1992 Boston National Convention, and as national treasurer. The NATS Intern Program was of particular interest to Westerman Gregg, who had a passion for helping train and develop young teachers.

A distinguished teacher, Westerman Gregg was inducted as a member of the American Academy of Teachers of Singing in 1994 and held membership in the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. She held B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Michigan and an M.S. degree in communication disorders from Southern Connecticut State University, with certification and licensure as a speech-language pathologist.

A popular lecturer and clinician on voice and voice therapy, Westerman Gregg presented at numerous NATS conventions, the last in 2002. She was a featured presenter at the NATS Intern Program, the 1st and 3rd International Congress of Voice Teachers (ICVT), the 3rd Brazilian Congress of Laryngology and Voice, and the First Annual Symposium on Care of the Professional Voice (Athens, Greece). She also served for several years on the editorial board of the Journal of Singing and the faculty of the Voice Foundation's Symposium on Care of the Professional Voice.

She was featured in more than 40 articles in Journal of Singing during her career, including her popular column, "From Song to Speech."

As president-elect, she chaired a committee to study a name change for the organization during which time the organization's existing name was affirmed. Some other notable achievements, during her six years as NATS president:

- NATS.org was created as the organization's first internet presence
- A name change from The NATS Journal to Journal of Singing was approved
- A joint venture agreement was finalized that established the operating procedures for the International Congress of Voice Teachers (ICVT)
- An Investment Advisory Committee was established
- The NATS national office relocated from Jacksonville University to space in Jacksonville, Fla., where it remains today.
- NATS established an official archives at Special Collections in the Performing Arts Library at the University of Maryland.

A noted contralto in her younger years, in later life she devoted herself exclusively to teaching, becoming one of the country's most respected voice teachers. She held faculty positions at various times at Chicago Musical College, Hamden Hall Country Day School (Hamden, Ct.), Educational Center for the Arts, New Haven, Quinnipiac College (Hamden, Ct.), and Amity Regional School District (Woodbridge, Ct.). She served as Choir Director at First Church of Christ, Woodbridge for 25 years, from 1981 till 2006. She maintained a private studio for the teaching of singing and rehabilitation of laryngeal disorders in both singers and speakers.

GIVING to NATS

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