

Student Chapters of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Inc.

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STUDENT CHAPTERS Anderson University Anoka-Ramsey Community College Asbury College Baldwin-Wallace College Ball State University Boston Conservatory Brenau University BYU - Hawaii Campus California State University - Fresno California State University - LA Columbus State University Florida State University Indiana University Ithaca College LaGrange College Lawrence University Lee University Marygrove College Morehead State University Nebraska Wesleyan University New Mexico State University NC Central University Northern Arizona State University Ohio State University Pennsylvania State University Shorter College St. Olaf College University of Akron University of Arizona University of Arkansas - Ft. Smith University of Evansville University of Michigan University of Missouri - Columbia University of NC – Greensboro University of St. Thomas University of Toronto University of WI - Eau Claire University of WI - Whitewater Weber State University Westminster Choir College of Rider University Winthrop University

(Chapters in RED are new this quarter! Welcome!)

Dear SNATS Friends,

Happy Spring! And thank you for sending me lots of news and pictures. It is a pleasure to publish them here.

We now have forty-one active SNATS chapters. I never thought that I would be able to welcome so many new SNATS chapters. To the SNATS students and their advisors out there, thank you for your continuing hard work! Please keep me informed of what is happening in your chapter. Even if you think that the event is "small," it is important because it's yours! Do feel free to invite me to attend your events: while I will only be able to get to a few each year, I feel that it is important for me to get to know you and for me to be one of your SNATS group's representatives of NATS.

It was my great privilege to attend the **Third Annual New Voice Educators' Symposium** held in January and magnificently organized by the **Indiana University chapter of SNATS**.

Prior to attending this wonderful event, a colleague ended an email to me by stating that he would see me at *the* SNATS Convention. At first, I was appalled to think that I, the SNATS coordinator, had no idea to which SNATS Convention he was referring. Indeed, he was innocently expressing what has become common knowledge: the Indiana University SNATS chapter's symposium is the *de facto* SNATS Conference. When I arrived at IU, it was obvious that this has become a fact.

Over forty-five people from Florida to Boston to Denver attended this two day conference. Fifteen presentations were given as well as a lecture by composer **Richard Hundley** accompanied by a recital of his songs sung by Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music students.

Plans are already underway for the Fourth Annual Symposium tentatively scheduled for January 25-26, 2008. Information may be obtained at <u>www.indiana.edu/~iusnats</u>. I urge you all to plan to attend next year's symposium.

Please email pictures, news, and additional email addresses from your SNATS Chapters to me! I will e-publish this newsletter four times a year. (See the deadlines at the bottom of the page.) **June 30** is the next deadline.

Feel free to share this newsletter with those in your chapter and any other interested parties. Carl Swanson



(Indiana University) Shawn Puller concentrates on catching a lighted ball in Bonnie Draina's workshop: *Cultivating Kinesthesia in Singers*

The new SNATS chapter at Asbury College in Wilmore, KY, has been very active this September. Their advisor is Virginia K. Bowles and the President is Jackie Peters Nichols. Members of the chapter traveled to Morehead State University, KY for a vocal workshop featuring Dr. Clifton Ware from the University of Minnesota. was exciting The weekend and refreshing for the vocalists as some of our students performed for the workshop and worked one on one with Dr. Ware. The conference mainly centered on "finding the authentic voice" of each singer, more specifically the placement of one's voice when singing. Dr. Ware worked with many young high school vocalists as a demonstration of a voice class, and then with several collegiate singers for the afternoon session. This was a wonderful experience, a true revival of the voice!

The University of Arizona SNATS chapter invited Ann Baltz of *OperaWorks* to give an *Acting for Opera* workshop on January 21, 2007. The chapter advisor is Kristin Dauphinais and the President is Katherine Wells.

On February 9, Shorter College had a SNATS workshop for Shorter voice students. Four students sang mock juries. The voice faculty wrote comments and shared them with the assembled group, who by all accounts benefited greatly. Our next project (perhaps not until next fall) is to do a teacher exchange. The plan is that six lucky students would be chosen to take a public lesson with another Shorter teacher with whom they do not study. This will be presented in a master class format.

Carmen Prather is the President of Shorter College SNATS.

Courtney Doyel reports that The **University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire** chapter of SNATS has been lucky to have several wonderful presenters this year and they are looking forward to some great informational meetings later this semester. During the fall semester they had a movie night to watch The Merry Widow in order to get ready for auditions for the same operetta in They also had a yoga November. session and a workshop on tap dancing that was very informative for those members who will be participating in Due to the heavy musical theater. involvement with the operetta in the beginning of this semester, they did not have any meetings, but now that performances are over they have several sessions scheduled. They will have one faculty member give a workshop on staging this month, and next month two voice faculty members will be giving a lecture on repertoire. Later in the semester they hope to take an evening to go to the Twin Cities to attend a performance by the Minnesota Opera.

April 1, 2007

AR-SNATS (Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Coon Rapids, MN) is off and running after only two meetings. Consisting of seven members including President Priscilla Arnold, and VP Derek Glenna, and with Judy Bender advising, we are enjoying biweekly meetings, and many of our members are taking advantages of the opportunities already offered, and by sitting in on Judy's classes and lessons. Our next project is helping Judy to revise her Teaching Guide for her voice lessons.

Six members of the Morehead State University SNATS chapter traveled to The Ohio State University on March 11. They all participated in a master class led by Karen Peeler, Professor of Voice and Voice Pedagogy, and OSU opera coach, Ed Bak. After the master class they attended a performance of Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'amore*, as performed by the Ohio State Opera.



Front row, left to right: Amy Trautwein, President-Elect; Kara Ferris, Secretary Back row, left to right: Matt Leonard, Treasurer; Clark Walker, President; Paul Robinson, Webmaster

Members of the **St. Olaf College** Student NATS Chapter attended the Minnesota Opera's world premiere of **Ricky Ian Gordon**'s opera *The Grapes* of Wrath, which took place at the Ordway Center in St. Paul, Minnesota, this past February. St. Olaf graduate **Kelly Kaduce**, ('96) visited her alma mater in January to talk with current St. Olaf voice majors. She shared her experiences after graduating from St. Olaf, as well as her path to the operatic stage. **Ms. Kaduce** created the character of Rosasharn in the production, which also included mezzo-soprano **Deanne Meek** and tenor **Brian Leerhuber**.

In April, St. Olaf voice faculty will host a workshop on recital planning. Topics will include repertoire selection, program organization and construction, locating music scores, collaboration, and the final product.



front row: Lauren Shively, Susie Wiedmeyer, SNATS co-president, Kelly Kaduce, and Eliza Wilcox; back row: Laura Wilde, Alan Naylor, Ben Henry-Moreland, Taylor Baggott

The brand new chapter of SNATS at **Ithaca College** is developing the faculty leadership under of Professor Carol McAmis and Dr. Jennifer Kay and student leaders Melissa Howe, Sara Mowery, Betty Bauman, and Melinda Harrison. Events from first semester included a workshop on the history and construction of Baroque ornamentation led by voice faculty member Jennifer

April 1, 2007

Kay and a Feldenkrais Awareness through Movement® workshop for singers led by **Professor McAmis**. Programs for the spring include an opera movie night and a vocal health panel with representatives from the voice faculty and the speech pathology department. The students are excited for the chapter to continue to grow into the 2007-2008 school year. Northern Arizona University's Student Chapter of SNATS will present a program of art songs in honor of *Earth Day*. The recital will feature the premier performance of a work by the chapter advisor, Dr. Judith Cloud. The title of the piece for piano and four solo singers (John Grau and Abraham Camargo, tenors and Greg Storkan and Toby Kidd, baritones) is *A Lullaby for the Earth*. The text is by New York poet, Perry Brass.

Here are a few more pics from the New Voice Symposium. More pics and several movie clips are available online on the SNATS page: <u>www.nats.org/snats.php</u>.



The Friday night banquet





Heather Hunnicutt presents I Can't Listen to Another One of the Twenty-Four Italian Songs and Arias: Traditional Hawaiian Songs as an Alternative for Young Singers



Composer **Richard Hundley** accepts the applause and greets the singers at a master class of his songs.