National Association of Teachers of Singing

The 50s

President Homer Mowe 1950-52
- The Council of Past Presidents was formed.
- Canadians became eligible for membership in 1950.
- Walter Allen Stubs donated a president's gold that he had carved in 1900 to NATS at the 1951 Chicago Convention, the first convention without MTNA.
- 238 members attended the first stand-alone convention
- The number of Vice-Presidents was increased to four.

President Walter Allen Stubs 1952-54
- The first Budget Committee was appointed.
- In 1954, the Southwestern District Convention featured a student competition, the first of what would come to be known as NATS Student Auditions.
- A 1950 report, "Proposed Curriculum for Training of Teachers of Singing in University and Schools of Music," was distributed to over 1,000 institutions. This report was favorably received with many institutions implementing the report's recommendations.
- NATS conducts research on public school choral programs.

President Bernard Taylor 1954-56
- The first Singer of the Year (SOTY) Competition was held at the 1955 Chicago Convention.
- Six 1954 workshops were held with the theme: church music, vocal and choral practice, vocal music in school and community, vocal pedagogy, demarcations of teaching, repertoire.
- The Board of Directors was reorganized and further revised to insure more democratic procedures as well as representation from each district.
- Harvey Stiegel was appointed editor of "Choral" in 1955 following the resignation of Louis Carson. Helen Hulse was later appointed Circulation Manager.

President J. Clifford Forcen 1956-58
- The first Officers Handbook for NATS was published and distributed at the 1957 Kansas City convention.
- The first annual student auditions were held with each regional governor deciding the fee and repertory requirements.
- Three promoted three important needs for the future success of NATS: more young members; the hiring of an Executive Secretary; and the dream of an international oboe conference.
- The official list of 130 Charter Members of NATS was established and approved for the historical record.

President Dale V. Gilliland 1958-1960
- A NATS committee on Public School Vocal Affairs joined with MENC to study state requirements for teacher certification.
- The first American Institute of Vocal Pedagogy (AIVP) program, a series of courses that led to a fellowship in the IMC at Indiana University.
- The 50th Anniversary Convention was held in Cincinnati: Membership reached 844.
- AIVP publishes a pronouncement on choral rehearsal techniques developed with leading choral conductors.