National Association of Teachers of Singing

The 80s

President Irvin Buchholz 1979-1982
- Two international workshops were held in 1979. London, England and Gen. Austria.
- The first symposium was held in Denver in 1979 with 440 registrants.
- The Nats newsletter was published four times a year.
- The year 1980 marked the first "Spring Singers" competition.
- Canadian provinces became part of the Nats regions.
- In 1981, the Nats logo was revised, small text "the" for the U.S. 4th.
- The year 1982 marked the first "Summer Workshop" devoted solely to musical theatre was held in Las Vegas in 1979.
- The Nats Foundation established a $50,000 fund for the Nats Foundation Award for Vocal Excellence to be used for medical grants.
- Membership evaluation of conventions and tape recording of convention sessions for resale was instituted.

President John Burgin 1982-1985
- Harvey Bang was appointed to write a history of Nats.
- A committee to create an "Art Song Composition Contest" was established. The first award was given in 1984 at the New Orleans convention and the winning composition was published by Associated Music Publishers.
- The national office was moved to New York University at an annual rent of $6,000.
- The first computer was purchased at the national office in 1983.
- James Browning resigned as Executive Secretary-director March 1985.
- NASF recommended to the American Congress of Voice Teachers (A CVT) to take place in 1984 in Strasbourg, France.
- The Nats Phonogram Service was phased out in 1985.
- 1982 reports show 6, NASF members and 4,500 members.
- The NASDA first place was raised to $5,000, among the most prestigious in the nation.
- Regional budget allocations were raised from $5 to $25 per member.
- The Nats Foundation received its endowment for NASDA awards of $10,000 from Mary Wolfman.
- The Northwestern Region was divided and the Intercontinental Region formed in 1984 bringing the total number of regions to 14.

President Edward A. Baird 1985-1988
- More dates were increased to $40.
- The NASF office was closed to Jacksonville State University in 1985 where William Vessels was on faculty. Dr. Bobby Dowden was hired as Executive Secretary.
- The first International Congress of Voice Teachers held in 1987, was a great success with over 1,500 teachers from all over the world attending.
- A new member of NASF worldwide led to the establishment of numerous foreign associations.
- In 1985, the name of The NASF Bulletin was changed to The NASF Journal. Richard Miller resigned as editor of The NASF Journal in 1985 and James McManus was named editor.
- Revised editions of Art Song in the United States and its Annotated Bibliography of Sacred Music were distributed at the 1987 San Antonio convention.
- The position of State Coordinator for Conventions was created and a fund held that position for seven years following his presidency.

President Dale Moore 1988-1991
- A complete revision of the bylaws was accomplished by a committee led by John Burgin.
- Membership categories were revised. All membership extended to international teachers. National membership for individuals in related fields, business firms, and music and institutions. Associate membership for beginning teachers of opera with a professional teachers and/or graduate students.
- A National Honor Book consisting of local honor convention committees.
- On June 26, 1990 President Moore, Secretary/Treasurer Bill Glassman, and an auditor removed Bobby Dowden as Executive Director. He had embezzled $12,850 and was sentenced.
- NASF borrowed $50,000 from the NASF Foundation to pay its bills. The money was repaid to the foundation with 10% interest within a year.
- William Vessels was named Acting Executive Director. He restored new financial controls including the requirement of two signatures on each check. Then he left and Nancy Bohnett completed the staff of the national office.
- William Vessels was named permanent part-time Executive Director in 1990.
- The 1980 convention held in Las Vegas and the 1990 convention in Little Rock.
- Marion Korpse, the first NASF International Coordinator was appointed in 1990.
- A number of raising $400 members during his tenure was rarely matched with NASF members at the end of his tenure.